

**Notes of Washington Village U3A Committee meeting
10.00 am 17th November 2023**

Present

Derek Ginsberg [Chair], Carolyn Baxter, Lyn Bossons, Sandra Graham, Tania Le Marinel, Julie Stevens, Maggie Hope, Chris Scorer.

Apologies

Pauline Palmer, Helen Edwards, Catherine Hambley, Marilyn Ward.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The surname of Paul Pierce referenced in the minutes should be Paul Pearce.

Acceptance of the notes of the October meeting was proposed by Lyn, seconded by Sandra and approved by all.

Matters Arising.

22118 Closed

22119 Closed

Membership Secretary Report

5 New members, 1 reinstated, 1 deceased total 211

It is Margaret Cox who has died, her funeral is 3pm next Thursday at Sunderland Crematorium followed by a gathering at North Biddick Club. Information will be shared via the Facebook page and a minute's silence will be held during the next meeting

Speakers Secretary Report

Old King Cole should be Old King Coal **Action** Tania to liaise with Helen

N.B. All speakers to provide a photograph for publicity purposes.

February speaker is Mike Green who will be talking about the "Tyne Theatre and Opera House". Liaison with Lyn is required re equipment required, initially the speaker spreadsheet should be shared with Lyn.

March speaker is Carol Dean "Days of the Old West" her fee is now £70.

April speaker Brian Mathews has been approached.

There was some discussion about the potential need to have back up presentations virtual or through our own members e.g. Tania raising awareness of hearing loss.

Group Coordinator Report

Line Dancing Sandra agreed to find a tutor/Group Leader.

Social Strolling, Derek to liaise with Cestria. Chris agreed to lead beginning in the spring.

Environmental group 8 potential members.

Kurling has restarted and is very well subscribed 16 people turned up for the last session Possibly too many, the group is therefore full and has a waiting list.

Book exchange to be reinstated in Jan with an honesty box for donations, Tania agreed to provide an A4 sign explaining.

Horse riding was explored briefly It was agreed that this might not be an option as a group but may be of interest for individuals.

There was some discussion about difficulties with the Biddick Inn, the quiz group may need to move and there have been some difficulties with drinks orders for the theatre Group.

The coffee morning was discussed as there had been 36 participants at a previous meeting at Clay's. This had caused some issues re the venue and there was concerns about how people connect during the meeting and pre-meeting communications. The discussion moved on to exploring how we can enable members particularly those who are new to get to know each other better, mixer activities were considered with the possibility of doing something at one of the monthly meetings instead of having a speaker everyone agreed to think about ideas. There was some discussion about having a specific coffee get together for new members. Sandra agreed to liaise with members and Tania agreed to consider in the light of Facebook.

Treasurers Report

Report circulated, issues highlighted were Gift Aid, Kurling equipment and the purchase of song books.

The financial situation can be described as "Quite Comfortable".

The Charity Commission annual return has been completed and returned, this did raise consideration of exactly who we can /should class as volunteers agreed as group leaders and committee members.

The number and function of the display forms was considered.,

Members Liaison Report

3 cards have been sent

Network/Regional Reports

Nothing to be noted

Web site Report

Paper circulated, membership numbers to be included and out of date events to be removed.

More photographs to be included Tania and Helen to discuss.

Beacon emails some people have experienced difficulties Lyn agreed to send members a message about how to reply.

Christmas Meeting

Logistics and practicalities discussed Derek agreed to circulate plans for the event.

A.O.B.

10 year Anniversary possible celebration in 2024.

2023 event considered for April after Easter (in the Galleries)

Issue of a light on the speaker to better facilitate the presentations. Lyn has a light that might help.

Date of next meeting

15th December 2022.