

The Management Committee Meeting, St Elphin's Park
Friday May 19th 2017

Minutes

1. Present: Barbara Phelan (Chair), Mike Frosdick (Equipment Officer), Penny Ackland (Web Manager), Sue Petrie (Membership Secretariat), Diane Frosdick (Groups' Secretary), Helen Boocock (Business Secretary), Martin Eyre (Gift Aid), Judith Hodges (Treasurer, Vice Chair), Peter Hume (Ordinary Member),

Apologies for absence: Dave Puxley, Tracy Sims.

Welcome to Sue, to her first meeting as a member.

The meeting began at 2.10 pm.

2. There were no amendments to the Minutes of the Meeting of February 3rd 2017.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes that are not addressed in items below:

- Re the request from Geography Group for atlases; we said we would agree half of the number requested. The group has decided they will manage without.
- Potential U3A in Wirksworth. There was a meeting in Wirksworth Library recently. Judith to check with Derek Pollard what the outcome was.

4. Membership of the Management Committee.

Martin and Mike both agreed to be co-opted to the management committee for a further year. We still have vacancies; Barbara mentioned a potential new member who she will speak to formally.

There are three planned retirements in 2018: Barbara will retire then from the committee; Judith will end her period as Treasurer but may stay on as a member; Diane has not yet decided, depending on whether others join in and share the social committee work. A Treasurer ought to be in place to shadow Judith by January 2018. Agreed to advertise again for a Treasurer and Vice Chair in What's On. Also for people to undertake specific tasks (see below).

5. Matters arising from the AGM (April 10th) and Annual Report 2017.

- The venue was disappointing e.g. they did not organise connecting the Loop and no-one could be found who could do this. Diane wrote to complain – they did not reply but have reduced the cost charged. The

Imperial Rooms would be preferable; they were not available this year but we will try for next year.

6. AGM 2018: potential Speakers were discussed. There is a need for someone outside the current social committee to take on the task of approaching potential speakers from a list that we already have.

7. Financial matters:

7.1 Treasurer's report. Financial year 2017-18 to date: Total Income (excluding Gift Aid) is £ 6,207 and Expenditure is £ 4,942 so we are on track to make a surplus again this year. Jane Entwistle, Judith and Barbara are the Theatre Group mandate signatories.

Gift Aid report: Martin has put a claim together for £828 – a similar amount to last year. Out of 621 members, 299 are not in the Gift Aid system. Agreed that Martin will email these people with a form asking them to sign up if they are tax payers.

8. Report from the Membership Secretariat – Verbal

Current membership stands at 621, a decrease of 34. There have been 63 new members this year, 33 since last meeting. 17 left this year -12 since last meeting. 59 people did not pay their subs this year so have left. 121 have paid since February.

Diane twice sent the list of people who still had to pay to coordinators; this caused some problems with some members having already paid - part of the problem was people paying by BACS but not telling Jenny. In future Judith will tell Sue who has paid from the Bank statements.

9. Groups' Secretary's report

Written report – little to add. There had been quite a discussion about leaving the Derbyshire Network but questions were answered. The proposed Astrology Group has not got off the ground.

10. Report from the Communication and Social Sub-committee including:

- Minutes from the last meeting - update.
- Whist drive and Chinese meal went well.
- MAU3A's 10th Anniversary. October 29th is the anniversary of the signing the constitution. Agreed to organise a train ride (earlier in the month to avoid half term), probably from Matlock, with afternoon tea and we can subsidise it. Another example of an event for other members to get involved in organizing.
- Christmas Social – the first Friday in December (Dec 1) has been booked at the Golf Club. Dying Embers are not available but The Burning Embers, an off-shoot, are available and have been booked. A local a cappella group have also been booked.
- Art Appreciation trip to Hull, June 13th, two coaches booked.

11. Website report - tabled.

Membership database – there are lots of options. Beacon is being used by several U3A's. Jenny passed a contact from Sheffield who are migrating to it, to Penny. Agreed a group, Sue, Penny, Judith to assess whether Beacon is the one. Martin set up the original spreadsheet and is willing to have a look at it with them. There is a charge for use of 50p per member per annum. Judith will register an interest with Beacon to get the ball rolling.

Website. Agreed to decide what changes are required on the membership side before assessing what other changes to make. We could, for instance, pay Namesco to do our maintenance. This would mean we were not dependent on using the one Apple laptop – it is accessible from anywhere. We currently use Freeway which has gone out of business. We may need to hire a professional to make the transition.

12. National news: Elections of officers and members to the Third Age Trust – no suggestions for nominations. For information - feedback and recommendations from consultation about U3A structures.

13. Any other business

- Judith is a member of Art Appreciation 1 that meets at the Whitworth. They rely on using a U3A projector and frequently find problems with them, missing cables etc, and people have to come back to St Elphin's to find parts. Mike confirmed that all equipment is labelled and that coordinators have been asked several times to put back all elements. A suggestion was made to make a permanent loan of one of the old laptops and projector to the group and we buy replacements for use by others. This was agreed but not unanimously. The Art Appreciation Group will be responsible for maintenance of this equipment.
- More members are needed for the social and communications committee. Barbara to approach Tracy and also advertise at the Coffee Morning.

The meeting ended at 4.20 pm.

14. Date and time of next meeting August 18th 2pm to 4pm.