

South Wales Network Meeting 9/6/2021

Minutes

Present: Dai Davies Torfaen (Chair), Michael Young (treasurer), Chris Winner Trustee, Tony Baines Cardiff, Linda Stewart, Rob Harry Caldicot, Nicky Lee, Hugh Hutton Chepstow, Robert Wilkinson Newport, Mary Ross Monmouth, Margaret, Helen Charles Cynon Valley, Jane Jenkins Maesteg, Mike Faraday Usk, Sally Corbett Porthcawl, Val Stonell Abergavenny, Kate Thomas Crickhowell, Denise Jones Bridgend

Apologies: Derek Shottin Chepstow

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| <p>1. Minutes of last meeting 1.2. Matters Arising</p> | <p>Accepted. Proposed Rob Harry seconded Robert Williamson £250 insurance excess. CW will raise at Netfest . N.W Network meeting postponed until after Netfest. CW will raise with NWN before taking forward.</p> | <p>CW</p> |
| <p>2. Lockdown easing</p> | <p>HH outlined latest guidelines for organised activities. 30 now allowed in a private garden 50 for outdoor activities</p> | |
| <p>3. Sharing best practice & u3a day</p> | <p>KT Crickhowell on u3a day had announcement in local press re u3a groups starting. They are planning tree planting for their 40th anniversary. TB Cardiff are opening very slowly until October. HC Cynon Valley are trying to link with other u3as but finding reluctance to meet. They are experiencing resignations from group conveners. Problems with venues. But they have taken a major step forward with their use of zoom. MR Monmouth for u3a day used an empty shop to run a pop-up shop. They had good attendance from members and potential members but disappointing press coverage. RH Caldicot made u3a day coincide with their delayed 25th anniversary. They unveiled a commemorative bench and planters and they had stalls. A good attendance with lots of enthusiasm. JJ Maesteg are having online event talks</p> | |
| <p>4. Resuming face to face activities</p> | <p>SC Porthcawl are finding that most venues will not be open until September. They have found that the YMCA is offering a good sized room KT Crickhowell their outside groups are starting, and groups can meet in gardens. They have a problem with pub based venues as they are only being allowed to book 6 at a table. Theatre group has booked tickets for 4th October but coaches are restricting seating. NL Chepstow commented that coaches in their area are not restricting numbers. LS Caldicot will need to add more walking groups to meet demand. Most groups have now started meeting but restricted by the weather.</p> | |

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| <p>4.1 Venues</p> | <p>TB Cardiff are being very cautious. They are looking at venues with expected meetings in September. DD Torfaen have surveyed members to determine what is wanted. NL Chepstow most groups are starting to meet. First social activity of a picnic is planned early August. Everyone talked about issues with venues. Venues now too small for groups who used to meet there. Venues increasing prices to pay for increased cleaning. RH Caldicot are working on umbrella agreements with venues covering risk assessment, pricing. TB Cardiff are also working together with venues to agree responsibilities, accountability and to document this. DJ Bridgend highlighted an issue with u3a's who charge a flat fee which covers all venue costs. As groups went online they reduced their subscription fee from £30 to £5. With venues increasing costs this is going to present some significant budget issues. HC Cynon Valley agreed that this was a big issue. They also have problems if venues expect them to clean as their members aren't prepared to do this and expect it to be covered in their subscription.</p> | |
| <p>5. Finance</p> <p>5.1 Peer Group Support Groups</p> | <p>Bank account application is underway Proposed financial policy & procedures will go onto the website for discussion at the next meeting Site builder peer group meeting 16/6 Treasurer support group meeting 22/6 Beacon support group training 17, 21, 28 June SC Porthcawl asked whether this was a tutorial or for experts. MY advised for users who want to feel more confident with the system.</p> | <p>MY DS</p> |

Next meeting 21/7 2pm via zoom