

**Pocklington & District U3A  
Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday 14 December, 10.30 a.m.  
Pocklington Scout Hut, Burnby Lane**

Present: John Senior (Acting Chair)  
David Hebden (Treasurer)  
Moirá Laverack (Membership Secretary)  
Rosemary Waugh (Secretary)  
Neil Bennett  
Liz Dearsly  
Rosemary Hutchinson  
Pauline Slater

1. Introduction/Welcome and Apologies for absence (JS)  
Apologies had been received from BJ, CM, JC and EW.
2. Approval of Notes of November 2021 meeting.  
Acceptance was proposed by LD and seconded by DH
3. Matters arising from Notes of previous meeting (JS)
  1. No-one has as yet checked the Pocklington Public Library. It was felt that they should have information about the u3a available to the public, and perhaps a copy of the Handbook. Could one of the Pocklington resident committee members please check. Market Weighton library will also be checked by JS.
  2. Barry Stockdale has contacted the u3a seeking to include information on the Pocklington Bugle Facebook page. It was agreed that only contact details would be given rather than a fuller write-up. DH will contact Mr. Stockdale and discuss this.
  3. The question was raised as to whether leaders of new groups need to fill out the registration form. The situation is that if all the contact details have been given and are on record, the form is not necessary.
4. Treasurer's update (DH)
  1. The Treasurer's Report will be attached to these minutes. It was agreed that the summary is good to receive regularly, though the expanded spreadsheet is probably not necessary every time.
  2. The major expenses have been the new laptops, £840, and the costs of printing the Group Leaders' Handbook.
  3. The situation is generally very healthy and it is hoped that by next financial year we shall be operating with a year's funds in hand.
  4. The card reader system seems to be operating well in its initial trials, with a SIM card which costs £6 per month. However, there is a possibility of moving to another system which would not be linked to using a mobile phone.
  5. The arrangements for renewals (physical arrangement within Burnby Hall) will be discussed at the next committee meeting.
5. Membership Secretary's update (ML)
  1. There are currently 734 members on roll, and six more pending.

2. The latest 'Members' Update' was delivered to all non e-mail-using members.
3. A community worker for the Red Cross had approached ML for information on involving some of her contacts in the u3a. Most of these people do not have any means of electronic communication. It was strongly felt that we should not proactively seek to recruit in this way, and that any impetus must come from the individuals. It was agreed that we would respond by sending one copy of the handbook, which she can use to show her contacts and give them any information they are interested in, but it would be up to them to make contact.
4. Beacon. There are still some ongoing snarls in the system, notably the links to the website and the possibility of members being able to use the system. Also, the new card cannot be generated through Beacon which will need to be resolved before next year. At the moment members will not be able to do online renewals, and ML is having to run two systems in parallel. Beacon also sets a different date for the cutoff of renewals – 1 April instead of 1 May. Assistance from the committee was offered to ML should she need it.  
We are paying for the Beacon service but still working from the WDY server and using their services on a retaining fee arrangement. They have been very efficient and helpful.  
JS will meet with Brian Snelson and discuss the situation with him.

#### 6. Secretary's update (RAW)

1. It has been a very quiet month! Should we proceed with booking for Drop-ins for January, February and March on the assumption that Covid restrictions will not prevent such gatherings? The agreement was that we should go ahead, and leave it to ERYC to cancel if this becomes necessary. We shall 'keep calm and carry on', heeding government guidelines and emphasizing the need for Covid precautions as much as needed.

#### 7. AOB

1. New Groups (JS). The following items were announced:
  1. The Military History Group has remustered, the Aeronautics & Space Group has been launched, the Machine-Sewing Group has taken shape, and the new Elvington-based Wine Group has been opened. The Philosophy Group is also under consideration.
  2. There has been no further response to the suggested Living History and Story-telling Groups, so it looks as though they will not be happening. Also, the Bon Viveurs Wine Group (Group 4) seems likely to fold, as membership has declined.
  3. None of the Gardening interest groups has responded to the appeal for help with Ballerina House's sensory garden. The request will be posted on the Website and in the next Newsletter.
2. The question was raised as to whether there should be a central register of membership of groups. It was agreed that at present, it is sufficient if each Group Leader holds lists and contact details of membership within a Group. At some later date it may be necessary to centralise these records for Beacon.
3. (ML) There will be a further New Members Meeting at the Scout Hut on January 13<sup>th</sup>, which ML will host with EW and LD.
4. (PS) Sheila Powell, who has led the Italian Improvers group for many years, wishes to retire from this. No-one from within the membership has expressed

willingness to take it on. As it is a thriving and over-subscribed group, it was felt to be a shame if it were to fold, so new leadership will be actively sought, though the website and newsletter.

8. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.46am

Date of next meeting Tuesday 18 January 2022, 10.30am, at the Scout Hut, Burnby Lane