



Northumbria Region u3a

Zoom Committee Meeting

8th April 2022

From 14.00 – 17.00

Present: - Mo Brown (MAB), Cecilia Coulson (CC), Mike Wallace (MMW), Peter Barnett (PB), Malcolm Wilkinson (MW), Ann Carr (AC), Mary Barlow (MEB).

Apologies: - Sandi Rickerby (SR)

Welcome: - Mo Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes: - Agreed as accurate.

Matters Arising: - It was previously agreed that no reports need be forwarded to the committee as this meeting was convened to organise the April AGM, but various members gave a short verbal one.

Reports

Chair (MAB): - Thanked everyone for their time and help during her term of office as Chair. MAB asked CC to pass on her thanks to the Events Working Group for the work put into staging the event at Arbeia, South Shields.

Business Secretary (MEB): - None.

Treasurer (MMW): - We have received 21p interest on the money in the bank. Monies have been steadily arriving for the forthcoming AGM and 42 replies have been received, 28 people are coming and 26 have booked lunch with nobody having any special dietary requirements.

MMW will inform the members at the AGM that with u3as meeting in person again and region organising events that it has been decided to reinstate the regions subscriptions at 2019 rates.

A motion was put forward at the meeting to change the bank account name to Northumbria Region u3a. This was proposed by Mike Wallace and seconded by Ann Carr. The motion was passed unanimously by the committee.

David Pattison has agreed to be the region's accounts scrutineer for this current year.

Events (CC): - The next scheduled event is at Kirkleatham Gardens.

Communications (PB): - No report.

Messenger (MEB): - No report.

Working Group

Hybrid (MMW): - Peterlee are looking for a projector.

Beacon (PB): - Various issues are coming to light on the population and access to the site which are being worked through.

Editors Image Group (MEB): - No report.

New Working Groups (MAB): -

Policies and Procedures: - MAB has the names of two people who would be prepared to assist with this group.

Three Year Plan: - This is on hold at the moment as the gentleman who was going to lead this group is ill.

Grants: - Cecilia Coulson proposed that a Working Group be set up to provide grants to u3as. This was seconded by Mike Wallace and the motion was passed by the committee. The details of how this group will operate will be looked into after the AGM.

Website Checking: - MAB suggested that PB has assistance in checking additions/deletions made to the website. PB suggested that it would be helpful if someone checked approximately once every two weeks.

Ex Officers Advice Group: - MAB thought it would be useful to have a group of ex officers (chairs, secretaries etc) who would be willing to offer advice to new members.

Contingency Planning: - Do u3as have in place plans for when things go wrong such as a speaker at the last minute unable to attend a meeting. AC thought members should come to the committee with problems and that we could put ourselves more in their line of sight.

AGM: -

CC said she had 6 members, 3 from Derwentside and 3 from Whickham who were willing to come to the meeting to offer assistance where necessary. CC anticipates that the six helpers and herself will arrive 9.15am. Two members will be asked to meet and greet members and show them where the facilities are.

CC will arrange for a banner to be placed outside the venue and to show members where the parking area is.

PB will print some arrows and u3a signs for use inside and out.

Food will arrive about 10.00 and the caterers will set this out where directed.

Tea and coffee to be provided by the venue and will be available for members on arrival. MAB and MMW will check where it will be set up.

Ian and Hamish Crawford will be at the door for members to sign in and be given a voting form.

MMW who is taking names for members attending in person and via zoom will prepare an attendance sheet. Members were informed that they needed to book a place at the AGM in advance but it is anticipated that some will just turn up on the day.

Robert Berry who is normally on the door is unable to attend but holds a float MMW will see this float is made available for the meeting.

It was agreed to send a further email to members reminding them of the AGM and the need to book a place and pay in advance.

MAB and MMW will visit the venue to confirm where they will site the camera, projector and screen.

MAB will provide name badges for committee members without them.

MAB to ask the IT group to provide someone to look after Zoom attendees from the venue and David Pattison to let members into Zoom.

CC will provide bin liners for cleaning up.

MMW will devise a voting form for election of members, amended constitution etc.

It is anticipated that most members will arrive around 10.30 and after signing in and having a coffee that the meeting itself will commence at 11.00.

MAB will open the meeting followed by MEB listing the apologies received.

Tellers – Arthur Coulson and Peter Barnett have put their names forward for nomination.

It is anticipated that from the number so far intending to come to the meeting that the quorum requirements will be fulfilled.

It was suggested that we ask the floor for other proposers and seconders for the election of members and the financial reports etc., so that they feel included.

It is anticipated that we will have lunch at 1pm and that Dr Pullen will commence his talk at 2pm.

AOB

CC has a regional Creative Writing Group which is thinking of producing an anthology book for Christmas and requires help with money to getting it published. It was agreed by the committee that this was a worthwhile project and should be looked at after the AGM.

CC suggested that members get together for a meal perhaps after the AGM or shortly afterwards.

The next meeting will be on 20th May at 2pm.

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