



Northumbria Region u3a

Minutes of the Zoom Committee Meeting

19th July 2024

From 14.00 – 16.10

Present: - Cecilia Coulson (CC), Theresa Mulkerrin (TM), Peter Barnett (PB), Ann Carr (AC), Ted Watt (TW), Malcolm Wilkinson (MW), Mary Barlow (MEB).

Apologies: - Jean Cubbin.

Welcome: - CC welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of the last Meeting: - TM proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2024 be accepted as an accurate record and seconded by TW. The members present agreed they were, and the proposal was accepted.

Matters arising: - Item on chairs of Networks having knowledge of subject to lead their group – No update has been received.

Newsletter Workshop currently nine members have signed up.

Messenger – CC thanked MEB for editing the current edition. The July issue has more articles than usual and covers numerous areas.

Reports: -

Chair (CC) – Report circulated.

No update has been heard from Jane Mathieson regarding her initial thoughts about rejoining the regions committee.

August – Speaking with two members on Zoom in August to see if it is possible to get the Facebook workshops up and running.

The recording for local radio was undertaken on 15th July. A recording will be placed on the regions website and National have asked for a copy.

If you know of any prestigious events taking place in 2025, please inform the Events team.

Business Secretary (MEB) – No report.

Treasurer (TM) – She finally has access to the bank account and hopes to produce a summary which will be circulated shortly.

CC raised a point saying that when Sandi Rickerby was the Trustee, she had been informed she could claim expenses via the Trustee. National have changed their stance as both CC and our current Trustee are both claiming travel expenses to various u3a meetings.

Previously the chair had claimed expenses from region. The committee took a vote and all present agreed we should revert to the original agreement.

Communications (PB) – The July issue of Messenger has only been online for approximately two weeks, and it has already surpassed the previous highest number of hits – 632 No.

Terms and conditions for Networks to use the new Site Works have not yet been agreed and until this is done Region will not be able to move over to the new system.

Site Works will cost £50 per year for u3as to use irrespective of their size. There is thought there will be no cost for Networks as individual u3as will eventually pay.

Messenger (MEB) – CC has arranged for Catherine Stevenson to prepare an article on the York Festival and on the latest visits to the Turner Exhibition at the Laing Gallery for the October issue.

Events (CC/MW) – A report has been circulated and the group next meets on Monday 22 July.

MW who is organising the event at Donnison School/Maritime Museum/Holy Trinity Church will be sending out directions to the school shortly. Members will also be asked to donate to the museum if they so desire.

There is a possibility of an event in the future at the Kielder Observatory.

Trustee (JC) – No report available.

Complaint (CC) – An Official Complaint has been received regarding the Regions Quarterly Meeting at Pity Me and has been handed over to the Regional Trustee.

Insurance – PB has been asked to place the documents already circulated to the committee online for all members to read. [Update Growth Matters and Insurance Q & A sent to PB](#)

The QT – This has ceased publication due to insufficient funds.

Quarterly Meetings –

July – Good reviews from members although there were comments on too much food being left over. This is in contrast to the last time we used this venue when food seemed in short supply.

October 8th – At the Linskill Centre, North Shields. CC and TM will each give a report.

Madeleine Ravetta from Berwick u3a will give a talk on the EDI Policy. There are only eight members in the country trained to give this talk and we are lucky to have one of them in our region.

The winner and two runner ups will be invited to the meeting, and it is hoped the winning story will be read out. The winning story will be published in the October Messenger and included in the National Newsletter.

The husband of one of the runners up who is a photographer will take photos of the event for the publications mentioned above.

TM and PB to liaise regarding the Google form for the event.

Leaflets – A quote has been received to print these £50 for 500 copies. The photos included are from the competition and a £20 Amazon voucher for the winner is required. It is hoped to screen share the leaflet at the next meeting. **Post meeting ... suggested to TW that photography winner be presented with prize at the October RQM**

Three Year Plan – Postponed until the September meeting.

Northumbria Celebrations (TW) – The event will take place on 22nd October at the Little Haven, South Shields between 11.30 and 15.00.

Region will subsidise part of the cost.

Members will be asked to pre-order a three-course lunch.

There will be a welcome drink. Members will be asked to pay £18.

U3as will be asked to nominate two members of their u3a and inform CC by 10th September so a formal invitation can be sent to them.

Invitations will also go to the Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, Lord Lieutenant of Durham, the CEO and Chair of National u3a.

The Regional Trustee, Trust Volunteers and committee will be invited along with as many members who were around when u3as were set up in our region.

Great North Run – JC will be bringing tabards etc., from the York Festival for use at this event. PB to put an item on the website requesting volunteers to man the route and asking them to contact JC.

Any Other Business. None.

The next meeting is on 20th September at 14.09.24

Name	Cecilia Coulson	Position	Chair	Date	20 th September 2024
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Name	Mary Barlow	Position	Secretary	Date	20 th September 2024
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