

U3A Carrick

Minutes of Committee Meeting on 7 October 2020 at Oak Tree Farm

Present: John Bishop, Jan Barnard, Pat Harrod, James Ellis, Jenny Fulleylove, Mervyn Knight, Lyn Chapman

1) **Apologies:** Gillian Davies, Liz Walden, Marion Tapp, Wendy Morris, Diane Tyas, Margaret Ingles.

2) Minutes of meeting on 2 September and Matters Arising.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed off by the Chairman though not on Website at present.

3) **AGM update:** no further developments, so no update possible.

4) Chairman's Report

Gill Aburrow contacted the police regarding updated permitted numbers of people meeting together. As a registered charity, U3a members may meet in groups of more than six, as long as in Coronavirus safe venues or out of doors. Some outdoor activities, such as Tai Chi and croquet are running. JE to investigate the public use of facilities such as Truro Leisure Centre during Covid restrictions and report back.

Feock Hall is currently closed. LC to send contact details of Tremayne Hall and Ord Statter Pavilion, Mylor, to JEB for hiring possibility, as both halls are open. JEB expressed concern at so few being open.

5) Treasurer's Report

DT submitted a summary of accounts, as she is not attending meetings till Covid restrictions change. DT believes Zoom annual subscriptions for groups should be paid, as long as group leaders undertake to cancel them at the end of the year.

Surplus income over expenditure for the period is £15323.52, with the general account at £23187.37 and the Tony Herring Account at £5000.

DT has written to HMRC as the Gift Aid claim is still outstanding and she feels we should have received this by now.

The annual payment to The Third Age Trust is still outstanding as they have not sent the relevant paperwork, though this may have gone to Harry.

6) Secretary's Report

As at 2 October, there were two new member enquiries and several speakers' enquiries. The Minutes of the August meeting were sent to the Webmaster, but had not been uploaded at present.

Attempts had been made to send information to Social Prescribers attached to local doctors' surgeries but proved difficult as organisers cannot do so directly.

7) **Membership Secretary's Report** No update at present.

8) **Group-Coordinator's Report**

PH reported that he believed The Science and Quiz groups had used the discounted rate for Zoom. Helen Ellis enquired about using Zoom sub of £11.99 plus VAT for two groups Philosophy I and Questions of the Day. Although normally Zoom membership was cheaper than venue hire, there were drawbacks, such as having no way of knowing whether participants were paid up members. It was normally left to team leaders to decide how to do it. It was believed that there may be a cheaper way of using Zoom, possibly by using U3A as an umbrella organisation and therefore using one subscription. JE to investigate this possibility and report back. In the meantime, Helen Ellis to be advised to continue as at present. All group leaders should check that all group members are paid up in any case.

Carrick Consort have the use of a small hall in Threemilestone Community Centre for £15. Payment of this is agreed, as the group can run three sessions for six people within this.

It was discussed that the Writing Group have asked for £30 for their competition adjudicator. This was agreed as a single total payment. The original bequest has run out.

Official procedure for requesting U3A payments is that the amount should be requested beforehand and if agreed by the Committee, that amount will then be paid out.

The Minutes of past Committee meetings not yet being available on the website was discussed.

Three new groups were suggested, Cycling, led by Kate Taylor, Walking, led by Eric Rabjohns and an Archery group, more information in the next newsletter. Insurance for the Archery group would be covered by U3A, as long as the Third Age Trust are informed. An Opera group may also be possible as many CDs are available.

9) **Membership**

Committee members reported back on phone calls to lapsed members. Around one third to a half rejoined. The reasons given for not rejoining were: ill health, groups not running at present because of Covid restrictions or fears of transmission, and house moves out of the area.

Margaret Ingles is to be asked for an updated membership list. It was agreed to put the month when the membership ran out on the Membership Card to improve payment rates. It was suggested that at the AGM, members be asked to vote on paying £23 if paid promptly, or £30 if late.

10) **Rules for Meetings** discussed under 4)

11) AOB: More general publicity material to raise profile suggested, to be ready for when restrictions ease.

Jan Barnard has resigned from the Committee owing to other commitments.

Date of next meeting: 4 November at 2pm at Oak Tree Farm.

