

## **Pocklington & District U3A Committee Meeting**

Held on Tuesday 21st March 2017 at 10.15 a.m.  
at the Station Hotel, Pocklington

### **PRESENT:**

President	Freda Snelson
Chair:	Pauline Carter (elected March & April 2017)
Treasurer:	Paul Giles (later arrival)
Vice-Chair:	Graham Ball
Secretary:	Graham Gillyon
Committee Members:	Val Wosket (minutes), Steve Fraser, David Bragg, Frank Challoner, Moira Laverack, Eileen Ducker, Elizabeth Walker, Ian Smith, Brian James

In attendance for item 12 only: Gerry Hutchinson

### **1. Welcome**

The 'Acting Chair' (elected for March and April 2017) Pauline Carter welcomed members to the meeting.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

- February: noted for Kay Stephenson.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes of meeting 21st February 2017**

- Proposed: Graham Ball
- Seconded: Brian James
- Approved Minutes to be posted to website at close of Committee Meeting

### **4. Matters arising**

- **Asset Register audit**
  - FS asked for clarification on the current audit of assets, including which equipment belongs to whom. GB asked that excess/unwanted items be removed from storage at the Methodist Church to create space. Agreed that stickers will be attached to stored items belonging to U3A at Methodist Church Hall. Action: GG.
- **Group Capacity**
  - SF drew attention to the number of group vacancies and it was noted that some group leaders are happy to have spaces if the dynamic in the group works well with smaller numbers.
  - GG will keep Terry Rogers (Drop-in meet and greet) informed of any new members who may then be directed to groups in which they have interest.
  - GG will liaise with leaders of groups that appear to be full to discuss the possibility of new group(s) in that subject being set up.

- The Film group was mentioned as being at full capacity and the heavy use of the projector noted. BJ will prepare a specification for a back-up projector which may be needed.
- It was agreed that GB will announce which groups are looking for new members at future Drop-in meetings.

### **5. Groups:**

- The Link Committee co-ordinator (SF) reported that a member has expressed an interest in setting up a knitting and crochet group.
  - SF reminded the committee that groups should not regularly have paid speakers and asked Link Committee members to be vigilant to this in their groups.
- BJ commented that the ukulele group has had a very positive start. There were no further updates from Link Committee members.

### **6. Treasurer's Update (PG)**

- In bank account: £13,101, which includes £4,670 in subscriptions. Current surplus is £8,431.
- Committee discussed pros and cons of raising membership for next year from £10.00 to £12.00. A vote was taken with a clear majority of members present voting to leave member subscriptions for next year at £10.00.
  - Membership update (ML): Current renewals: 484. New members this year to date: 56. Members yet to renew: 370. Renewed so far: approximately 500. ML expects approximately 200 more renewals, bringing anticipated membership to around 700 for the current year. ML also reported that the new card printer was working well and the old one has been disposed of.
- Reminders to renew membership to be given at the AGM. Cards run out on 31st March.

### **7. Secretary's Update (GG)**

- Suggestion box submissions: 2 from the same member: 'How to use computers and programs' and 'metal detecting'. The member has been advised (by GG) that due to the variety and complexity of computers/programming now available, s/he may be better advised to attend a generic computer training course outside U3A as this is beyond what Pocklington U3A can provide. The member was also advised that s/he would need possess a metal detector before a metal detecting group could be considered.
- TAT communications: GG reported that a new MPLC license has been received. We are compliant with Annual Return requirements and our income is sufficiently low that it does not appear on the TAT website. Annual per capita fee of £3.50 is now due.
- Getting involved in research: GG will circulate information received from TAT and invite any interested members to contact him. He will also communicate with group leaders about various forthcoming courses and ask them to filter this information through to interested members.

## **8. AGM Specifics**

- The singing for pleasure group will sing at the AGM before the meeting starts. GG outlined the order of the day, including the placing of interactive activities and refreshments.
- GG circulated proposal forms for Chair, Vice-Chair and Committee.
- Appointment of Auditor of Accounts: Gerry Hutchinson was put forward, proposed by PC and seconded by GG.

## **9. Meetings – committee attendance**

- Drop-in 6th April: VW, GG, PC, FS, FC, EW, ED.
- Open Meeting 30th March: PC and ED.

## **10. Website Update (PC)**

- PC reported that progress is good. She showed committee members a mock-up of the page giving email contact addresses only of committee members and confirmed that no other contact details will be given on the website. The new website to be showcased as going live at the AGM.

## **11. AOB**

- GG reported that he has been collating changes to the Handbook in preparation for the new website going live. He has circulated amendments to the Handbook to Committee and Group Leaders, for approval.
- SF asked for clarification about how the decision was made to have only one named volunteer for Meet and Greet at Drop-ins. Committee discussion highlighted the need for inclusivity and to build up a bank (5 was suggested) of people so that 2 would always be available on the day.
- FS reported that she had been approached by a group member asking if 'diplomas' could be given out. She had been clear with the member that this was not allowed.
- DB relayed a request for funding for card table refurbishment for the Mah-jong group. This was approved by the Committee.

## **12. Green Spaces (Gerry Hutchinson)**

- The 'Acting Chair' welcomed Gerry Hutchinson to the group to discuss his proposal that Pocklington Green Spaces (PGS), a small conservation group, be integrated into Pocklington U3A. Gerry confirmed that U3A insurance would cover the group if it became part of Pocklington U3A. PGS has £700 worth of funds that would be transferred to Pocklington U3A and ring fenced for use by PGS, e.g. for purchase of new tools as required.

Committee responses underlined that (eligible) members of PGS would need to join Pocklington U3A and pay membership subscriptions. Non-eligible members (currently one only) could not join. PGS would then become a fully integrated group within Pocklington U3A and be perceived by members as such. There was discussion of how the group would be titled and its terms of reference if it became a part of Pocklington U3A. Committee members present were in support of the proposal and agreed

that the name of the group should be **Green Spaces Conservation Group**. It was agreed that the Committee will discuss the proposal further and get back to Gerry in due course.

**Date of Next Meeting:**

- 18th April 2017. Apologies noted for Brian James, Graham Ball and Val Wosket.

The meeting closed at 12.20