



Washington Village U3A Committee, Stella Maris

10.00am – 16th November 2023

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

23.146 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Committee members to the meeting.

23.147 Apologies

Chris Scorer, Marilyn Ward

23.148 Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of 19th October 2023, with the correction of minor typographical errors, was proposed by Lyn Bossons, seconded by Sandra Graham and approved by all.

23.149 Matters Arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda:

23.67 Third Age Trust in respect of the Constitution remains ongoing.

Ongoing Action: Derek Ginsberg

23.27 Helen to follow up potentially helpful leaflets currently available online for those members who do not use IT.

Closed

23.28 Helen to follow up the inclusion of Maggie via voiced messages on WhatsApp Group. **Resolved**

23.141 Noted members are to be advised that we do not open for members until 10.45 and tea and coffee is not available until 11am. Biscuits are to be placed on tables for members and not distributed with refreshments.

Resolved: Lyn to prepare a notice to state only one queue and that refreshments are not available until 11am.

Resolved: Pauline to bring a 'slops' dish as space is too limited for members to empty cups into the sink and are leaving them for volunteers to do.

23.143 Quiz prize is chocolate coins. Christmas raffle prizes by membership donations.

Resolved: Carolyn to obtain chocolate coins.

23.150 Membership Secretary's Report

Four new members making a total of 257 members. Noted that 104 members attended the last meeting. Noted that the online page states that guests may attend one meeting and one group free of charge. This is incorrect as the guest should pay the same group fee as other participants. There was further discussion on the possible limitation of u3a membership for Washington Village u3a, however it was decided to leave this topic for another day.

Action: Helen to amend wording on the u3a webpage and group pages to indicate only the monthly meeting is free to attend as a guest.

23.151 Speaker Secretary's Report

Bernard Hope is confirmed as the January speaker; Keep Washington Tidy confirmed for February; May is AGM; June is Washington's 60th anniversary and July US Independence Day.

Action: Carolyn to send B Hope's details to Tania for advertising

23.152 Group Co-ordinator's Report

Tai Chi is struggling a little however as it may have identified cheaper accommodation, funding support will continue until it breaks for Xmas and will be reconsidered in January. Spanish for Beginners numbers are reducing so they will continue for the time being at the leisure centre café. The lists for interested members to join a group which has been posted on the webpage has been working well and will continue. Line Dancing will break for Xmas in two weeks' time and will return to one-hour slots instead of two in January.

23.153 Treasurer's Report

128 Christmas tickets have been sold therefore the Xmas meeting has been sold out. Lyn has proposed an immediate swap from Barclays to Lloyds as Barclays have been increasingly demanding and difficult to deal with, this is seconded by Derek Ginsberg and approved unanimously. Profits from the Kurling group will be used to replace worn ball bearings.

23.154 PR Update

Nothing to report.

23.155 Regional and Network Update

The Regional Committee was observed and noted that many of the usual issues were agenda items. Noted comments that TAM-advertised goods were quite costly, with members choosing to go elsewhere for their purchases. Also noted that costs for that meeting at £880 were quite high therefore the next meeting in December would take place at the Brunswick Methodist Church in Newcastle and following that cheaper

venues would be sought. The next Regional Chairs meeting is potentially on 1st December. The Network Protocol was questioned by Cestria who asked for clarification on which rule a guest member should follow, their own or the host u3a.

23.156 Members Liaison Report

Some first-class stamps had been bought for cards urgently requiring posting as second class can be too slow. Four cards sent out this week.

23.157 IT/Website Update

An update from Siteworks has been received, noting that the first pilot would go live this week.

23.158 Environment Update

Leaflets will be arriving when the print run is complete. The speaker for the Environmental group on the first of the month will be on heat source pumps.

23.159 Tudor Costume Talk

The Tudor Talk is now part of the monthly speakers' events rather than a separate event. It is quite costly at £150+travel expenses, however this was acceptable as a one-off event. As the talk encompasses Tudor history as well as the clothing of the period, it was felt to be relatable to both males and females.

23.160 Christmas Meeting

Committee to prepare the room from 10.15 onwards.

John, Paul and Ken to set up seating.

Lyn to post a notice on the external door advising that entry is limited to ticket holders only and entry from 10.45.

Derek to send email reminding members that December meeting is ticket only and entry only from 10.45.

The running order would be:

Committee to prepare the room from 10.15 onwards

Speaker from 11am for 50 minutes.

Table quiz distributed whilst tea/coffee/buffet is being prepared.

Tea/coffee as per usual arrangements.

Buffet distributed via individual portion packs.

Background music during buffet/refreshments.

Quiz results.

Tombola raffle results.

23.161 Any other business

(a) 21st December committee meeting is cancelled with urgent business being actioned via What's App. The next meeting will be on 18th January 2024.