

Meeting of the Whitley Bay u3a
held Monday 12pm 08.01.2024

Present:

Ian Bedwell (Chair) IB	Yvonne Bedwell YB	Dorothy Garman DG
	Kath MacEachen KMac	Michele Palmer MP
Peggy Robertson PR		
Helen Perfect HP	Kath Reed (Vice Chair) KR	Andrew Freckingham AF

Quorum: Y

In attendance: -

Procedural		
Item No		Action
1	<p>Apologies for absence The committee consented to apologies for absence for the following committee members: Terry Annan, Dave Haddock (Best wishes to Dave with treatment schedule.) Declaration of interest: -</p> <p>AOB notifications to the Chair: Add 10.10 Third Age Matters issue. Susan Greaves has resigned from the Committee.</p>	IB thanked SG for her support to Committee.
2	<p>Approval of minutes For approval Minutes from meeting on 04.12.2023</p>	Approved
3	<p>Matters arising not on the agenda Arranged that IB or KR vicechair will attend new starters' meeting</p>	
For discussion and agreement		
4	<p>Correspondence All covered in AOB</p>	
5	<p>Business Secretary's Report Nothing to report</p>	
6	<p>Treasurer's Report Report circulated in advance.</p> <p>A Committee member raised an issue re lines of communication between Committee members.</p>	Any comments/queries on any Committee member's activity or report content to be brought to the monthly meeting. Clarification to

		be given. Conversely, any concern or complaint to be addressed directly to the Chair and actioned in confidence.
7	Membership Secretary's Report Report circulated in advance. 2 more since report. 421 members.	
8	Group Coordinators' Report Discussion of potential move towards interest groups without a leader but someone to take the register. Also associate membership of other u3a areas is possible for a reduced fee. Anyone requesting associate membership of Whitley Bay u3a groups is welcome but depends on capacity as currently many groups are full. IB reminded Committee of online groups in other u3as locally and of the digital offer from the Trust. New spine sliders displayed and bulk purchased for the new starter packs. Reduction in use of plastic achieved for the packs.	
9	Co-opted member AF Report circulated in advance. AF advised that advice was being developed to become a dementia-friendly organisation. Council will soon issue guidelines for u3as to adopt if they wish.	
Other information or business		
10	AOB 10.1 Christmas Social debrief. 97 attendees including Committee members. Choir a big success. Gluten-free dietary offer was very well received. KR suggested opting for a ticket entry system next year. To be discussed at future planning meeting. Audio headsets not as smooth as hoped. Formal Thanks extended to all external contributors. 10.2 Upcoming Social Secretary vacancy. Michele advised she might be interested in progressing into this role however her current position as Business Secretary could complicate this move. IB advised he would be happy to continue to assist MP in the Business Sec. role to help her progress into the Social Secretary Role under guidance from KR. Discussed possibility that TAT will be issuing a revised model constitution which may allow Committee members to hold a position for up to 9 years before being required to take a gap year. 10.3 & 10.4 items to be put on WB u3 website and posters on the noticeboard at monthly meeting. 10.5 Liz Thackery to be invited to a wine group as an example of an evening event. 10.6 Regional Trustees are asking for potential venues to hold regional meetings. Linskill could be a potential venue however the	c/f items for August 2024 agenda – discuss ticket entry and Investigate Linskill's audio offer of static mic for next year. Await issue of the new model constitution clarifying maximum number of continuous years a Committee member can serve. C/F agenda item to adopt/amend. KR to organise. IB to advise regional trustees accordingly.

	<p>cost of hiring required facilities for the day are prohibitive. Costs would be prohibitively expensive.</p> <p>10.7 HP suggested that our Equality duty should start with an awareness raising session, written by TAT. It needs a 1 hr stand-alone slot as the monthly agenda is always very busy.</p> <p>10.8 Yellow book wording to be changed. PR suggested copying/amending written overview of 'what u3a is' from TAT website.</p> <p>10.9 £59.99pa for Microsoft 365 licence</p> <p>10.10 PR advised that the company who organised sending out Third Age Magazine to all on the subscription list has ceased trading. TAT only have names now from the October upload so for WB u3a, 33 newly joined members will not receive their magazine. HP advised members can log in and the magazine is available electronically in 'Useful Links' on National u3a front page.</p>	<p>IB to look into booking St Andrews 6.3.24 at 2pm TBC</p> <p>KR to draft amendments and circulate to all Committee prior to discussion and adoption at next meeting.</p> <p>Approved purchase</p> <p>PR to inform 33 members that electronic copy available or wait until next hard copy. Committee will make their personal copies visible at next meeting.</p>
11	Confidential items -	
12	<p>Date of next meeting Monday 05.02.2024 12pm St Andrew's UR Church, Eastfield Ave, Monkseaton, NE25 8LU</p> <p>Meeting closed: 2pm</p>	