



**Northumbria Region u3a**

**Zoom Committee Meeting**

**15<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

**From 14.00 – 16.20**

**Present:** - Cecilia Coulson (CC) Chair, Mike Wallace (MMW), Peter Barnett (PB), Malcolm Wilkinson (MW), Ann Carr (AC), Sandi Rickerby (SR), Mary Barlow (MEB).

**Visitors:** - Mary Dunning (MD), Sandra Davison (SD).

**Apologies:** - None.

**Welcome:** - CC welcomed everyone to the meeting especially our two visitors. CC then asked everyone present to say a few words about which u3a they represented and their role on the committee.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** - The committee agreed they were an accurate record.

**Matters arising:** - None.

CC asked would members like the minutes to be circulated with the reports just before the next meeting or as at present as soon as practical after the meeting. The committee agreed to leave things as they stand.

**Working Group Report:** - Report circulated.

SR said that the National Office were looking into possibly holding a Hadrian's Wall Walk for all UK members. It could include groups participation in photography etc. It is hoped to hold it either later this year or in 2023. It could also serve as a basis for publicity to attract more members.

MMW suggested possibly using Vindolanda as a base for a party.

SR said obviously access and the legal aspect of having large numbers of people in one area needed to be looked into.

Policies and Procedures Working Group –

General recommendations No 6. AC and PB to report back to this committee in September.

Early Alerts - MEB agreed to contact Jane Mathieson regarding item 1.

PB checking on whether the amendments to the Constitution passed at the AGM have been agreed by the Charity Commission and if so, will put it on the website.

Insights and ideas – Members to read and discuss at the September meeting.

**Reports: -**

**Chair (CC)** – Report circulated.

Trust Volunteers (TV) and the Regional Committee (RC) working arrangements. It was agreed that the TV and RC should be working more closely together and would be called the Regional Support Team.

Jane Mathieson has put in a request to join the TVs.

Some u3as need support whether it be attracting new members or old ones back and attracting members onto committees etc. CC suggested and it was agreed that the Regional Support Team pilot a scheme in the Tyne Valley to see what can be achieved.

CC and SR are trying to visit in person or via Zoom all u3as in the region. MW said that he had invited MD a TV to his E Durham and S Tyneside Chairs meeting and found it very useful. CC will formulate a spreadsheet of u3as in the Region and then members of the Regional Support Team who are able can visit a u3a in their area either at their main meeting or at their Committee Meeting.

**Business Secretary (MEB):** - No report.

**Treasurer (MMW):** - Eleven u3as have not paid their subscriptions and a further reminder is being sent to them.

MMW confirmed Stokesley has been deleted from his list of Treasurers as they are now wholly in Yorkshire area.

MMW has had eighteen people respond saying they are attending the quarterly meeting but that includes some members of the committee.

The new bank mandate has been returned to Barclays for ratification.

MMW is using the Beacon system for the accounts and will be making recommendations to Mr Swinburn on future updates to the system.

**Events (MW):** - Report circulated.

No further information on the Lindisfarne Gospels available at the moment but there is an Event Sub Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> July to organise the publication and visit to the Lindisfarne Gospels.

**Communications (PB):** - Jeff Armstrong has provided PB with an updated List of Speakers for circulation unfortunately it comprises 7 files in various formats. PB will check the information through and then circulate the relevant information to Business Secretaries.

PB thanked AC for updating the list of chairs, secretaries, treasurers etc., while he was on holiday.

PB is writing some guidance notes for the two people who will be assisting him updating the website.

**Messenger (MEB):** - Awaiting two articles before putting the magazine to bed. I hope to be able to let the two proof readers have the magazine next Monday (18<sup>th</sup>).

**Regional Trustee (SR):** - No report.

**July Quarterly Meeting:** - To be held 29<sup>th</sup> July at Seaham Town Hall.

MW to confirm when the number attending for meals is required by the caterer.

MMW to provide the numbers.

MW to ask Seaham Harbour and Seaham District u3as to provide two members each to assist with tasks such as showing people where to go, serve tea etc.

**Organising quarterly meetings for 2022/3:** - CC suggested a small working group be set up to organise this. SD agreed to be part of this group. It was suggested that one of the Durham u3as may like to give a talk in the afternoon at one of these meetings. CC will be contacting all u3as in the Durham area to see if they have any recommendations for a speaker to attend the Regional Quarterly meeting in October.

**Emails relating to Paul Martinez:** - He has been on holiday and has not yet responded to CCs email. A reminder will be sent.

**National Internet Link Meeting (MEB):** - MEB attended the Zoom meeting as CC was on holiday and notes were circulated.

A brief outline of the meeting was given including stressing the importance of contingency planning. Do you have a back-up plan if the speaker fails to turn up? What will you do if the registration secretary has to resign for family reasons?

**Any Other Business: -**

19<sup>th</sup> August committee lunch at 12.30pm Portofino Restaurant, 12A, Mosley Street, Newcastle NE1 1DE.

December lunch – This has been rolled over to the September meeting.

Jane Mathieson has requested the return of the trifold notice board as it belongs to Teesdale u3a. **Post Meeting Note.** This will be returned by Ann Carr.

Haltwhistle Festival – It was agreed to place an up and coming event on our website.

Insurance Zoom Meeting – CC has notes and a PowerPoint and will distribute to committee members.

Defibrillator – MMW suggested that region may wish to consider obtaining one. The committee thought that it should be up to the venues to provide one.

Mary Dunning and Sandra Davison agreed to be co-opted to the regions committee.

Name: Cecilia Coulson    Position:    Chair                      Date: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Name: Mary Barlow        Position:    Secretary                      Date: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022