

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Held on 9 March 2023

Committee members present: Ron Fenn {RF} {Chair}, Julia Scott (JS) Vice Chair and Groups Co-ordinator. Nick Photi {NP} Vice Chair and General Meeting Manager. Gill Davies [GD] Speaker Coordinator. Ken Pragnell (KP) Treasurer; David Collins [DC] Webmaster, IT and Publicity; Denise Rees {DR} Events Liaison, Lynda Maris {LM}, Minute Secretary. Rosemary Yates [{RY} Membership Secretary,

1. Apologies

Lyn Brandrith {LB}. Dick Downs (DD) Temporary Secretary and E-news editor,

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the February Meeting were approved

3. Matters Arising

RF said he has sent out an invitation to the Ukulele Sunshine Band and the Singing for Fun Group to perform at our 2023 Christmas Party. NP said he will produce a sketch to be performed at the party.

4. Finance

KP said the financial year ends on 31 March. He asked for any outstanding expense claims to be given to him as soon as possible.

5. Membership 2023/2024

RY said she has sent out reminders for VCV membership renewals, RY has received 100 replies to date. ~~Some members cannot print out the renewal form. They are being informed~~ that if they send in their details by post or email their membership will be actioned accordingly. RY will send out reminders following the March GM.

6. New Members

6.1 RF said there should be not be an additional impact on new membership applications in view of the appointment of a new Treasurer at Chiswell Green U3A.

6.2 RY said that Brenda Kember [BK] has kindly agreed to act in the "Meet and Greet" capacity to welcome new members. RY will act as the committee member overseeing this activity. Tina Photi [TP] has also volunteered.

7. Committee Succession

RF emphasized the need to identify a new chairman in good time before he stands down in October and stressed the benefits of being able to shadow him in this role prior to his departure. He urged the Committee to consider this issue and also to encourage any members who might consider attending a CM to see if they were willing to join the Committee. The Newsletter will include an invitation to attend the committee as a casual member.

8. March GM

GD said the Speaker is booked. He is a retired policeman and will be talking about the history behind some of the London Squares. NP is willing to assist with setting up the equipment if necessary

9. VCV Dance Saturday 4 November 2023

RF said that GWP is booked as before; the Band is also booked [‘Kelly’s Hereos’] and a deposit paid. There are some administrative issues to sort out before the event. The changing room is booked. Rose Ennis has agreed to organize the catering arrangements as last year.[RF]

10. Coronation celebration at May GM

Red White and Blue Cakes to be purchased. **Action. JS, DR and LM.** Bunting and Flags **Action DC.** Flowers to be purchased, and floral display hopefully to be provided by the Flower Arranging Group. **Action JS**

11. Groups

JS said two new groups have been set up. A Zumba Group and a Solos Group. DD has asked for more info about Group Activities for the e-news. TP will liaise with DD re: what is required. **Action TP.** An email to be sent to Group Leaders requesting information re: activities for e-news and the Newsletter. **Action JS.** Various suggestions for future Newsletter articles were discussed. In particular any memories our members have of the last Coronation which could go into the Coronation Issue of the Newsletter.

12. Events

12.1. Trips

Royal Hospital Chelsea. 25th April. Approx cost £30. To date we have sold 34 tickets for this trip which will now be going ahead. The trip will also be open to family and friends.

~~**Wimbledon.** 26th July. We currently have 51 on interest list. Tickets will be on sale in April~~

Savill Gardens/Windsor. 21st August Tickets will be on sale in June and priced at £44 (minimum of 42 people). We currently have 109 on interest list

National Memorial Arboretum. 17th October. Tickets will be on sale in July.

Winchester Christmas Market. End November. Coach only. We currently have 17 on interest list

12.2 Theatre Trips

DR said approval will shortly be sought for "How the other half loves" by Alan Ayckbourn., Sonning on Sunday 17th September

Wicked on the 19th April – one ticket left

Moulin Rouge. Piccadilly Theatre 21st June - Sold out

High Society on 21st December at Sonning. Tickets will be on sale at the March GM.

13. Newsletter and e-news

TP said the newly formed Zumba and Solos Groups will be advertised prominently on the Groups List in the Newsletter.

14. Third Age Trust Matters

RF gave an update on TAT proposals. The issue of inputting details on the U3A Committee Members Portal was discussed. RF is awaiting further information.

15. AOB

DC circulated spare VCV Posters for members to display where possible locally. JS said a member had enquired whether we could have a list available of reliable traders. It was agreed that the Herts County Council website is the most appropriate option. KP said he had been notified about an online TAT Insurance Presentation on 28th March. RF said he will be preparing the Annual Report at the end of March. DR said she will be away for the next CM and will send RF details of all forthcoming events.