Charnwood u3a Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday February 8th 2023

Present: Mike Hood (MH) (Chair), Phil Bass (PB). Graham Cooper (GC), Bev Gillman (BG), Diana Harvey (DH), Margaret Kelvey (MK), Garry Rigby (GR), Bob Pyatt (BP), Helen Reid (HR), Sue Ronald (SR), Tony Westaway (TW), Pam Upton (PU) (Minutes).

Also present as observers: Dawn Hawley, Marilyn Dinsdale

Apologies were received from Geetha Bala

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c. Groups Coordinator (BG)

(i) Dawn agreed to discuss her programme for garden visits with Pauline May.

DH

(ii) Mike confirmed that Tesco were imposing a limit on parking at their Park Road site, which could especially impact members going on Cu3a trips. A daily rate of £3.75 was available only online or via a phone App. (iii): Mike to check availability with Emmanuel Church for a Group Leaders meeting on April 24th.

МН

d. Membership Secretary (GR)

(i): Garry reported that the membership now stood at 1021, with 18 new members. Four members had re-joined, having previously lapsed and 2 after previously resigning.

nd GR

(ii) Garry was working to resolve Issues relating to member payments and cheque deposits into Unity Bank.

e. New Members Liaison (MK)

(i): Margaret had contacted 16 new members, including a referral from Social Prescribing and was planning to meet Sue Unsworth to discuss the role of the Friends of Charnwood group.

ΜK

(ii) Margaret confirmed that all the new members she had contacted had received their welcome packs.

f. Treasurer (BP)

- (i): Bob suggested that the incoming committee might look at moving from Unity Bank to Lloyds, since Lloyds already provide the Cu3a charge cards.
- (ii) Presenting the budget forecast, Bob explained that it was a generous forecast intended to cover all exigencies. It was pointed out that the predicted increase in expenditure for Beacon would be offset by funds coming in from Loughborough u3a.
- (iii) Although we were not bound by our constitution to appoint an external examiner, Bob felt that we should consider employing a professional firm. Garry offered to approach someone who might provide this service.

GR

- (iv): In response to a question, Bob was confident that our reserves were sufficiently healthy to justify a continued reduction of the membership subscription for the coming year.
- (v): Bob had received most of the group returns and would prepare a breakdown for the next committee meeting.

BP

g. Web Manager (TW)

(i): Tony reported that the audit of contacts on Beacon, the Group Activities document and forwarding addresses was almost complete. Committee agreed that emails should be forwarded to all those indicated as group leaders on Beacon.

	(ii) Krystal have planted 40 trees on our behalf, the total planted now 2,984,456.	
	(iii) Tony's summary of statistics for January showed the highest number	
	of unique visitors (1351) since beginning the analysis. News and Views	
	had the most downloads (926), while the Members Handbook was	
	downloaded 64 times. Committee members agreed that the Handbook needed to be updated.	
	The most frequently viewed pages were the group pages and the Trips	
	Calendar (which had received positive feedback from those using it).	
4.	Monthly Meetings Survey	
	A report, including a breakdown of the findings, would be included in the	HR
	March edition of News and Views.	
5.	Review of Policies	
	Committee members approved the revised Privacy Policy. In view of the	
	potential transition to Simple Membership, Pam would change references	PU
	to Beacon to 'membership management system', before sending the	
6.	document to Tony for placing on the website. Assets	
0.	a. Mike to check whether the Making Music group could use one of the	
	Lu3a PA systems. It was suggested that that another system (currently	
	stored with Phil) could be donated to the Bowls Club, with the proviso	
	that Cu3a groups could use it when needed.	
	b. An Lu3a screen would be offered to Trinity Methodist Church.	
	c. Phil would collect a (currently unusable) laptop from Dawn	PB
	d. Dawn agreed to dispose of the remaining equipment.	DH
	e. The Cu3a Christmas tree and decorations would be disposed of.	
	f. Mike to update the Assets Register.	МН
7.	AGM Planning	
	a. It was agreed to remove items 5 and 8 from the draft agenda and to	
	add to item 6 that members would pay an extra £5 to receive News and	
	Views by post. The agenda and papers were then approved.	
	b. The time of the March meeting would remain at 2.30.c. The meeting would be accessible via Zoom and would be recorded on	
	audio only.	GR
8.	Complaint	
	The Trustees approved specific, once-only amendments to the Cu3a	
	Complaints Procedure to enable the Third Age Trust to manage the	
	complaint on their behalf.	
9.	AOB	
	Tony to organise the scanning of membership cards for the afternoon's	
	monthly meeting.	
10	Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday March 8th, 10.am.	
	The meeting closed at 12.15	