

Wigtownshire U3A

held on Thursday 14th January at 1.30pm via Zoom.us

Present: Gill Hay, Richard McElrea; Moyra Breckenridge, Lesley Miller, Julie McGlashan

1. Welcome and Apologies

Jim and Celia gave their apologies.

2. 10th December Minutes reading

Moyra proposed, and Richard seconded. Minutes to go on to the website.

3. Matters arising

Christmas Quiz. Disappointing response as only one person entered. **Action: Gill to contact Kerrie Baillie. Answers to be published on the website and FB page.**

4. Beacon (MB/RM)

Moyra reported that the application had been sent in and she had had discussions with Magnus. There is a lot of work to do to get the system up and running. One of the issues is that of generic email addresses so it was agreed that everyone should have an official generic email address for u3a business. – there were some dormant ones which needed checking. **Action: gmail addresses to be checked; Lesley to notify these to National Office and Julie to put on the web once verified.**

5. Membership issues (MB)

The ongoing issue of what to do about membership fees was discussed. The Committee decided that some commitment was needed for ongoing membership and that we would ask for £5 for now with completed renewal forms, payable by BACs or cheque, with a review at a later date as to whether any extra funds need to be collected. **Action: Moyra to add this to the renewal letter which she had already circulated prior to the meeting. This to include reference to all the things we are continuing to do.** Membership cards for 2021 will not be sent out for now. Renewal letters will also give final decision about AGM format. **Lesley to check on any guidance from National Office on fees.**

6. Communications including:

Group facilitators ring around results. This had been well received and it was thought that we would revisit this in future. For now the Committee decided to send an email to facilitators to include reference to a focus group exercise with the David Hulme Institute.

How can we support individuals

Five groups were now meeting on Zoom, the latest being the Practical Gardening Group. Gill keen to share Zoom skills with Committee members so they could help disseminate information including breakout rooms; phone in facility; possible enhancement of our Zoom licence so that members can be contacted by phone for free.

What events can we run e.g. online (speakers/ exercise/ guided walks via WhatsApp/ training/ chats/ quizzes) for fun/ stimulation/ interest that might (re)build some connections.

Worth revisiting the speakers via Zoom. **Action: Lesley to write to Celia to request that speakers from February up to July to provide their talks via Zoom if possible and if they could not we could source other speakers willing to do so. Gill to do her first talk at the normal January meeting on Zoom for Group Facilitators to see how this went.**

Covid communications s plan for members i.e. messages we think we should be amplifying and the tone we should be using, and our frequency and media to support all members

The Committee felt that we could pass on official messages via the website and our Facebook page (as is happening at present) from NHS and the Scottish Government.

7.Reports

Chair

Committee support including prospective Committee members -

Action: Lesley to let Gill know anyone interested in becoming Committee member to invite them to the next meeting on 11th February

AGM – it was decided to hold a dedicated meeting on this on January 28th via Zoom to discuss plan of action.

Treasurer. Little change from last time. Outgoings £4.79 internet and £37.50 for printing; Current balance £5148.23 compared to £4085.53 last year. Current balance include U3A Day grant from Killgallioch. The annual figures had been submitted to the internal auditor for verification.

Business Secretary

Lesley reported that Celia needed instruction regarding forthcoming speakers – see above regarding Zoom.

Celia had also informally set up a Recipe Swap by email with two members so far.

Heather Baillie, from Age Scotland – Action: Lesley to contact her for a 20 minute slot on 11th February.

David Hulme Institute The Action Project – focus group – invitation to be included in email to facilitators

Mailchimp – could look at doing one earlier than the normal summer newsletter – invite contributions from members. .

Facebook – now 51 members.

Membership Secretary – see below monthly email.

Webmaster

The change of website will follow this process:-

- The u3asites website goes live with a URL along the lines of <https://u3asites.org.uk>/wigtownshire/ (TBC) –already requested waiting for them to action
- make the final changes/updates and load pictures and documents from the current site
- reduce the wigtownshireu3a.org.uk website to a redirection to the new site from the home page and remove the rest of the content
- we take over the renewal of the wigtownshireu3a.org.uk domain name We would need to pay a third party for upkeep of the domain name www.wigtownshire.org.uk and optionally www.wigtownshire.co.uk and www.wigtownshire.com for a very modest annual sum. Action: Julie to ask Site Builder for some advice.
- after about a month (or longer) Julie to shut down the wigtownshireu3a.org.uk website altogether and we part company with KCOM/Eclipse. Action: Julie to seek advice – we still need an IT Co-ordinator for issues such as this.

8, Monthly email

Moyra to do a monthly email to facilitators; She would hold off the renewal letter to members to hear back from Magnus as Stewatry were due to hold their AGM online shortly and this could provide some useful information.

9.AOB

Regarding the lack of an IT Co-ordinator. **Action: Lesley to contact Douglas Ewart School to ask if they would be interested in a project involving IT students.**

10.Date of next meeting

The next Committee meeting will be Thursday, 11th February at 1.30 pm There will be an extra meeting for committee members regarding the AGM on Thursday 28th January at 1.30pm.

11.Close

The meeting closed at 15.08pm