



Washington Village U3A Committee , Stella Maris

10.00am – 15th September 2022

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

22.104 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Committee members to the meeting.

22.105 Apologies

Sandra Graham

22.106 Acceptance of the minutes of 18th August 2022, with minor typo corrections, was proposed by Pauline Palmer, seconded by Chris scorer and approved by all.

22.107 Matters Arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda

22.95 Pauline has been unable to pursue the current speaker list update due to illness of the current list holder. This item is closed for the time being.

22.108 **Constitution review**

A discussion on the key points of the Constitution with highlighted key points informed the selection of the new committee membership. It was noted Pauline will hold the Vice Chair for one year only. Tania is willing to be Vice Chair (Communications) next year.

There is a regional meeting at Westerhope to discuss recruiting membership and committee members which may be useful for several members of the committee. It is hoped the meeting will propose new strategies for bring in new members. As the Constitution will require amendment prior to next AGM if we wish to retain Tania's PR services, Derek is to begin drafting the amendments immediately.

Action: Derek to begin drafting Constitution amendments immediately

Action: Julie to provide updated forms for the membership liaison table.

22.109 Election of Officers

Derek Ginsberg, Chair

Carolyn Baxter, Speaker Secretary and Membership Liaison

Lyn Bossons, Treasurer
Helen Edwards, Assistant Treasurer and Website Administrator
Sandra Graham, Group Co-ordinator
Catherine Hambley, Minutes Secretary
Maggie Hope, Membership Liaison
Tania LeMarinel, PR Consultant
Pauline Palmer, Vice Chair, and responsible for sending membership liaison cards
Chris Scorer, Business Secretary
Julie Stevens, Membership Secretary

22.110 PR Update/U3A week arrangements

Due to the sad death of HM Elizabeth 2, both anniversary events and Lindisfarne Gospels lecture have been cancelled. The church has offered to have the Lindisfarne event prior to Christmas. The committee believed it was best to postpone the u3a birthday event until next year as the 40th birthday connection is now lost. It was a possibility that a smaller recruitment event could take place in the Galleries next year. As our tenth anniversary will take place in May 2024, perhaps a more comprehensive event could take place at that time. The final decision to be made at a later date. The Lindisfarne event may not take place as the vicar is leaving the parish shortly. A resumption of our group boards at each monthly meeting was believed to now be appropriate. Sandra to be asked to inform group leaders that group boards will be required from October meeting.

Action: Derek to email Sandra to request group leaders to display their group boards at October meeting.

22.111 Membership Secretary's Report

Two new members joined at last meeting but unfortunately one member is now deceased. The current membership is 204.

22.112 Speaker Secretary's Report

Mike Green to present a talk on Tyneside Theatre at the February 2023 meeting. No update has been received on the current speaker list. The October speaker will give a talk on 'The Days of the Old Wild West'. Some concern at the length of this talk will be addressed by Derek, who will remind the speaker that only 45 minutes are available.

Action: Pauline to pursue the current speaker list update on Marilyn's behalf.

22.113 Group Co-ordinator's Report

Nothing to report. The Chair commented on the poor response to the re-establishment of the gardening group. The book exchange, previously run by Trish Thomas, is to be re-activated with the new inclusion of jigsaws. An honesty box is being considered for the table rather than personal overview as there is no current leader.

22.114 Treasurer's Report.

The monthly Financial Report was noted as was the healthy condition of the finances. The finance policy had been updated as per the previous minutes agreed actions. Derek proposed and Julie seconded, acceptance of the Report which was unanimously approved. Beacon privileges had been updated with the new committee responsibilities.

As per the Charity Commission requirements, the Trustee eligibility declaration was signed by all present. PAT testing of the u3a's electronic goods had been successfully undertaken at the last general meeting.

22.115 Members Liaison Report

Nothing to report.

22.116 Network Report

Nothing to report.

22.117 Regional Update

Nothing to report beyond the recruitment event recorded earlier.

22.118 Website Update

Helen Edwards has kindly volunteered to undertake the role of website administrator in view of Derek's election as Chair. It was noted that both the curling and the media groups are still live on the website despite being inactive. These groups are to be removed from the website. The committee members nomination forms, currently held as hard copy by the Business Secretary are to be scanned and forwarded electronically for storage, similarly to the arrangements for the committee minutes.

Action: Catherine to scan and forward nomination forms to Chris

Action: Derek to contact Paul Pierce to discuss his restart of the group or hiring us the equipment for it to restart with a new leader

22.119 Any other business

(a) Christmas meeting

The speaker and entertainment are already booked. An entry fee of £2 is suggested, tickets are to be printed and sold at November meeting but advertised at October meeting. Hot food rather than a cold buffet is suggested. Decoration etc to be an agenda item for the next meeting. A raffle will be held.

Action: Tania to design and circulate invitations for approval prior to printing

Action: Pauline to explore the menu available.

(b) The Ukulele Group have requested the committee fund a bound book of songs to be printed at an approximate cost of £400-£500. The committee agreed to consider a donation to the cost but requested more detail such as the style of book. It was also suggested that the uke group could perhaps put on a show and sell tickets to raise the money.

Action: Lyn to request clarification of the type of book requested.

(c) A Washington Heritage Group has asked if our u3a would like to be added to their banner. The committee believe this is appropriate.

Action: Tania to contact the Heritage Group representative and confirm our willingness to be added to their banner.