Minutes of the 424 Meeting of Barnstaple Third Age Committee

Held on Friday 21 January 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

At Methodist Hall, Fremington

Present: Keith Luckhurst (Chairman), Gill Dow, David Dickinson, John Vooght, Rita Price, Roger Bray, Ellie Bray, Pam Harman, Laurence Hillel, Sue Thomas

1.0 **Apologies**

1.1. Julia Denton, Louise French

2.0. **Minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2021**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Proposed by Roger Bray, seconded by David Dickson

3.0. **Matters arising**

3.16.2. Gill has investigated the option of finding an alternative venue for our Open Day. Rose Lane, Tesco not feasible as the kitchen is at present being modernised. Castle Centre is usually available Thursdays and Fridays. There is a kitchen and internet but generally felt it was too small. Roundswell Hall has very limited available dates. Keith confirmed that despite emailing Grosvenor Church twice, no response has been received.

ACTION: Pam agreed to investigate any dates available for June and July at Roundswell, preferably on a Thursday. 7th July

ACTION: Gill will check if Rose Lane kitchen building works will be finished by June.

3.6.1. Despite sending emails and phone calls, Roger has still not received any reply from the Gazette regarding inserting an article about our U3A group in their paper. It was decided to put up posters around the town inviting people to "come and join us".

ACTION: Ellie to do a poster on A4 and ask the Print Room to reproduce.

ACTION: Keith will laminate if required.

3.8.1. Ellie reported that it was difficult to work out exactly yearly figures. She projected that there was approximately £2000 spare cash. She will revisit in a couple of months.

6.6.1. Roger confirmed that the asset register had been updated.

8.8.1. Ellie provided a break down of the cost of the Christmas lunch. The cost to us was approximately £50, although the NDC printing costs have not been received.

8.8.2. Laurence confirmed that the Methodist Hall was booked. Roger confirmed that he had received the booking form from Roundswell Hall and had sent back the completed form.

14.1. Pam was happy for Roger to take over the post of Roundswell Hall Rep.

15.1. Sue confirmed that tickets for the year's quarterly lunches had been printed.

16.1. Rita has drawn up a rota for the committee meetings tea/coffees.

ACTION: Sue to put the list in the minutes. Done

16.16.3. David has contacted George who has agreed to assist him with the sound system for coffee meetings. Roger's contact is not available due to other commitments. We still need to find someone with specialist IT knowledge, possibly employing an outside company.

4.0. **Chairman**

4.1. The committee agreed that the February coffee morning should go ahead and felt the Covid restrictions were now less serious.

5.0. **National Office**

5.1. National Office has reported that a U3A podcast is up and running, and have launched a podcast platform.

6.0. **Business Secretary**

6.1. Preparation for the AGM in March was under way and a notice will be included in the newsletter.

ACTION: Roger to contact Lynne with details. Done

6.2. Insurance schedule received.

6.3. Roger has prepared a poster asking for new committee members. These will be put on tables at the coffee mornings.

ACTION: Keith will contact Maureen Penny to see if she is interested in becoming a committee member. yes has signed up.

7.0. **Beacon**

7.1. Nothing to report.

7.2. We need to make a decision regarding the cut off point for people registered with us about renewing membership. A reminder will be sent out before the February coffee morning about this.

ACTION: Keith agreed to contact Julia about sending out a reminder to those 2021 members who have not yet re-joined. Reminder to be inserted in newsletter. Done.

8.0. **Treasurer**

8.1. The balance for the end of November was £9717.20.

8.2. Ellie stated that her three years as Treasurer was up at the next AGM and that she will not be standing. Sue agreed to take over the post in April and Ellie agreed to take the minutes of meetings.

8.3. Keith reported that he had taken over the accounts of the Geology group and requested Ellie to confirm when costs are credited and debited in order that the ledger sheets are kept up to date.

9.0. **Members Secretary**

9.1. Despite asking if any members had specialist skills they were happy to share with others as a group, nothing had materialised, especially regarding IT. The microphone is fine but the slide projector can be difficult. Perhaps ask Taw U3A how they tackle the problem.

ACTION: Pam agreed to ask Robert the caretaker if he knew anyone who could help with setting up the sound/projector system.

ACTION: Keith, Laurence and David to put together some description requesting the skills of members. New members to receive this request three months after joining.

9.2. The membership stands at 274 members but only 176 fully paid up.

9.3. It was agreed that Christine would write down names attending the February coffee morning.

ACTION: Ellie to inform Julia that she no longer also needs to take names.

10.0. **Groups Coordinator**

10.1. Practical Gardening. Pauline Pooler is unable to continue with this group and has been unable to find anyone willing to take over.

ACTION: Keith will inform the coffee morning, and Laurence will put a note in the newsletter.

10.2. The Italian group has now closed.

10.3. Laurence reported that an additional walking group may be in the making.

10.4. The Art group is struggling with only a few attending.

10.5. Sue to compose a poster for her Knit and Natter group for display at the next coffee morning.

11.0. **Speakers Secretary**

11.1. The January talk did not go ahead as the coffee morning was cancelled. The February speaker is Liz Shakespeare on songs of the Skylark.

12.0. **Newsletter Editor**

12.1. Details of tickets for the Spring carvery lunch in March on sale at the February coffee meeting need to go into the next newsletter.

ACTION: Sue to email Lynne with the details.

13.0. **North Devon Link**

13.1. Next meeting 11th February; not sure if it is Zoom or face/face contact.

14.0. **Roundswell Hall Rep**.

14.1. All issues covered above.

15.0. **Lunches and Coffee Mornings**

15.1. Sue confirmed that tickets for the year's quarterly lunches had been printed.

16.0. **A.O.B.**

16.1. David has Julia's old computer which is up and running and available free of charge to anyone. Details will go into the newsletter.

16.2. Christmas entertainment 2022. David suggested using Roger Colome to provide free entertainment for this year's Christmas lunch free of charge. He sings and plays the guitar and is considered to be very professional. He would be provided with a f.o.c. lunch.

ACTION: Pam agreed to contact Roger to see if he is available for 1st December.

16.3. Keith asked everyone to let him know if they are happy to stay on the committee beyond the AGM.

Date of next meeting – Friday 18 February 2022 10.00. a.m. at Fremington Methodist Hall.

Next coffee morning Thursday 3rd February 2022.

Keith thanked those attending and the meeting closed at 11.42 a.m.

COFFEE/TEA ROTA FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FEBRUARY	RITA
MARCH	ELLIE
APRIL	SUE
MAY	KEITH
JUNE	?
JULIA	GILL