



Washington Village U3A Committee , Stella Maris

10.00am – 15th December 2022

Attending: Derek Ginsberg (Chair), Lyn Bossons, Helen Edwards, Sandra Graham, Catherine Hambley, Maggie Hope, Tania LeMarinel, Pauline Palmer, Julie Stevens,

22.149 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Committee members to the meeting.

22.150 Apologies

Carolyn Baxter, Chris Scorer, Marilyn Ward

22.152 Acceptance of the notes of 17th November 2022, with minor typographical errors corrected, was proposed by Sandra Graham, seconded by Julie Stevens and approved by all.

22.153 Matters Arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda

22.141 Resolved, Facebook updated.

22.146 Resolved, the inclusion of Photographs within the Website Report.

22.154 Membership Secretary's Report

No changes to report.

22.155 Speaker Secretary's Report

Fools Gold request for earlier access prior to next monthly meeting can be accommodated with earlier announcements and coffee. A request to provide an external person with our speaker list is approved as no confidentiality issues are addressed.

22.156 Group Co-ordinator's Report

Bridge and Kurling are up and running. Board Games still to be decided. Line dancing nothing to report. Strolling group starts in Spring, led by Chris Scorer. CAMEO (Come and and meet each other) Club commences on Monday 23rd January 2023 10-12. No topic as slightly different as no group leader, but facilitated by Tania. Cameo aims to enable individuals to network activities such as seeking others attending concerts, films etc. Derek will also attend the first meeting.

22.157 Treasurer's Report.

(a) The monthly financial report was noted.

(b) The Christmas meeting had an overall cost of £581, which is approximately £5 per head which was only slightly more than original costings.

22.158 Members Liaison Report

Two cards had been sent out this month.

22.159 Network Report

Nothing to report.

22.160 Regional Update

Nothing to report.

22.161 Website Update

Extensive brief notes had been circulated by Helen. The disruption of the website had lost all documentation and photographs, although we can now repopulate the website. In view of the severe disruption, the committee decided to keep a USB set of minutes as well as the web version to ensure that we meet the requirement to have six years back sets available. This is believed to be a good moment for Group Leaders to ensure the currency of photos on the website. The committee agreed that a What's App group for the committee for easier communication is to be set up.

Action: Chris to advise how many sets of electronic mins she currently has so gaps can be identified and perhaps sought from previous committee members

Action: Derek to send email to the membership advising website resumption.

Action: Helen to speak at next monthly meeting to advise of the issue

Action: Helen to set up Committee What's App Group

22.162 Christmas Meeting Review

The food received some criticism so a buffet is to be considered for next year. Teas and coffees had not been provided as per the schedule, but by popular request as it was felt necessary at the time. The announcements would have been better timed prior to entertainment as was too rushed. The band appeared to be enjoyed by the vast majority attending. The monthly meeting at the time of the 40th u3a celebration would benefit from lively entertainment therefore Ken Tong and his band to be invited to perform again.

Action: Later in the year, Derek to investigate booking Sheila's Kitchen for next Christmas celebration as that buffet had received good reviews and recommendations.

22.163 Monthly Meeting Contingency Plans

In the possible event of an entertainment/speaker cancelling at short notice, alternative activities were suggested such as a lecture on hearing loss, photography group photographs, writing group short stories, quiz group quiz, uke group entertainment, family history briefing etc. All group leaders to be asked to prepare some activity that could be used as a backup in the event of an unforeseen cancellation.

Action: After New Year, Sandra to send an email to group leaders to explain, and asking them to consider how they could provide a contingency plan.

22.164 Hearing Loops

The types Tania had considered cost between £130 and £1,000 per table. However seeking advice from the RNID she was informed that the Stella had a legal requirement to provide a hearing loop. There was a great deal of discussion around this as no one knew who the owner was. It was left pending subject to a meeting between Derek, Tania and the Stella to query whether there was a hearing loop already in place.

22.165 Any other business

(a) Speaker and PA System

The u3a system is four years old and the speakers are rather heavy and unwieldy. It was queried whether smaller and more efficient speakers could be obtained.

Action: Catherine to speak with Ken Tong to see if he could advise on alternative speakers for our systems.

Action: Derek to bring the microphone stand to the next meeting

(b) Constitution amendment

Remains ongoing.

(c) Book and Jigsaw Exchange

Jigsaws have now been sourced and will be at next monthly meeting as will the books. Due to the volume and weight of both, depending on the first months' trial, it may be that the book exchange and the jigsaw exchange could be on alternating months.

(d) Pickle Ball

Community funding has been sought for Pickle Ball which is a cross between table tennis (bats and balls) on a badminton court. The request has received a response requesting an advisement of the funding amount.

Action: Tania to provide pickle ball funding to Derek to provide a response

22.166 Next Meeting date

19th January 2023