Charity Registration Number: 515733

Minutes of Tynedale u3a Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25th July 2024 at Hexham Golf Club

Present: Barrie Mellars, Kate Stephenson, Margaret Earl, Lesley Parsons, Michael Brockway, Tim O'Brien, John Dark and Ann Atkinson

No.		Action/ person
1	**Welcome and Apologies:** Apologies were received from Ian Diggory. It was noted that Ally Forster had resigned from the Committee.	
2	**Minutes of meeting** held on 27th June 2024 accepted as a true record.	
3	**Matters Arising:** None	
4	**Chair's Report:** The Christmas Party at the Auction Mart is going ahead. Barrie would produce an online booking form to go out nearer the date so we are clear about the numbers attending. Details about the party would also go into the October newsletter. The event would be from 1.00pm to 5pm with a band to begin with as members arrived, followed by food at 2pm and a light hearted talk from Colin Argent at 3pm. The band could also play after this. The bar would also be open. The contact for the band is u3a member Maxine Tomney. Margaret had informed that this would be her last meeting and Barrie proposed a vote of thanks for all her hard work during her time as a committee member. In terms of recruiting a u3a member to the role of Publicity Officer which was most pressing, John suggested contacting the convenors to ask if any of their group members would be interested in taking on the role. It would need to be someone who was tech savvy, a user of social media with an interest in Facebook. This was agreed. Barrie informed that he had already posted information on Facebook to draw attention to the role. Barrie indicated that there was also a need to be clear about how Facebook was used. The Facebook Group is open to non-members which you have to join and you can only post if you are a u3a member, otherwise approval is required. Barrie was concerned how a person managed to post without approval and this needed addressing. Michael informed that he knew of someone who might be interested who he would approach Barrie informed that Roger Walmsley had been elected as Chair of the Third Age Trust	BM TB MB BM MB
5	**Business Secretary's Report:** Ann stated that she had nothing to report. She informed that she would be making a return for Third Age Matters by the 11th August and asked John if the membership could be up to date for that return.	AA JD
6	**Treasurer's Report:** Kate reported that there was £9000 in the current account and £6000 in the savings account with £22 of interest. £500 gift aid had been received. All event costs were covered.	
7	**Events Secretary's Report:** This was Margaret's last meeting and there were no events other than the Christmas Party outstanding. Barrie asked if it would be okay for members to contact Margaret if they were interested in the role. She was happy with this. John suggested organising another trip to the Sage at the end of September as it was a while	JD

	since we had done this. It was agreed that John should pursue this.	
8	**Group Liaison Secretary's Report:** Michael reported that he had been approached by a retired solicitor in Prudhoe about giving talks that he had forwarded on to Ian. Ann asked if there had been any further news about the potential of two new groups. Michael had not heard anything. Having got a lot of new members in the last year, about 150, John suggested that we send out a questionnaire to find out what groups or other activities they are interested in to see if we could help getting some new groups off the ground. Tim also suggested getting those interested in new groups to come together at a coffee morning to hear about how to start a group and the role of the convenor. It was agreed to send out a questionnaire first and follow up with a coffee morning if appropriate. Barrie to put a questionnaire together and share with the committee for comment.	BM
9	**Newsletter Editor's Report:** Tim had nothing to report.	
10	**Publicity Officer's Report:** No report available due to resignation	
11	**Programme Secretary's Report:** There were 85 attendees at the last monthly meeting. In his absence Ian asked if the committee could reconsider support for the speaker event organised by a book group. Barrie informed that we do not pay more than £100 for speakers and we need to budget for this. It was suggested that if financial support is required that committee is contacted before groups go ahead. It was suggested that we need a set of ground rules for additional talks outside the monthly meetings. Following discussion it was decided that we would be willing to pay for the venue in this instance and Barrie would speak to Ian about the decision and then he could inform the organiser. Barrie would draw up as set of ground rules and share with the committee for comment	BM ID All
12	**Membership Secretary's Report:** John informed that there was a steady flow of new members and that he had stopped sending out membership cards. The 1st September was membership renewal date and reminders would be sent out the third and fourth weeks of August. There were 27 non email members including 2 couples that would be sent paper forms. There had been 35 new members since the last coffee morning and John suggested organising another coffee morning at the beginning of October in the smaller room at the Abbey. The 8th or 9th October at 10.30am were suggested as possible dates. John informed that the majority of new members were women and living in Hexham.	JD
13	**Beacon Administrator and Website Manager's Report:** Lesley had nothing to report and checked with Ann and Kate that the Copyright licence was being renewed. Kate is dealing with this. Barrie asked Lesley to update committee members list on the website	KS LP
14	**Regional and Third Age Trust**: Barrie informed that the region was holding a party to mark 30 years and had been asked by Cecelia Coulson about a member who had been in u3a a long time. This person was no longer a member and Barrie anticipated that we would have an invitation to attend which would be later this year.	
15	**A.O.B.:** Lesley informed that her three years on the committee would be up at the next AGM and that she would be standing down at that point. Barrie stated that he would push getting new committee members at the monthly meetings. Ann stated that Wendy had informed her that the Torch Centre was now under new management and seemed to be much better organised and may be of interest to groups. Ann to inform Michael who left before the end of the meeting.	AA
16	**Date and time for next meeting:** Thursday 26th September 2024 at 2pm.	

Meeting ended at 15:10

Minutes Approved **Dated:**