

**Minutes of Pocklington & District U3A  
Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, 17 October, 10.00 a.m.  
Pocklington Scout Hut, Burnby Lane**

Present: Neil Barrett (Chair)  
Gerry Hutchinson  
Moira Laverack  
Pauline Slater  
Les Smith  
Margaret Stubbs  
Ralph Vokes (Membership Secretary)  
Rosemary Waugh (Secretary)

1. Introduction/Welcome and Apologies for absence (NB)
  1. Apologies had been received from CB, DH, JC, JK, JS, and SE
2. Approval of Minutes of September 2023 meeting.
  1. Proposed PS, seconded LS
3. Matters arising from Notes of previous meeting (NB)
  1. Outdoors Day. This was agreed to have been a success, though we shall try to attract more participants next time. We shall plan to repeat the occasion in Spring.
  2. Group Leaders' Meeting. In the absence of JS, discussion of this was deferred; it has been agreed that we shall look at planning it for the early Spring rather than November, and to make it more interactive.
  3. Burnby Hall: MS is now on the Fundraising Committee of the action group, and attends Council meetings. There is a meeting with ERYC scheduled for this week, but as yet there has been no clear indication of their intent or plans. It was agreed that a petition or survey would be prepared, to be presented at the entrance to our next Drop-in, with all visitors being actively encouraged to sign it.
4. Chairman's Report (NB)
  1. Vice-chair position. NB was delighted to report that LS had accepted the post of Vice-Chair, with immediate effect. JS will remain on the Committee as a member.
5. Group Activity
  1. (MS) The pétanque group is active and has already held some meetings. They would like to request a new hard-surface area at West Green, and MS has composed a letter to the Council requesting this, for which she was thanked.
  2. The Archaeology and K9 groups have both formally been withdrawn.

3. JS is in process of updating the membership and availability spreadsheet, which will be circulated when complete.
4. (PS) Both the Whist Group and the Latin Group would like to extend their numbers – RW will appeal for both in the November newsletter. This gave rise to discussion as to how else groups can attract new membership; it was agreed that a return to the pre-Covid situation of having Group Leaders at Drop-ins with their sign at tables would be desirable, and possibly getting representatives to give a short appeal or introduction to the meeting could be introduced. RV suggested that representatives from groups could attend the new members' meetings as well, and this was agreed to be a good idea.
5. (ML) The idea of a 'sociable chess' group was introduced – many members who enjoy the game might not be in situations where they can easily find a game. The suggestion was that individuals within a loose group could contact each other to arrange fixtures in each others' houses. This was not yet a formal proposal, just an idea under consideration.

6. Treasurer's update (RW in absentia DH)

1. Balances as at the beginning of October:

Main a/c	£4153
Subs a/c	£3372
Total	£7,525
2. There were a few new subscriptions from the Drop-in to add, and a couple of invoices that had come through in the past week but these more or less equal each other.
3. CB is ordering more printer consumables and Chris is planning to order some more handbooks. Otherwise, only routine expenditure is anticipated in the remainder of this month.
4. The CPR training, which is oversubscribed, is on the 16th November. DH will be sending out reminders on his return. As Ali, the trainer, seems to get booked up about 6 months in advance he is going to fix another date for another session around this time next year.
5. The Table-Tennis group, which has folded, has returned £50 to general funds.

7. Membership Secretary's update (RV)

1. There is a steady rise in membership numbers – eleven at the last Drop-in, 41 new members since the AGM.
2. There are plenty of groups with vacancies but the up-to-date figures are not always available, and the Membership Booklet can no longer

be published in full on the open website. RV will liaise with CS to make sure that all members can have access to the book.

3. Most new members when joining don't fill in the 'interests' section of the form – they should be more actively encouraged to!

8. Secretary's update (RAW)

1. (in response to question from ML) The newsletter continues to be printed in 'hard copy' every two or three months, to keep non-email users in touch.

9. AOB

1. There are now two vacancies on the committee, and all Committee members are encouraged to invite members who look likely prospects to join!
2. (MS) Blog update; it was suggested that the blog link be placed at the top of the News section on the website and given more prominence, to encourage a wider readership. NB is still working on hash tags which can attract browsers through Google as well.
3. (GH) A Line dancing group has asked to make a regular booking of the Scout Hut on Tuesday mornings, which would obviously affect Committee meetings. GH is going to suggest that they might make their booking from 9 until 10, which would mean our meetings could start at 10.15. He will report back on this discussion before the next meeting.

Date of next meeting Tuesday, 21 November 2023, 10.15 a.m. (tbc), at the Scout Hut, Burnby Lane