

POCKLINGTON & DISTRICT U3A

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

held on Tuesday 29th July 2014 at 10.15 a.m.

Apologies had been received from the Treasurer.

Matters Arising

Non-renewals

It was felt that the action for the Secretary to write to all members who had not renewed their subscription was unnecessarily intrusive and may even cause distress in, say, the event of a member having died. It was therefore agreed to change the minute to no action.

Storage of large items of equipment

Brian James re-iterated that it was necessary to find safe, dry storage for the items that could not easily be carried up and down the stairs in the Methodist Church rooms.

Action:

Brian James & Gordon Clarke to investigate possibilities.

Asset register

The President tabled a copy of the current asset register, which listed a number of ageing items of equipment.

Action: Secretary to review older items and identify any for scrapping.

Treasurer's Update

The Treasurer had sent a written report that the current account stood at £12,910 of which £1,177 belonged to individual groups, the reduction being due to magazine postage paid to the Third Age Trust, Group Leaders' Get Together and the new screen.

Vice-Chair's Update

YAHR Seminar on Group Co-ordination

The Vice-Chair and the President had attended and found the seminar useful, although it did confirm that we were doing many things correctly. Points of interest from other U3As were:

- using a private courier service to deliver to members houses, which the Vice-Chair is investigating further;
- encouraging members not on email to find an "email buddy" to keep in touch – brought forward for further consideration;

Meeting for new group leaders

The meeting had been very successful with seven new group leaders attending (Astronomy, Hardy Plants, Muddy Boots, Latin, Working with Rush), all being given the GLs handbook.

The Chair added that the Meet & Greet team were now asking new members if they could assist at or run a group, as new members seemed more likely to offer to run groups than existing members.

Members' Information Booklet

Copies were handed to committee members, who commented favourably. The Chair pointed out the changes in laying out the text less densely to encourage members to read through the booklet. Distribution - the booklet would be available at the August drop-in for members to collect and the Vice-Chair would divide the remainder up into streets/areas for hand delivery or posting as appropriate.

Computer Workshops

The Chair had asked Richard Wade to undertake the role of Group Leader (A) for Computer Workshops and Richard confirmed that he had offered to take on the role to stop the group falling apart.

Secretary's Update

Communications from Third Age Trust and YAHR

The Secretary advised that she would communicate events offered by The Third Age Trust and YAHR so that the link committee members could then advise their group leaders as appropriate.

CLA Licence

The Secretary had asked treasurer to send a cheque to Third Age Trust to renew the licence.

Article for press

One member had been approached by the Pocklington Post to write an article on U3A and had sent a draft to the Chair. The committee felt that they did not wish to promote the U3A at this point in time as membership was growing fast and keeping pace with new groups was already difficult.

Action: Chair and Vice-Chair to advise the member concerned and contact the Editor of the Pocklington Post to inform the paper that they did not wish to have any publicity at this time and that any future publicity must have committee approval.

MIND Stress Control

The Chair had circulated an email received from the Hull & EY MIND team regarding stress control courses for over 50s and added that, having looked at the courses, they seemed reasonable. It was agreed, on this occasion, to obtain leaflets for members to pick up at drop-ins.

Action: Secretary to obtain 50 leaflets.

Obituary Cards

The Chair felt that the current cards were too poor in quality to use and raised the question of whether cards should be sent by the Chair. Discussion ensued on the principle of sending an obituary card to houses of deceased members, the difficulties of total coverage with increasing membership and the possible adverse reception by relatives. The President felt the current practice should be continued but there was general feeling that cards should be sent by friends not by committees and that it was more appropriate for group leaders and group members to send cards.

The Secretary proposed that the committee cease sending obituary cards, seconded Pauline Carter, and carried with one abstention.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 11.40 a.m.

Dates of next meetings: - all at 10.15 a.m. at the Station Hotel, Pocklington

Tuesday 26th August

Tuesday 23rd September

Tuesday 28th October

Tuesday 25th November

Tuesday 6th January 2015