

Kings Norton & District



Minutes of the Committee Meeting Tuesday 20 September 2022

Present: Linda Curry (Chair), Beryl Blood, Lorna Brown, Vicki Hone, Chris Locke, Margaret Lusher, Pauline Amor, Jane Evans (item 3).

<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>2. Apologies (LC) LB welcomed all to the meeting. Absences of Pauline George and Helen Kempster noted.</p> <p>3. Support for members (VH & JE) Jane Evans, Welfare Coordinator, updated the committee on her contact with members.</p> <p>4. Minutes of the previous meeting (LC) Draft minutes of the meeting on 16 August 2022 were approved.</p> <p>5. Matters arising Item 2 Matters arising from July meeting 1) Item 3 Updates on matters arising from May meeting LB had looked at previous paperwork concerning the installation of a hearing loop. She had concluded that much of it was out-of-date but had also looked at further general information about the purchase and installation of such equipment. She estimated that it would be necessary to budget approximately £2,500 to £3,000. It was agreed that it would be inappropriate to proceed with the installation of a hearing loop at St Joseph's church hall at the expense of the KNu3a.</p> <p>2) Item 8 LB to update contact list for committee members; to include details of names, job role title, email and telephone number. Subject to their agreement, contact list to include details for Stella Wood, Anne Jones and Mary Watson.</p> <p>Item 3 LC noted that she had not yet completed a draft statement of cooperation for the Network.</p> <p>Item 12 It had been agreed to delay the coffee morning for new members. The date for the coffee morning, possibly in November, will be decided at the October committee meeting.</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>LC</p>
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<p>6. Chair's report (LC) LC noted that the Trust was running a number of "Ask the Trust" Zoom sessions and she would be booking into the October session.</p> <p>LC had written an article on the Network which had been published in the Regional Newsletter and would also be in the Trust newsletter due out later. She will revise the article for inclusion in the Bournville Pages, together with an advert. If that is successful it was agreed that other local Pages be considered eg Northfield.</p>	LC
<p>7. Treasurer's report (CL) CL had circulated a financial report prior to the committee meeting. There is approximately £5,200 in the bank at present. The capitation fee of £1052 was larger than had been expected, but reflects a higher membership level than expected coming out of Covid lockdowns. The TAM magazine bill had also been paid.</p> <p>Generally the u3a is financially well-placed at present, though there had been a deficit for August because of large bills. CL will look again at the budget at the end of September at the ½ year point. Looking forward costs such as capitation, TAM and room hire have all increased; income issues such as timing of membership fees, retention and recruitment of members and the level of membership fees will be critical.</p>	CL
<p>LB noted that Stella Wood had asked about purchase of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plastic containers to store biscuits; and • mugs for drinks, because the cups and saucers at St Josephs were mismatching and unsuitable and the mugs were too large. There may be an issue about the secure storage of u3a owned mugs. <p>As the cost of the plastic box was minimal LB has advised SW to purchase the box and claim the money from CL. LB will investigate possible purchase of suitable mugs.</p>	SW LB
<p>WIFI at St Josephs church hall costs £38pcm. At present the u3a uses the hall for the monthly general meeting, and as a venue for the Flowering Arranging, Crafternoon and Board Games Interest Groups. It was agreed that CL should look into the contractual arrangement with Virgin Media with a view to cancelling the WIFI.</p>	CL
<p>Anne Jones had advised that Jenny Snashall still had permission to look at Beacon. It was agreed that this should continue until after renewals time. LB will advise AJ.</p>	LB
<p>8. September meeting It was agreed that the meeting went quite well and the speaker was interesting. There was some difficulty with hearing the speaker at times. 56 members attended – a little lower than lately but it was acknowledged that this may have been due to the postponement of the meeting. It was agreed that more help was needed to prepare the hall for the meeting and that a plea should be made for volunteers to help set out chairs from 1.45pm for a 2pm meeting start.</p>	
<p>9. October meeting The speaker for the meeting on 4th October will be Andy Symons talking about model aircraft flying. It was suggested that members who have difficulty hearing should be invited to sit</p>	LC

<p>at the front of the hall. It was agreed that an announcement would be made to encourage members to stay on after the talk to look at IG boards and talk with the co-ordinator.</p>	
<p>10. Interest Groups There was no report on group activities.</p> <p>CL will check with Lorraine about future bookings for St Josephs after recent issues with bookings for the general meeting and Interest Groups.</p> <p>The committee confirmed that the u3a ethos was for a shared learning experience and that IGs/IGLs should not enter into arrangements for taught sessions provided on a commercial basis.</p>	<p>CL</p> <p>BB</p>
<p>11. Interest Group Leaders' Guidelines BB was asked to amend the draft guidelines on page 1 to reflect the basis for learning within groups as above. The revised guidelines would then be for issue to IGLs, as previously agreed by the committee. LC would write to IG leaders once the final document has been finalized.</p>	<p>LC</p>
<p>12. Website/Facebook Updates ML requested details of the new Interest Groups, as announced at the general meeting, so that she can set up their group page on the website and put details in Beacon. PA will ask Jeanette to contact ML with the third Book Club details. Information about the new groups will also need to be provided to non-emailers.</p>	<p>PA</p> <p>ML</p>
<p>13. Communication with Network members, not on KN membership list It was noted that communication with Network members has to be via the IGL coordinators, until such time as a member joins an Interest Group when the IGL will have/get contact details and be able to contact direct. It is not possible to contact Network members of another u3a via Beacon, and in any case Harborne & Edgbaston u3a do not use Beacon.</p>	
<p>14. Membership ML noted that some emails issued through Beacon had bounced back, possibly because the member had changed email address or the email was being treated as junk or had been blocked. It was agreed that she should take the details off Beacon and treat the member as a "non-emailer".</p>	<p>ML</p>
<p>15. Newsletter No report available. It was noted that the deadline for contributions was 30 September.</p>	<p>VH</p>
<p>16. AOB VH noted that she had completed the update of the venue hire list and would forward a copy to ML for uploading to the website.</p>	
<p>17. Date of next meeting 2pm Tuesday 18 October at Bournville Quaker Meeting House</p> <p>The meeting ended at 16.10.</p>	