

Coordinators Meeting Thursday April 19th 2016
St Elphin's 2 – 4 p.m.

Minutes

1 Welcome

2 Present: Jeremy Taylor, Mike Frosdick, Ros Bourne, Lesley Shawe, Liz Walker, Peter Hume, John Lamb, Sue Cain, Dave Puxley, Hazel Finch, Jane Burgess, Helen Boocock (minutes), Diane Frosdick (chair).

Apologies for absence: Lyn Mason, Jenny McEwen, Trevor Boam, Julie Dumelow, Elvee Hall, Jill Fawcett, Pam and Nigel Johns, Chris Lloyd, Hartley Jenkinson, Barbara Davey, Janet Pidgeon, Maudie Behrens, Sue Sarbutt.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on January 14th 2016.

- Accuracy – minutes accepted, no changes required.
- Matters arising not on the agenda: Thank you to those coordinators who came along to set up the AGM and clear up afterwards.

4 New groups and coordinator updates

New groups: Cars and Motoring, led by Hartley Jenkinson seems to have got off the ground well with around a dozen members. They have agreed a programme of events. Meetings tend to start at Willersley Castle and to include a scenic drive and lunch. Visits to motor factories and museums are also being planned.

Current Affairs 3 is being led by Peter Skipper on a temporary basis with just a few members so far and further places available.

Geography (who are to hold their initial meeting in May) will be led by Pam Wildgoose with around seven members so far and further places available. Chris Lloyd has taken over from Ruth Gordon as the coordinator of the Art group. We thank Ruth for her hard work and enthusiasm with this group.

N.B. Willersley Castle - can be used as a venue for informal group meetings without charge as long as people buy a drink. There are several small rooms to use. If you want a regular meeting it would be useful to mention that to staff.

5 Coordinators Forum/Discussion time

Dave Puxley has been approached by the new editor of the Third Age Trust's (TAT) Sources magazine for a contribution. Dave has sent an article but waits

to discover if it will be printed.

Jeremy Taylor reported that Art Appreciation 2 has found deterioration in the laptop used with the projector. Suggests we replace the out of date laptops – the group needs access to good quality equipment to generate quality pictures. It was agreed to take this to the management committee. Note that any new kit will use Windows 10.

Questions also raised about the screens available – Mike to follow up.

Coordinators noted that St Elphin's staff no longer set rooms up for us. Diane suggests emailing them at stelphinsclub@audleyretirement.co.uk just before the meeting or day before, then it should be set out as you request. If it has not been done when you arrive, ask the staff on duty at the time who will do it. Any problems please tell Diane.

What happened to Wine Appreciation? Derek Mitchell coordinated it and has left and no one has yet come forward to do this. Some thoughts that after several years running the group might benefit from a rethink about the format.

6 Information from the Management Committee

New committee

The details of the new committee can be found on the website, Barbara Phelan is Chair, Helen Boocock is now Business Secretary, Vice Chair is still to be decided. New members to the committee are Dave Puxley, Peter Hume and Penny Ackland who is our new webmaster. After the AGM Ingrid Pasteur expressed an interest in joining the committee and will need to be voted on formally at the next AGM but will attend in any case before that.

Helen consulted coordinators about what to do with the information she is now receiving as secretary which is mainly about events open to members nationally. It was agreed to ask TAT if these can be sent electronically. In the meantime, Helen will make the paper documents available at Coordinators meetings and Coffee Mornings. Some information is group specific and will be sent to relevant coordinator for information.

7 Audit of membership

Jenny McEwan our membership secretary will shortly be sending us the definitive list of 2016 members. It is important to check the list to make sure all the members of your group have paid their subs for 2016. If you find it easier you can always ask members to produce their 2016 Membership card at the next meeting they attend.

Jenny will also give us a list of members who for one reason or another have not renewed membership. At present just under 30 members have not renewed and are still being pursued and 44 who have left for various reasons. The membership stands at 600 with 41 new people joining since January 2016. 58 have dual membership with another U3A. There are 180+ men, 112 couples and 53 postal members (no email). Is Direct Debit a possibility?

Diane to enquire. The feeling was that it was probably too much work. 98 people renewed by internet transfer this year. Paying at a Coffee morning is probably the most efficient way of renewing membership.

It was suggested Jenny send the list to coordinators earlier to check so that the list is definitive by the AGM? Could some of the work of the Membership Secretary be delegated to coordinators e.g. check membership, take payments, give out membership cards? This could work for some groups. A way of encouraging members to pay promptly might be to charge £10 if paid by March 31st and £15 thereafter. This might recoup some of the postage charges. All present agreed. Could the membership card also arrive by internet in pdf format to save postage?

8 Coffee mornings

There will no coffee morning in May as it is a Bank Holiday and the football club has a match on. It is appreciated if coordinators can attend meetings as we often have new members joining who like to meet them. If groups are looking for new members the Coffee Morning is a good way of publicising it.

Mah Jong was showcased by Barbara Davey and some of her group in March. If you would like to promote your group at a future Coffee Morning please let Diane know and then it can be publicised.

A Sunday Lunch group meeting in local pubs, a revamped Book Group 2 and Social Bridge will be pursued at the June Coffee Morning. No news back from the proposed skiing group.

9 Upcoming events

Visit to Chester on June 15th, the cost is £12. We leave Slacks Garage at 9.00am and will leave Chester for our return to Matlock at around 4.30pm. Places still available.

We have been approached by the Community Fire Safety Officer give a talk on Fire Safety to the MAU3A – probably in July. The talk will be on the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home, specialist smoke alarms/bedside unit for those with a hearing impairment, (both of which can be provided and fitted for FREE upon a referral to have a Home Safety Check visit), fire escape plans in the home, main causes of accidental fires in the home and how to prevent these occurrences etc.

The Fire Officer suggested the Coffee Morning as a way of accessing a good number of people. The Social Committee however has suggested a separate event at the Imperial Rooms; there was scepticism about how many would turn up to this. Could it be added to a coffee morning without diminishing its importance or interfering with the usual event? Suggestion that it be at 10 a.m. to last 45 minutes maximum, taking place towards the stage end of the room with Notices read at 11 am as usual.

History Group 2 has organised a presentation: "Derbyshire in the civil war" by Brian Stone on June 16th at 10 am to 12 o'clock at St Helens Church Darley for

around 25 people at a likely cost of £4. There are a few places left. Contact Helen Boocock if interested.

10 Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday August 17th 2p.m.- 4p.m.