

Kings Norton and District u3a

Minutes of the committee meeting of 21st November 2023

Present: Vicki Hone (chair), Chris Locke, Beryl Blood, Maragaret Lusher, Pauline George, Lorna Brown.

1. Welcome and apologies.

V H welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies received from Pauline Amor and Anne Jones.

2. Minutes of the October meeting

Correction: Christmas party, St Joseph's hall has been booked from 12.30 to 4.30.

The minutes were then accepted.

3. Matters arising.

VH will arrange another meeting of the Birmingham u3a Network in the spring.

Network members were particularly concerned about IT security, K Heath membership secretary had to be contacted via the chair of K Heath.

4. Chair's Report

VH was still encountering problems with access to the Barclays account.

5. Anne Jones

The committee agreed to co-opt Anne on to the committee. She will stand for election at the AGM. **LB** will ask Anne if she would like to attend the January committee meeting.

6. Access and equality statement

The statement had been circulated to IG leaders but no problems reported. Harriet Martin emailed to say a wheel chair member accessed her house via the garage.

It was agreed that the committee would adopt the policy statement. **ML** would arrange to add it to the website.

7. Christmas party

VH had received a complaint about the charge for attendance and booking arrangements. She had invited the complainant to join the post party discussion but had yet not received a reply. 67 booked, 3 not paid.

The committee reviewed the events team's programme. It was agreed not to collect food, or money, for the food bank as there was a charge for the party. The committee would choose the best Xmas jumper. **ML** would email, and mail, the revised programme to booked members. The letter would ask for any specific dietary requirements.

VH would email/mail members, not yet booked, that there were still places available.

HK would produce 80 copies of the programme and purchase sandwiches for 80, from Morrisons. Linda Wynne would provide samosas, LB to purchase mince pies, lemon cake and raffle, quiz and jumper prizes. Quiz questions already received.

8. Treasurer's Report

CL reported that the Bank balance, on 15th Nov 2023, was : £6,417. The Bournville QMH have still to charge us for recent bookings, about £500. The gift aid claim has still not been paid by HMRC. Paypal account still not accessible.

VH was now an authorised bank signatory. Only BQMH has increased booking charges, by 10%. All IGs are financially viable.

9. Interest Group.

PG reported that the art group has successfully moved to Bournville QMH, photos have been taken to be added to the website. Italian has moved from the Navigation to The Bull's Head. The leader would find a portable projection screen very useful. It was agreed that PG would investigate the costs, prior to purchasing one in the new year sales.

More photos are being taken of the other interest groups.

New groups: Media Motivators will start in the new year. A new member has offered to lead a sign language group.

PG will promote the K Heath current affairs group, which welcomes K. Norton members. Two Xmas lunches have been organised.

PG continued to encourage IG leaders to use Beacon, particularly emphasising the need to avoid the hacking of members' email addresses. Another training session on how to use Beacon will be arranged in the new year.

10. Membership

ML reported that there are 297 members.

11. Word Press

ML reported that demo package would be available for the committee to see in December. She would arrange for LB to receive a copy of the terms and conditions, which will require signature, on behalf of Kings Norton u3a. It will cost £50, per year, to use Word Press.

12. 13. And 14.

Due to a shortage of time, it was agreed that these items would be discussed at the next committee meeting.

The meeting ended at 4.25pm.