



## Northumbria Region u3a

### Minutes of the Zoom Committee Meeting

19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

From 14.00 – 16.30

**Present:** - Cecilia Coulson (CC), Jean Cubbin (JC), Mike Wallace (MMW), Malcolm Wilkinson (MW), Ann Carr (AC), Peter Barnett (PB), Ted Watt (TW), Mary Barlow (MEB).

**Apologies:** - None

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

**Previous Minutes:** - MW proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023 be accepted as an accurate record and seconded by PB. The members present agreed they were, and the proposal was accepted.

**Matters Arising:** -

Treasurer – Item being brought up under the Treasurers section.

Quarterly Meeting Venues – Brunswick Church in Newcastle was put forward and is being used for the January meeting. Venue in Darlington does not meet all the requirements. AC mention three possible venues and these will be checked out.

October Meeting Hylton Castle – MW has been chasing up the invoice.

Geology Network – This has held its first meeting and 24 of the 40 members interested attended. CC joined this meeting to welcome everyone and wish them every success.

Area Action Partnership – CC to send information out to committee members.

**Post Meeting Note – This is only available to u3as in Durham County.**

**Reports:** -

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

**Business Secretary (MEB)** – No report.

**Treasurer (MMW)** – Draft annual account circulated.

Paul Bradley is no longer interested in the role of Treasurer but Ray Scudder from Bede of Jarrow u3a is coming to the January 2024 Quarterly Meeting next week and will discuss the role with MMW.

Newcastle u3a are using card readers.

Subscriptions for 2024 – PB proposed we again charge nothing and this will be put to the AGM by MMW in April 2024.

**Events** – Report circulated.

Celebration of Music – This will be held over a full day and the musicians have been sourced. They will pay nothing to attend but will pay for the buffet if required.

The hall will cost £200 and £100 for the sound system.

Those attending will pay £5 to enter and £7 for the buffet. Those attending for only part of the day will still pay the full £5.

**Post Meeting Note – Email sent to Robert Pullen 19.01.2024 to inform him of Committee's decision i.e. could be a loss on the £300 given to the Music Day if limited spectators register. MMW was OK with this so long as the loss wasn't £400 or more.**

Little Theatre, Gateshead – CC will be preparing the advert.

MW informed members that Seaham u3a had a successful visit to the Biscuit Factory, Newcastle and had tea in a private room.

**Communications (PB)** – Everything under control.

Facebook (MC) – Report circulated.

**Messenger (MEB)** – The January issue is live and has been circulated. Committee members were asked if they could ask u3as to contribute more articles.

**January Quarterly Meeting: -**

Three people from Newcastle coming to take the money at the door and ask member's to register.

Unfortunately, two of the Support Team members are unable to come and one we are waiting to hear from.

23 Members have indicated they are coming to date.

Part of the stage will be available for the afternoon session.

Microphone, screen etc., are available for the PowerPoint presentation.

CC will be bringing the refreshments.

**Preparation for the April AGM: -**

We agreed the venue would be Biddick Club, Washington.

The charge will be £2 to attend, £6 for the meal making a total of £8.

MMW will prepare the form to be sent out to members.

We have asked for a buffet lunch up to the cost of £10. PB has emailed our details to Margaret Welsh asking her to liaise with CC as he will be on holiday shortly.

**Liz Thackery Visit: -**

This will take place between 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

She has requested that she visits groups rather than attend main meetings. Bedale, Whickham, Coquetdale, Washington, Ashington and Teesdale have offered to host LT. Those u3as that have offered Liz Thackery to visit their main meeting only; CC has contacted to see if they have any groups available that week.

MW who offered his u3as main meeting has been asked if they could host a group meeting instead.

CC and JC to meet and arrange a programme of visits for Liz Thackery. **Post Meeting Note - Date arranged February 20<sup>th</sup> 2024.**

**Networks and Groups: -**

It was agreed that groups are people meeting within the same u3a whereas Networks are people meeting from various u3as.

PB to check the details on the website and update as necessary.

**Progress Report on the Short Story Competition (CC): -**

CC has four people prepared to assist in arranging the competition.

**Progress Report on the Photographic Competition (PB): -**

Due to various commitments a start will be made in approximately 2 months on organising this.

**Speakers List (PB): -**

This is ongoing. The layout is being changed and made more user friendly. AC and MW have agreed to assist.

**Three Year Plan (CC): -**

Ongoing.

**History of the Region Leaflet (TW): -**

Mo Brown to arrange a meeting to discuss the way forward.

**Committee Lunch at the Station Hotel, Newcastle**

Date 16<sup>th</sup> February. Time 12 for 12.30.

14 people coming.

### **Any Other Business**

An email was sent by Wooler Chair, Peter Davies to JB about being unable to access a national Zoom meeting. It appears this meeting was not open to members and JB to clarify this to the gentleman.

Next meeting 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024. This meeting is at an earlier date than usual due to the event the following week at Hartlepool.

**Name** C Coulson                      **Position** Chair                      **Date** 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Name** M E Barlow                      **Position** Secretary                      **Date** 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024