

Buckingham & District U3A

Minutes

For the 222nd Committee Meeting held on Monday 22 October 2018 at 10 am in the Council Chambers at the Buckingham Community Centre

Present: Martin Paul (Chairman), Dusty Roades (Vice-Chairman), Steve Heywood (Group Liaison Officer), Janti Mistry (Membership Secretary), Carolina Kenealy (Newsletter Editor), Linda Beazley (Speaker Secretary) and Cliff Dammers (Secretary)

Apologies

Lorna Joy

Paddy Collins

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the Committee members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved

Matters Arising

The Chairman emphasized that all the Committee members should have a shadow. Most members have found a shadow.

The Committee discussed the acoustics in the hall. The loop is working and the acoustics were satisfactory at the September open meeting.

Chairman's Report

An agenda will be needed for the AGM. It can be lifted from that used in 2017.

Membership Secretary's Report

Janti Mistry reported that about 50 members are continuing to pay into the old CAF account. Some members have not set up standing orders and some old standing orders are for the incorrect amount because they have not been updated. Janti has written to all of these members. The Association has 657 current members and has lost 250 members. 72 per cent. of existing members have renewed their membership. This is almost the same rate as in 2017. The number of members will decline over the next few months as 10 to 15% of members do not renew.

33 new members joined in the current year.

Janti will send a reminder letter before the end of October to lapsed members and will send a list of lapsed members to the group co-ordinators.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the draft accounts for the current year and the Trustees' Annual Report. The Committee approved the draft accounts and the Trustees' Annual Report.

Dusty Roades must sign the Trustee's Declaration.

The Association needs someone to review the accounts. This is not an audit. Carolina Kenealy will ask someone she knows.

Group Liaison Officer

There is a new group: Calligraphy. The first meeting was during the week commencing 15 October. The group grew out of Steve Heywood's meeting with potential group members after the September open meeting.

The handbell ringers will do the teas at the October meeting and the Spanish Revision Group will do them at the November meeting.

Webmaster's Report

Derek Morgan reported that he has set up pages for the new Foodie Group.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Carolina Kenealy asked that Committee Members send interesting things to her for inclusion in the newsletter. She will ask the two newest groups to provide material. There will be a report on the Liverpool trip.

Speaker Secretary's Report

Linda Beazley reported that the speaker for the October open meeting will talk on nutritional therapy.

Linda has been looking for better/more expensive speakers. There is little support from the Third Age Trust. Liaising with nearby U3As could provide recommendations for good speakers. The Committee discussed holding a quiz at the May open meeting. Dusty Roades has prepared a 20 year quiz for the Christmas Social and is willing to prepare one for the May open meeting. Another possibility is to have some of the Association's groups set out their wares at an open meeting, similar to a freshers fair.

The Committee discussed passing out paper at the AGM asking for ideas and feedback. It is not necessary that every speaker present for a full hour.

Linda is not standing for re-election as Speaker Secretary. She has a shadow and will ask her if she is willing to become the Speaker Secretary.

Other Matters

Dusty Roades said that there will be a Christmas Parade in Buckingham on 15 December, 2018, followed by a Community Fair in the large hall in the Buckingham Community Centre and publicity about the events will be on display during the November Open Meeting. The Committee observed that the U3A is not supposed to raise money for other organizations.

The Committee agreed that the display will be permitted this year but not in the future.

The Chairman is unable to attend the November Committee Meeting but will be able to attend the November open meeting. The Vice Chairman will chair the November Committee meeting.

The Committee discussed the arrangements for the AGM. Each Committee Member is responsible for obtaining his or her nominations.

Carolina Kenealy will print nomination forms and they will be distributed at the Open Meeting.

The members will be asked for agenda items at the October Open Meeting.

Derek Morgan will send out the agenda by e-mail to the group co-ordinators.

The accounts will be published on the website in draft form, subject to approval at the AGM.

The Committee discussed the arrangements for the Christmas Social on 19 December. The availability of the hall is to be confirmed.

The folk dancing group will do a demonstration. There will be a glass of mulled wine and some food. A paper quiz will be on each table. Mike Weston will lead communal singing.

There will be two tables for new members; Committee Members should sit at these tables.

The Committee discussed the format of the new members coffee morning. There continues to be a problem with drop ins. The wording of the notice of the meeting will be changed to make it clear that there is a definite start time.

Name badges will be used at the new members meeting. Sticky labels and felt pens.

The Secretary is to prepare name badges for the Committee Members to wear at the AGM.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 26 December at 11 am in the Council Chambers at the Buckingham Community Centre.

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