

BURNLEY AND DISTRICT U3A

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE UNITY CENTRE, PADIHAM, 6 JULY 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, M.Jackson

1. Apologies for absence - M.Philp
2. Minutes of previous meeting - Accepted as correct and signed by A.Wiseman
3. Matters arising from the minutes - The use of the centre room for refreshments at the monthly open was found to be a success, and will continue.
4. Correspondence received and Secretary's Report -

Correspondence received:

Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale C.V.S. Membership renewal reminder 2015/16 and feedback form. If we wish to renew the subscription is £15.00.

The Committee unanimously agreed to renew membership. MJ to complete the form.

A letter of thanks from Medical Detection Dogs for our donation of £190.03 following Nicola Crawford's talk. There are now 16 dogs.

Received from the trust:

- Notice and Draft Agenda of the A.G.M. on 27th August
- Election of Officers and Members on the National Executive.
- Officer Nomination Form/Supporting Statement Information.
- A regional Trustee Nomination Form
- A newsletter from Mike Whittaker, subject advisor for Jazz Appreciation.

5. Treasurer's Report

Acting Treasurer's Report for Committee 6 July 2015

1. Photography Group Calendar - Following the success of last year's calendar produced by the Photography Group, it is proposed that they produce another calendar for the forthcoming year -2016. The unit cost would be £3.80 including envelope
A print of 100 would cost £380.
100 for sale at £5.00 each = £500
For 100 calendars income less expenditure = £120.
The main U3A account holds £305 for the sale of calendars over the past 2 years.
The Committee's authority is sought on this item.

The Committee agreed unanimously to the above proposal.

2. There have been two large items of expenditure since the last meeting viz;
 1. The Capitation Fee to the Third Age Trust - £889.00
 2. Direct Mailing of the U3A magazine 'Third Age Matters' from the Third Age Trust - £501.08
3. Membership on 25th June reached 234, which is similar to the previous year.
On June 24th the General Account stood at £8305.62 and the Social Account at £497.60.

4. It would be helpful if the Group Leaders were reminded that their income and expenditure accounts for the period January-June 2015 are now required.

BM to remind Group Leaders of the above.

MJ and the Group thanked JH for his work as Acting Treasurer.

6. Groups Co-ordinator's Report

Nothing to report apart from a play reading group which being developed.

BM to supply a start-up pack for Group Leaders of the new Play Reading Group which is to begin in September at Brierfield Library.

It was stressed that it was important that each group should have a table at the monthly meetings with a representative person in attendance. BM to contact Group Leaders about this.

7. Publicity Officer's Report

FW reported that her first event as publicity officer was to attend an open day at Pendle Heritage Centre at the invitation of Friends of Pendle Heritage centre. Despite the inclement weather the event was well attended and there was quite a lot of interest in our stand. Several people picked up leaflets.

On behalf of the committee FW has acquired new name badge holders, these were £5 for 25 and she is in the process of completing the inserts. Unfortunately, Amazon did not see fit to include an invoice so hopefully the Treasurer will forgo this requirement!

Events- 7 August - St. John's, Nelson, 4 September - St. John's, Colne, 11 September - Barnoldswick

LCC grants for display boards. The Committee requested that FW pursue this matter for the Group.

8. Web Editor's Report

Web Site and updates - The website has been updated with amended information obtained from the monthly newsletters and photos provided by the web editor. No copy has been received from Group Leaders. Perhaps we should ask Group Leaders to review their own page on the web site and amend as required.

BM to contact Group Leaders about this.

Website Redesign - The redesigned website has been live since early May, and can be viewed at <http://www.burnleyanddistrictu3a.org.uk> - comments are welcome.

Both the original and new sites have been running in tandem for two months without adverse comment and therefore JB suggested that we thank and inform the hosts of our original web site (u3asites.org.uk) that we will no longer require their hosting arrangements from the end of August 2015.

A notice has been displayed on our old site notifying members of the new website layout and site and the imminent unavailability of the old site.

The Committee agreed to the above and JB is to contact the original web site hosts to cancel this original site at the end of August 2015.

Membership Application Form – It was proposed to place a downloadable copy of the membership application form on the web site and ask prospective members who download it to complete before

attending the monthly meeting. This may help prevent any congestion at the entrance to the hall at the meetings.

Because of expressed concerns, it was suggested that the form could be included on the web site without details of the address, etc. of the Treasurer - ongoing.

AW congratulated JB on the presentation and appearance of the new web site.

JB suggested that more awareness by members about the web site was needed. It was suggested that the newsletter be displayed on the hall screen at monthly meetings - this decision is to be held in abeyance for further discussion.

9. Speakers' Secretary Report

Having been given the contact details of the 2015 speakers from Jacquie, PF has been able to speak to each one of them and received reply forms from all but one. Unfortunately, Jacquie did not have phone numbers of past speakers.

Eight speakers have been booked for 2016 and PF hopes to have a completed list by the September meeting.

PF did receive from Jacquie a letter from the gentleman who gave the Christmas Bells talk. He now has another talk, 'Curious Customs with Bells'. The committee unanimously agreed that he would be worth a return visit.

Peter Charnock, the Oct speaker, is to talk about the RNLI and would like a volunteer to put on the outfit worn by the life boat men.

The Committee thanked JG for volunteering for this.

PF has emailed a "thank you" to the May and June speakers and has received a lovely reply from each one of them.

The committee agreed that the amount of the donation to speakers should be increased to £50.

10. December Meeting - Arranged for December 10th at 2 p.m.
Suggested entertainments - Readings from the Dickensian Society/choir.

11. Next Joint meeting with Clitheroe, Longridge and Todmorden

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

12. Recruitment and Training of Meeters and Greeters - It was agreed that a 'Welcome' table be made available for new members at monthly meetings.

GM reported that the following new members had been recruited by the following means -
Jan/Feb - 12 through friends/ 7 online - March 2 friends/ 2 online - May 8 friends/ 1 online -
June 1 through friends.

13. Any Other Business -

Because of lack of members the Spanish Conversation group is to cease. The Spanish Beginners group will still continue.

JB to bring his camera to the next meeting for photographs of new committee members to display on the Committee Board.

It was suggested that a Direct Debit facility for the group would be an advantage - Ongoing

It was agreed by the Committee that the subscription fee should be reduced to £15 in the future. This is to be put before members at the December monthly meeting.

The Chairman again thanked John for delaying his retirement as Treasurer and helping the U3A while MJ was recovering from her accident.

14. Next meeting

Monday 7th September at 10 a.m., at the Unity Centre, Padiham.