Washington Village U3A Committee, The Stella

10.00am – 21st March 2024

Attending: Derek Ginsberg (Chair), Carolyn Baxter, Lyn Bossons, Helen Edwards, Sandra Graham, Catherine Hambley, Maggie Hope, Tania LeMarinel, Julie Stevens

24.33 Welcome
The Chair welcomed Committee members to the meeting.

24.34 Apologies
Pauline Palmer, Chris Scorer, Marilyn Ward

24.35 Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of 18th February 2024, with minor wording corrections, was proposed by Julie Stevens, seconded by Maggie Hope and approved by all.

24.36- Matters Arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda:

14.1(b) Stella Heating
The issue of the heating of monthly meetings is to be raised with the Stella management by Derek and Lyn
**Ongoing: Derek and Lyn have spoken with Stella management in respect of the heating and found nothing can be done**
**Closed:** 14.1(d) **Tania had circulated cake costing and photos to the committee which had been unanimously accepted.**

24.30(a) After a vote, it was agreed no decision could be made today but a short survey would be taken at the next monthly meeting to determine the approximate number of cars parking spaces required.
**Resolved: Julie to email Frank Carroll in respect of register for car drivers. It is confirmed that of the 100 attended, 41 of those were drivers**

24.30(b) AGM
It had been agreed that the AGM would also celebrate the 10th anniversary with tea, coffee, cake and entertainment by the Ukelele group. There was some discussion of the re-election of the committee and agreed that at the next meeting members were to be encouraged to attend committee meetings to enable more shadowing for deputising of outgoing committee members. Gloria and John,

previous Chairs, would give a short presentation at the AGM after which Gloria would cut the cake. Photos would be provided by Joan Molloy to enable a slideshow during refreshments. It was agreed that there was insufficient time for a raffle, therefore excess raffle prizes from Christmas are to be utilised by the Day Trip group.

**Resolved: Pauline to send our AGM notifications at the end of March/beginning of April**

**Resolved: Lyn to send documents to Pauline for distribution**

**Resolved: Derek to invite John Edwards and Ian MacIntosh to next committee meeting.**

24.37 Membership Secretary's Report

We now have a total of 272 members at this end of year. An email reminder to be sent on 1st April reminding the membership to hopefully, pay by BACS.

24.38 Speaker Secretary's Report

The Tudor Talk will take place in April. The presenter will arrive at 10.30am and requires nearby parking, assistance with heavy items and a microphone for the presentation. In July a choir has been booked for the US Independence Day celebration, the choir and members are asked to dress in red, white and blue. Some small flags to be purchased and possibly bunting will be displayed.

24.39 Group Co-ordinator's Report

- Spanish for Beginners have resumed with six attending at the leisure centre.
- My Generation Music has a WhatsApp group and are now on the webpage.
- The coffee morning now meets at the revised time of 10.30.
- Spanish Advanced has four interested members and will meet on the second Tuesday at 2pm at a cost 0f £16.60 per session.
- The Jamming Session is not now going ahead.
- Paul Pearce has kindly donated his spare set of Kurling equipment to the u3a.

24.40 Treasurer's Report

Financial report noted. The 24/25 Forecast was discussed at length. Lyn's recommendation that the annual fee be maintained at £15 was proposed by Derek, seconded by Julie and approved by all. Lyn proposed that printing expenses, such as print cartridges, be set at a cost of 10p per sheet for u3a business as per the practice of other u3as, this was seconded by Sandra Graham and approved by all. The change from Barclays to Lloyds was nearing completion with all resources now in Lloyds. All participants have been informed of the process and updates completed, with Barclays account closed from end of March.

24.41 PR Update

The anniversary cake has been ordered and the form of payment is being confirmed. Noted that the Ukelele Group are performing at the Washington 60th anniversary celebrations. Tania advised she had been offered regional PR posts which she has declined. PR is currently suspended due to venue capacity as the general feeling is

that there is no need to actively canvas new recruits as new members are continuing to join through word of mouth and from the groups. However, a focus on smaller groups, whose numbers are declining, would benefit them by publicising their activities, for example by joining in the council's Active Families campaign.

24.42 Regional and Network Update
A WhatsApp Group has been set up for Network Chairs, although at the moment only four have joined. The next Regional Meeting will take place on Tuesday 30th April at the North Biddick Club with registration taking place from 10am. This meeting is open to all.

24.43 Members Liaison Report
Nothing to report.

24.44 IT/Website Update
The new Siteworks website is up and running and we will be migrated onto it by the summer. It is very flexible and easy to use. Group leaders will need training. There are no limits on photographs. It is possible to have slideshows and to preview how it will look on different technologies such as websites, smart phones etc. The cost will eventually be £50 p.a. and it will be our choice as to when the timing and content of the Sitebuilder migration takes place.

24.45 Environment Update
The Environment Group now has a group on WhatsApp as membership has reduced. They have had speakers; incorporated new methods into our meetings such as using our own cups; have had visits to recycling sites; distributed leaflets and recycled biscuit wrappers. Ideas for further progress could include speaking to schoolchildren, also surveying the u3a membership for their ideas/concerns in respect of recycling, possibly as a u3a project. Online surveys might also be possible.
**Action: Tania to cost an anonymous electronic voting system**
**Action: Helen to investigate a possible environmental survey**

24.46 AGM
The agreed format of the meeting to be:
AGM; Gloria and John talk of the formation of our u3a with cake cutting and tea/coffee to follow; followed by a Ukelele group performance. The u3a song lyrics to be displayed, with a possible display of words of popular songs to be investigated.
Currently we have 10 committee members and 2 co-opted members. Forms for all committee members are to be submitted by next meeting at latest. An open invitation is to be made to the membership to attend and observe committee meetings to see how our self-help organisation works.
**Action: Derek to send our email in respect of AGM**

24.47 Any other business
None