

Meeting of the Whitley Bay u3a
held Monday 12pm 4.9.2023

Present:

Ian Bedwell (Chair) IB	Yvonne Bedwell YB	Dorothy Garman DG
Dave Haddock DH	Kath MacEachen KMac	Michele Palmer MP
Peggy Robertson PR	Terry Annan TA	Susan Greaves SG
Helen Perfect HP		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: Kath Reed</p> <p>Declaration of interest: -</p> <p>AOB notifications to the Chair: HP 10.4 request to share offers to members. HP 10.5 comment on monthly meetings.</p>	
2	<p>Approval of minutes For approval Minutes from meeting on 14.8.2023</p>	Approved
3	<p>Matters arising not on the agenda: AF sought clarification of decision regarding group leaders temporarily holding cash /cheques. Relevant document on Whitley Bay u3a website. Group leaders' guidance Proposed (HP) to amend document to short-term holding limit for group leaders of £500 of members' payments for upcoming group activity.</p>	Agreed Document to be amended accordingly
For discussion and agreement		
4	<p>Correspondence Nothing new to report DH has ongoing communications re new website hosting from national u3a</p>	
5	Business Secretary's Report	

	Nothing to report	
6	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>YB reported she will no longer email the Committee members the Treasurer's report prior to the monthly meeting as it is on our website. u3a Whitley Bay finance page</p> <p>Or type in u3asites.org.uk/whitley-bay/home press Committee, press Committee Finance on right side of page.</p> <p>Current Balance £8,326.42</p>	
7	<p>Membership Secretary's Report</p> <p>372 members plus 3 new members = 375</p> <p>4 enquiries pending</p> <p>-Discussion regarding members' wish to request a lift from u3a members who may live near them. Data protection prohibits disclosing addresses. Proposal to ask attendees at the next monthly meeting and put people in touch with each other privately.</p> <p>-General discussion about profile of the membership. DH reported 100 of c400 Whitley Bay members do not attend any group activity. More analysis required to ensure we are meeting need.</p> <p>-some committee members explained that actively seeking new members by advertising u3a group activities externally may result in an inability to meet expectations that all groups can run. Struggling to find group leaders for all current, potential groups. However national posters currently in pipeline to advertise for new members. DH had mocked up a draft local poster.</p> <p>-Discussion re age limit, if any, to join u3a. Committee Members thought no age limit.</p> <p><u>U3a National website</u></p> <p><i>'There are no age limits but the u3a is for people 'no longer in full time work' – retired or semi-retired. For this reason, it attracts a lot of members aged 50 and over. However, there's no lower-age membership.'</i></p> <p>Plus it says 'older people'</p> <p><i>'u3a is a nationwide network of learning groups aimed at encouraging older people to share their knowledge, skills and interests.'</i></p>	<p>Request to be announced at meeting after seeking permission from the couple involved.</p> <p>Agreed to place local poster in Linskill and other appropriate places.</p> <p>No age limit but criteria is for 'older people' and 'people retired or semi-retired' from being economically active.</p>
8	<p>Group Coordinators' Report</p> <p>Cycling group now successfully running.</p> <p>Short walks group now successfully running.</p> <p>New groups to start in September – Topic group and Book Group 1</p> <p>Discussion re payment of room hire to hold new members welcome meetings. Suggestion to scope the potential of meeting in the big hall prior to the meeting.</p>	<p>YB to enquire and confirm the duration the big hall is booked for and let KMac and DG know.</p>
9	<p>Co-opted member AF</p> <p>AF reported u3a Trust is working towards setting up a u3a National Council and a steering group is currently working on it. u3a has a turnover of £3million.</p>	

	<p>Jean Cubbin was adopted as the North East representative, IB had proposed and Blyth u3a seconded her proposed appointment. AF reported that web hosting is being changed from 'Site Builder' to 'Site Works'. Our content will be manually populated into 'Site Works' by Whitley Bay u3a.</p> <p>AF reported a virtual meeting took place of Chairs of local u3as. 118 Chairs attended online.</p> <p>U3a Trust has set a target of registering 500,000 members by 2025. The Northumbria region is currently working on recruitment and retention of members – Committee felt it is not an issue for Whitley Bay u3a.</p>	<p>DH is the named contact for the migration</p>
Other information or business		
10	<p>AOB</p> <p>10.1 <u>Review Committee positions</u>. Discussion. IB had usefully provided 2 charts of committee roles and names and tenure dates with potential renewal or end dates. Need to be aware where gaps are in each role. All committee to look at their own current job description and amend accordingly with which elements they actually do. Gaps in task activity will be identified, logged and filled.</p> <p>10.2 <u>CPR/Defibrillator awareness session</u>. All 24 places filled. To date 16 members have paid £5.</p> <p>10.3 <u>Website updates</u>. There is some out-of-date information on the local website. DH asked that all members and group leaders check current information and send him any changes needed.</p> <p>10.4 HP reported she had received a request by a u3a member who is organising a non-u3a event to use our group lists to send the groups information they may be interested in regarding her proposed event. Is this acceptable?</p> <p>10.5 HP reported she had been asked to bring a comment to Committee from 3 members who attended the last monthly meeting. The members explained that the speaker was difficult to hear with distracting noise coming from the back of the hall.</p> <p>10.6 The Chair reported that Oonagh Mallon, after careful consideration, had decided to resign from the Committee but would remain a keen supporter of our u3a. The Chair advised he had accepted her resignation and thanked her for support for the Committee.</p>	<p>All to proof read job description. Amend appropriately and email to all committee before 2.10.23 meeting. To be c/f on agenda for next meeting.</p> <p>Members and group leaders to send DH correct, current updates.</p> <p>Decision: No to allowing non-u3a events be publicised through u3a membership lists.</p> <p>Noted. Efforts to be made to respect silence when Committee or speaker is addressing attendees in the hall.</p>
11	Confidential items - none	
12	<p>Date of next meeting Monday 2.10.2023 12pm St Andrew's UR Church, Eastfield Ave, Monkseaton, NE25 8LU</p> <p>Meeting closed: 2pm</p>	

