

MINUTES OF THE BEESTON U3A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
8TH APRIL 2019 AT BMC STARTING AT 1.30PM

1 Apologies: J. Patterson, R. Eddleston, S. Austin and L. J. Beardsley.

Present: S. Blackley, M. Brookbanks, C. Chater, K. Shipway, A. Pinnock, J. Muxlow, M. Gale, C. Billau, and E. Le Marchant Brock.

E. Neville, S. Pyke and A. Wilson (observers) also attended and were welcomed by Sue.

2 Minutes of the March Meeting:

- Agreed and signed.

3 Matters Arising:

- Further complaints were made at the last open meeting about the sound upstairs and these have been passed onto Karen who will report back.
- Practical Gardening will not be needing the grant requested as they have decided not to adopt a garden at the Canal Heritage Centre due to prohibitive restrictions.
- Wine Tasting Groups – John will continue running groups 1 and 3, Adrian will officiate at group 2 and there is a possibility of Margot starting group 4 with Adrian's help.
- It was noted that sadly Philip Hartley had died – he was a new member who was eager to join the committee and take on responsibility for the Beeston U3A website. The committee expressed their condolences for his wife and family.
- Concern was raised again about members leaving early during the open meeting talks and it was agreed that the talks should end at 11.30 allowing for 10 minutes of questions.
- The new members coffee morning attendance sheet, expressing members willingness to help, is to be given to the membership secretary.

Reports:

Chairs Report:

- Lucy has offered to remain speaker/seeker.
- Sue and Margot attended a volunteers training session in Birmingham which focused on changes in starting up new U3As and the new constitution.
- Most items in the development plan have been completed and a new one will need to be rewritten after the AGM
- The "Reading Between the Covers" book group was mentioned on the Jo Wiley programme on Radio 2 – the group read and reviewed

- on the selections, so they got a mention. Steve please could you send a piece to 3rd Age Matters about this. Also put a piece in the bulletin/newsletter. **SA/CB**
- Sue thanked the committee members, who were leaving the committee, for all their hard work i.e. C. Chater, J. Patterson, B. Cooper and E. LeMBrock
- Sue asked the committee if they had any reservations about her staying on the committee as possibly Vice Chair and as a possible future Speaker Seeker and the committee backed her wholeheartedly.

Treasurer's Report:

- Malcolm explained the attachments he had sent to us.
- He said that he will monitor the budget very closely and he expressed concern re Gift Aid.
- The gift aid section on the membership form will be enhanced by putting it in a box. **MG**
- Malcolm was unable to get one of the group's financial record because it had "disappeared" from Beacon but Celia will advise him on how he can retrieve it. **MB/CB**
- Some guideline notes for group treasurers will be produced. **MB**
- Training to be offered to all group leaders to encourage them to use the Beacon System.
- All groups will be required to use Beacon in a years' time.

Membership Report:

- Membership renewal was continuing and it stands at 751.
- An anomaly on the Beacon system meant that if a couple renewed and paid together only one of the new membership cards was generated. It was hoped that this would be sorted when Beacon 2.0 comes out towards the end of next year.

Business Report:

- The annual return is being compiled. **RE**
- Gift Aid for 2018 has been completed.
- GDPR – it was agreed that there should be a box to be ticked on the membership form indicating that the privacy statement has been read and understood.

Group Co-ordinators Report:

- Calligraphy Group seems to be a possibility.

- Croquet is uncertain and Backgammon will continue to be advertised until later in the year and then will be reviewed.
- Chess group initial meeting taking place on 9th April.
- Self Help Group for Yoga Practitioners. The U3A National Yoga subject advisor insists that other groups run like this.

Additional paper from Anne/Kathy the new group co-ordinators.

- Initial response to a new group Cinema Visits is encouraging and a lunchtime meeting takes place on April 16th.
- Anne asked if it was ok to advertise a couple of tech groups who might prove useful to our members as we no longer have our own group. One group run by the local council called Tea and Tech was approved.

Publicity Report:

- Steve will put the AGM papers on the website when they are available. **SA**
- It was agreed that we should be represented at the Heritage Open Day in September.

Outings and Visits Report:

- Coventry Trip going ahead – 2 places left.
- Derngate – Northampton – 3 places left.
- River Cruise and Afternoon Tea – must have a minimum of 40 people – 21 booked.
- Christmas outing to Birmingham Tattoo – 6 people booked.

Communications Report:

- Programme of speakers has been requested by members and a list will be done when Celia has the information. **CB**
- AGM information could include speaker list.
- There have been 160 renewals/new members online so good response.
- Members who have joined since the last open meeting and who attend this month's New Members Coffee Morning will receive their printed membership cards. **CB**
- Google Suite, which we pay for, has enough spare capacity for any committee member who wishes to share reports this way.

Social Events Report:

- Nothing has been planned.

Welfare Officer Report:

- Nothing to Report.

5 Notts Network:

- Nothing to report.

Succession Planning:

- Done

Data Protection:

- Nothing to report.

Beacon/PayPal:

- Looking at the costings of having a plastic continuous membership card.
- Kathy raised the concern that places like Broadway may have concerns giving a discount on a card which does not have an end date.
- Looking at the possibility of paying by bank card with a reader device – to be put into the development plan.

New Members Coffee Morning:

- A number of members volunteered to attend.

6 New Yoga Group:

- Already discussed.

7 AGM:

- Notice to be sent out on or by 11th April.
- Copies of the constitution and annual accounts to be printed and made available at the AGM next month.
- Information about the new constitution not to be sent out on 11th April – it can go out later in the month after we have heard back from The Third Age Trust.

8 New Constitution:

- Margot voiced her concern about the section of the new constitution which dealt with the length of service committee members should serve. The new constitution stipulates that it should be no more than 3 years. Margot and the committee felt this was too short and was not a good use of the expertise that the members had accrued and

there should be the possibility of serving for 6 years if the committee member wished to.

- There was also the difficulty that the committee had agreed at the previous meeting to put it to the membership at the AGM.
- Sue pointed out that according to the training session they had attended changes could be made to the constitution but only if it was approved by the Third Age Trust.
- Sue will email the Third Trust. **SB**

10 AOB:

- Nothing to report.

11 Confidential Items:

- Nothing to report.

12 Confirmed Future Meetings:

- May Monday 13th @ 1.30pm
- June Monday 10th @ 1.30pm
- July Monday 8th @ 1.30pm
- Suggested date for August Monday 5th @ 1.30pm agreed and booked.

Signed..... Dated.....