Charity Registration Number: 515733

Minutes of Tynedale u3a Committee Meeting held on Thursday 19th December 2024 at Hexham Golf Club

Present: Barrie Mellars, Kate Stephenson, Michael Brockway, Ian Diggory, Lesley Parsons, Tim O'Brien and Ann Atkinson

No.		Action/ person
1	**Welcome and Apologies:** Apologies were received from John Dark	
2	**Minutes of last meeting:** Minor amends were to be made to the minutes prior to accepting as a true record.	AA
3	**Matters Arising:** None	
4	**Chair's Report**: Barrie informed that he had received a letter from Colin Hoe offering four seats if members wanted lifts to the monthly meetings from and to the Abbey. Following discussion it was decided that Barrie would get back to Colin and suggest that with his approval if we hear from people wanting to attend and needing a lift we pass on Colin's contact details to the individuals and then they could contact him and he could organise as required. Barrie informed that Steve Rosario had offered to take on the Group Liaison role which would free up Michael to take on the Beacon Administrator and Website Manager role to which he felt he was better suited. Barrie had not heard from Fran Fuller who had expressed an interest to Lesley in the Events Secretary role. Barrie will contact her. Barrie outlined the agenda for the AGM which was discussed. The agenda would follow the format of the last AGM and include a motion that the Publicity Officer post be discontinued and AOB would be removed from the agenda. Subscription would remain at £14. There was a requirement to ask for nominations for members wishing to stand on the committee which would need to go out in the February newsletter. Agenda and minutes of AGM to go out in the March newsletter. It was agreed that Ian would approach Wendy Dale to see if she would be willing to talk about the Discovery Award after the AGM.	BM BM TB ID
5	**Business Secretary's Report:** Ann had nothing to report.	
6	**Treasurer's Report:** Kate informed that Michael had been confirmed on the Mandate. There was £9,500 in the cash account and the Christmas party cost £1,656 which needed to be paid to the Mart. Next month she would provide year end figures as the financial year runs from January to December.. Kate would ask if Mike Bewick could sign off the accounts for the year. Ian asked how much the u3a costs each year to run and Kate indicated that is was about £11,500. Groups have to be self funding. £2,260 affiliated fees are paid to the Third Age Trust and we pay for Beacon and website and copyright. There is no contribution to the regional u3a. Fees to Third Age Trust are based on the number of members. £3 - £4 of membership goes to the Third Age Trust.	KS
7	**Events Secretary's Report:** No report available	
8	**Group Liaison Secretary's Report:** Michael had asked convenors what they would like	

	from a handbook and had received little response and had decided to downplay reference to the central document as it was far too detailed. It was suggested that at the Convenors lunch that the key requirements of Convenors are reiterated and Barrie suggested that as Michael will no longer be in the role in April that he and Steve get together in March to decide on what to cover at the meeting.	MB
9	**Newsletter Editor's Report:** Tim informed that he had nothing to report and would just email out the newsletter as it was short this month.	
10	**Programme Secretary's Report:** Ian reported that he now had 5 speakers for the monthly meeting in January and details were in the newsletter. Barrie asked Ian if he could introduce the speakers at the monthly meeting in January.	ID
11	**Membership Secretary's Report:** John provided a report in his absence. There were 129 new members and 39 non-renewals. We have 609 members and we are getting more members than we are losing. Barrie to inform John that he no longer needed to chase up members who have failed to renew this year. Group convenors to be informed by Michael of members that have not renewed and inform that they can no longer attend groups. Michael to liaise with John about this.	BM MB
12	**Beacon Administrator and Website Manager's Report:** Lesley informed that all U3A sites are now on the new system, Siteworks and the old system has been decommissioned. She informed that the next task is to integrate the site with Beacon but it is unclear what the advantage of this will be. It is expected that we will be asked to pay for Siteworks from April when everyone is on the system and this would be £25.	
13	**Regional and Third Age Trust**: Barrie informed that the regional u3a are still trying to get a Chair so uncertainty about the future. Response to the national Council request for members was negligible from this region.	
14	**A.O.B:** Lesley informed that John De Stefano died yesterday and as he was a very active member of u3a for many years and had roles on the Committee we might want to put together an appreciation and include in the newsletter. It was suggested that this could be put in the February newsletter and be mentioned at the January monthly meeting. Barrie asked if we wanted to continue with the video at the monthly meetings. It was unanimously agreed as there was a good take up of members listening to the talks. Barrie asked if Tim could assist and oversee that the video was set up properly. Barrie wished all a Happy Christmas.	
15	**Date and time for next meeting: Thursday 23rd January 2025 at 2pm.**	

Meeting ended at 15:05

Minutes Approved **Dated:**