



## Northumbria Region u3a

### Minutes of the Zoom Committee Meeting

12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

From 14.00 – 16.00

**Present:** - Cecilia Coulson (CC), Ted Watt (TW), Peter Barnett (PB), Mike Wallace (MMW), Mary Barlow (MEB).

**Apologies:** - Jean Cubbin, Ann Carr, Malcolm Wilkinson.

**Welcome:** - Cecilia welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** - TW proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 be accepted as an accurate record and seconded by MMW. The members present agreed they were, and the proposal was accepted.

**Matters arising:** - The Fit for the Future event on 25<sup>th</sup> March was cancelled due to illness. All those due to attend were informed.

Possible Public Relations Advisor may be appointed in the near future.

Accounts – Funding Policy. MMW suggested this should be held over until a new treasurer is appointed at the AGM and to then seek their thoughts on the subject.

#### Reports

**Chair (CC)** - Report circulated.

The visit to Bedale on the 15<sup>th</sup> May has now been confirmed.

**Business Secretary (MEB)** – Details for the AGM are on the website.

**Treasurer (MMW)** – Monies have come in for various events e.g., Music £125, Laing Art Gallery £152 and Archaeology at Durham University £125.

Catherine Stevenson has asked when the Laing will be paid and that is when an invoice is received.

We seem to have a problem regarding who holds details of names etc., of people coming to an event and when the monies have been paid. The lead on the event needs names and contact details and the treasurer needs to know the name and which event the money being paid into the bank are for. It appears the simplest way is for the lead to collect the names, phone details and email addresses.

MMW informed the meeting he has the Regions computer. The machine is approximately four years old and is written down to £6.00 in the Asset Register. It was suggested that the new Treasurer be asked if they want to use their own computer on their appointment.

**Events (CC)** – Report circulated.

The team are trying to organise and (an)-event per month as we have no workshops organised for the near future.

There is the possibility of a newsletter and IT workshops being organised in the foreseeable future.

Costs for the Celebration of Music have risen due to the government increasing the minimum rate of pay for employees. The cost will rise to approximately £450 .... Room and bar staff £356 plus £100 for the PA system.

**Communications (PB)** – He has been busy updating the website with the information that came in while he was on his holidays. He also wished to thank AC for all the work she did on the Beacon while he was away

**Messenger (MEB)** – The April edition is now live on the website.

**Regional Trustee (JC)** – Report circulated.

**AGM** – Sarah Churchill in charge of catering has been informed we will be having the £7.55 menu. She has asked for final numbers five days before the event. Cost of all teas/ coffees will be included in the £7.95 menu.

MMW informed the meeting that to date 24 members have registered to attend and one via Zoom.

**October Quarterly Meeting (MEB)** – As no reply has been received from the Indoor Bowling Club at Pity Me, Durham to the email sent them. MEB rang them. A provisional booking for 10<sup>th</sup> July was made. The cost will be £40 per hour plus VAT. Details of menus will be emailed to me.

**Liz Thackery Visit (CC)** – The initial reaction is that the visit is proving rather hectic and getting around was proving difficult due to flooding.

**Regions Email Addresses (CC)** – CC to forward to PB, Mo Browns email on the subject for him to look into.

**Regions 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (CC)** – CC has asked TW to be lead on this. The suggested venue is the County Hotel opposite Newcastle Station. It is envisaged the event will be held in early October.

It was agreed that we would ask for two members from each u3a to attend plus committee members, trust volunteers etc.

CC has a skiffle group in mind to entertain members and will contact them when a date for the event is confirmed.

**Short Story Competition (CC)** – Details of this event are on the website, in Messenger and has been distributed to u3as.

**Photo Competition (PB)** – Details have not yet been finalised.

