

**Pocklington & District U3A
Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday 13 December 2022, 10.30 a.m.
Pocklington Scout Hut, Burnby Lane**

Present: John Senior (Chair)
 Neil Barrett (Vice Chair)
 Moirá Laverack (Membership Secretary)
 Graham Ball (President)
 Rosemary Waugh (Secretary)
 Lynn Liddle
 Chris Mills
 Pauline Slater
 Liz Storer

1. Introduction/Welcome and Apologies for absence (JS)
 Apologies had been received from DH, GH, HM, JC and EW
2. Approval of Minutes of November 2022 meeting
 Approval was proposed by PS and seconded by GB
3. Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting (JS)
 1. The TAT Welcome Pack for new members looks useful: JS will customise, and will bring to the next Committee meeting for consideration.
 2. The purchase of a gazebo will be held over for next year's Council budget.
 3. The possibilities for the Local Travel Group to work with others are not currently known. JS will raise the issue with the Accord. There have been disappointing responses to similar opportunities in the past.
4. Chairman's Report (JS)
 1. Feedback from East Yorkshire Accord meeting on Monday 5th December.
 1. A proposal to change the name to the East Riding Accord was rejected.
 2. All Accord u3a branches apart from us seem to like Beacon, and use it for their emailing, and their accounts. Their websites are developed through TAT web-builder. They also consider the costs reasonable and have no considerations to change anything.
 3. It had been felt that a dedicated Accord website would not be very useful and could not be sufficiently supported and kept current. It was consequently shelved.
 4. Most branches regularly have guest speakers, at £50 - £90 a time.
 5. Other branches keep six months' money as a 'cushion' – do we need to keep a year's worth? Is there a tax issue?

6. There was felt to be a need for more communication between branches. Best practices and help should be shared.
2. WDY/Beacon way forward.
- There was a wide-ranging discussion, of which the salient points were;
1. The corporate status of WDY is still undetermined – JS will investigate thoroughly in the New Year.
 2. ML needs full access to export of member archives as a key issue. This is already part of Beacon service; WDY have quoted £393.75 (this includes a discount of 55%) for five hours' work to enable this. The facility to email all members would be c.£500.
 3. We need a price/potential service comparison chart of the two providers in order to make a balanced decision.
 4. Beacon cannot link to our present website, and a change would mean we had to change it to a new format.
 5. With Beacon we could not continue our usual format of membership cards.
 6. With WDY we are very dependent on the effort and work of one individual – this makes us vulnerable.
 7. We do not know what, if anything, is being planned to replace the scrapped Beacon 2.
 8. Standard practice in IT would suggest going with Beacon as the standard 'brand leader' and getting them to solve the interface problem, and that is what we should invest in.

It was agreed that JS would contact other branches to discuss our concerns and problems and find out how such issues have been dealt with, and will produce a discussion paper for the Committee to consider and vote on. We need to make a decision before the end of February.

5. Group Activity (NB)

1. It seemed from the GL meeting that some Group Leaders think groups should be allowed to 'die naturally' if a Group Leader stepped down. There was a general feeling that our ethos is and should be to help keep them going if possible.
2. ECO event. Margaret Stubbs has now arranged and booked this event; it was agreed that we would publicise it on the website and in the newsletter, but any support or attendance would be as individuals and not as representing u3a affiliation, to avoid possible political implications. A speaker has been booked, and tickets are on sale.
3. Proposed new Weekend social group. This was agreed by all to be a good initiative, and has already attracted some interest; a first meeting has been arranged for January 21st, at 2 p.m. in the Feathers.
4. All Group Leaders should have lists of their members, with contact details, and these should be filed with NB. The issue of privacy arose; RW will include in the next newsletter a request for anyone who is not happy to share details, to opt out of being listed.
5. A number of places in the Pocklington area are offering 'Warm Bank' assistance during the cold weather. It was agreed that members would be made aware of these through the website and the newsletter; NB will contact

Louise from the Council, and ML will contact the Social Prescribing team to ascertain details.

6. At the December Drop In, Trish Cairns officially gave notice as group leader of art group 2 for personal reasons. As the group has been dormant since before the pandemic, the committee consider it best to let the group close.

6. Treasurer's update

In the absence of DH it was agreed that this would be appended later; however, there was no unusual activity or expense to report.

7. Membership Secretary's update (ML)

1. Membership currently stands at 760, plus two more who will not be processed until next year.
2. ML will issue a statement to all members in January asking for renewals, and will explain that, while payment can be made by cash, cheque, BACS or Sumup, online renewals are no longer an option.
3. The Renewals cycle will be fully discussed at the next Committee meeting.

8. Secretary's update (RAW)

There had been no correspondence needing agreed action.

9. AOB

Licences (PS). The issue of licences for photocopying published material to use in meetings was raised. It is understood that a licence costs about £60. It was agreed that the matter would be referred to DH to action as necessary. CM suggested that a discount might be available through TAT's trading liaison officer – he will investigate and report back.

10. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.41.

11. Date of next meeting, Tuesday, 17 January 10.30am, at the Scout Hut, Burnby Lane