



Washington Village U3A Committee, Stella Maris

10.00am – 19th January 2023

Attending: Derek Ginsberg (Chair), Carolyn Baxter, Lyn Bossons, Helen Edwards, Sandra Graham, Catherine Hambley, Pauline Palmer, Chris Scorer, Julie Stevens, Marilyn Ward

23.00 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Committee members to the meeting.

23.01 Apologies

Maggie Hope, Tania LeMarinel

23.02 Acceptance of the minutes, with the correction of minor typos, of 15th December 2022, was proposed by Sandra Graham, seconded by Pauline Palmer and approved by all.

23.03 Matters Arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda

22.161 Resolved. Chris to advise how many sets of electronic minutes she currently has so gaps can be identified and perhaps sought from previous committee members.

22.161: Resolved. Derek to send email to the membership advising website resumption.

22.161: Resolved. Helen to speak at next monthly meeting to advise of the website issue.

22.161: Resolved. Helen to set up Committee What's App Group.

22.163: **Ongoing Action: Sandra to send an email to group leaders to explain contingency planning, and asking them to consider how they provide a contingency plan for the monthly meeting.**

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

22.165: Resolved: Derek to bring the microphone stand to the next meeting.

23.04 Membership Secretary's Report

No new members have joined, therefore there is no change to previous report.

23.05 Speaker Secretary's Report

It is confirmed that no permission need be sought from the committee prior to booking a speaker. It is preferred costs for speakers remain £60-£70, but the limit of £100 remains. It is understood the U3A national revised speaker list was added to u3a webpage last year, however more detail is being sought. Generally national speakers are expected to be zoom led rather than personal speaker.

23.06 Group Co-ordinator's Report

The Line Dancing Group now has a Group Leader Joan Ball and support available from Linda Shaw and Mary Evans. Singers were recommended to attend the Ukelele (Uke) Group however only one of the interested persons turned up. The Uke Group meets at Glebe Church with an additional session in the Black Bush on Wednesdays. 37 members are interested in CAMEO, so the meeting venue has been changed to the Black Bush as there are too many to fit in the original planned venue. The Black Bush does not charge for room, but request tea and coffee purchases at a very reasonable cost. Details are on the Group What's App. Board Games might run in February but not yet confirmed. Kurling membership is fluctuating so an additional group remains pending. Oral confirmation for £500 funding for Pickle Ball, and hopefully for wider sports activity, from the council Community Chest has been received. The third of March is the final date for application for community funding this year.

23.07 PR Update

Tania has advised that the Galleries have been booked for 25th April 2023 between 900-1300 hrs for u3a day.

23.08 Treasurer's Report.

The verified monthly report was received. Noted that the costs of the Third Age Trust go up in May by approximately £35p.a. Beacon has a new function in the form of tick boxes added in respect of online gift aid.

23.09 Website Administrator Report

It is now reported that the website is stable, although statistics are still not working. There are continual changes as information becomes available therefore it is being updated as and when required. Noted that the What's App Committee Group is now up and running.

23.10 Network and Regional Report

At a combined meeting recently hearing loops had been discussed and reported that most people with hearing loss have advised that they will not use a hearing loop. The Stella has been approached, in relation to hearing loops, and discovered that it is owned by a private individual, so no progress has been made. Several u3a's are reported to be struggling, with Peterlee closing and Durham and Dunelm merging as committee members and officers' appointments are struggling to be met. Attending groups reported constitution amendments to enable officers to continue longer in post as otherwise risk closure. One u3a removed the constitutional limit of three years in post

for an officer. It is noted it is possible to serve nine years on the committee in a variety of roles.

23.11 Member's Liaison Report

Four cards sent out. A new supply of cards will be required soon.

23.12 Constitutional Update

Beyond the information in the Network and Regional Report, Derek proposed, Sandra seconded, with full committee approval, the proposal that the AGM resume its normal May slot in our annual agenda. The rescheduling of our AGM to October was a measure adopted during the covid emergency and is no longer required.

23.13 Monthly Meeting contingency plan

The alternative contingency plans for the monthly meeting were discussed and agreed that a quiz, short stories and possibly local community videos would be held by the speaker secretary in the event of short notice cancellations by the monthly speaker.

(a) Tea/coffee are to be served at the beginning of the next monthly meeting with appropriate alterations to the normal schedule. Queueing is expected however signs indicating tea/coffee stations should assist in alleviating the queueing. Procedures for tea/coffee volunteers is being produced and will be available shortly for all new volunteers.

Action: Derek to send email to membership advising of the change to the normal scheduled meeting arrangements.

(b) In a change to current practices, committee minutes are to be scheduled as follows:

Approved committee minutes and AGM minutes to be forwarded by committee secretary to the Website Administrator cc Business Secretary.

Draft committee minutes to be sent by the committee secretary to full committee for comment at the next meeting.

Draft AGM minutes to be forwarded by the committee secretary in draft form to the Chair, cc Business Secretary pending approval at the next AGM when they will be forwarded to the Website Administrator and Business Secretary for web and file storage.