

BURNLEY AND DISTRICT U3A

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE UNITY CENTRE, PADIHAM, 27 APRIL 2015

Present - A.Wiseman (Chair), M.Bushby, J.Bridge, F.Whittle, B.Milne, B.Hayman, J. Hartley, P.Ferguson, J.Green, G.Markin, M.Hartley

1. Welcome new members - The President welcomed new members of the committee
2. Co-opting of newsletter editor and web editor - Accepted unanimously
3. Apologies for absence - M.Jackson, M.Philp
4. Minutes of previous meeting - Accepted as correct and signed by A.Wiseman
5. Matters arising from the minutes - The use of the centre room for refreshments at the monthly open meeting is to be delayed until June.
6. Correspondence received and Secretary's Report -
No correspondence has been received

Received from the Trust:

Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Third Age Trust held on September 10th 2014.

A combined Annual Return and Capitation Invoice

- £3.50 per member. J.Hartley to provide the number of paid-up members for the previous year.

Our direct mail statement

A flyer advertising the next event at the National Gallery "Northern Renaissance Treasures".

- The group suggested that such events should also be held in more northerly venues which could be more accessible to the northern groups. B.Milne has sent an e-mail to the northern H.Q. suggesting this, but has been informed that this was not possible at the moment.

Details of a new photography competition, the theme of which is Britain's wildlife.

- Details to be passed to the Photography Group

An update on membership Systems

- Details passed to J.Bridge.

U3A Committees Forum 11th June in Leeds - this is an opportunity to discuss current issues and to share ideas and solutions. Application details on the event section of the national website. Closing date is 11th May.

7. Treasurer's Report

Membership for the year commencing 1st April 2015 was 180 compared to 183 in the previous year and after the Annual General Meeting it was 208 compared to 211 in 2014.

There are still a number of group monthly accounts outstanding for the period July to December. 17 returns have been received so far.

- Group leaders to be reminded by e-mail

A one-off start-up grant of £25 is available for new groups. It is to help with the hire of a room for the first meeting or to help with essential equipment.

It is also important that an attendance register is kept up-to-date at each meeting and that everyone attending is a member or a potential member on a first visit.

On 24th March the General Account stood at £7,076.66 and the Social Account stood at £701.20.

AW and members of the committee expressed their thanks to John for standing in while the new treasurer, Melinda Jackson, was indisposed.

8. Groups Co-ordinator's Report

Little to report

3 new groups seem to be evolving well:

Chess is to be in the form of a league which will take place at Tesco café Bridge (at present) every two weeks at Padiham church

There has been talk of snooker!

Computer assistance group up and running at the Church

It was agreed that the Memory Course should be started until there was sufficient interest in running it. A minimum of 12 persons are required to attend the four weekly sessions.

9. Publicity Officer's Report

_Nothing to report.

Photographs of the new committee members are required for the information board. Name badges for committee members/group leaders need to be supplied.

10. Web Editor's Report

Web Site and updates - The website has been updated with amended information received from Group Leaders (very little) and with other information obtained from the monthly newsletter.

Website Redesign - The redesigned website is now live and can be viewed at <http://www.burnleyanddistrictu3a.org.uk> and comments are welcome. A decision needs to be taken on when to ask the U3A Sitebuilders team, who host our old site, to take it down.

JB suggested we keep both sites running for a couple of months so as not to inconvenience people who may have bookmarked the old site with the old url. He will place a notice and link on the old site indicating that we have a new look site which is now our official internet presence and they should bookmark this and delete the old bookmark. Search engines such as Google may also confuse the issue for a short period but references to the old site should disappear shortly after the old site is removed.

- The committee accepted this suggestion unanimously.

11. Speakers' Secretary Report

The new Speaker's Secretary is to contact speakers who have already been listed as booked for monthly meetings.

12. A.G.M. report

Went smoothly.

It was pointed out that one third of the members are required for a quorum. The committee decided that, at the next AGM, a specific time will be given, after the speaker and refreshments, when the AGM will commence.

13. Joint meeting with Clitheroe, Longridge and Todmorden

The minutes of the meeting have been circulated.

The next meeting will be at the Unity Centre Padiham on 21st September 2015 at 2 p.m.

13. A.O.B.

The following committee officers were accepted unanimously -

P.Ferguson - Speakers' Secretary

F.Whittle- Publicity Officer

G.Markin - Meeting and Greeting Officer

M.Philp - Membership secretary

It was pointed out that there was a problem with not enough chairs put out at monthly meetings.

F.Whittle to look into supplying an internet lead in the Hambleton Room.

12. Next meeting

Monday 6th July at 10 a.m., at the Unity Centre, Padiham.