

Minutes of the 427th Meeting of Barnstaple Third Age Group Committee

Held on Friday 22 April 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

At Methodist Hall, Fremington

Present: Keith Luckhurst (Chairman), Gill Dow, Roger Bray, Sue Thomas, Laurence Hillel, Ellie Bray, Pam Harman, Julia Denton, Maureen Penny, David Dickinson, Nigel Wright

1.0 Apologies: None

2.0. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2022

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed - proposed by Sue Thomas, seconded by Maureen Penny

3.0. Matters arising

3.6.1. Publicity posters continue to be circulated

9.2. Sue(Treasurer) has been informed that there were 247 members as at 31 March 2022

10. The notice requesting information about the skills of members has been delayed

ACTION: Laurence agreed to start writing the first draft of the notice and will request Keith and David to review.

10.1 Gill reported that hopefully someone has come forward to undertake the role of new group leader for Practical Gardening

ACTION: Laurence to confirm this

6.1 Roger has contacted National office regarding content for a new Compliance file, but with no positive response. It was agreed that there was little point in compiling a new, fully comprehensive file from scratch. However, Maureen pointed out that issues around GDPR were important and it was therefore agreed that at least the basics should be complied. This could include useful sources of information- eg.web sites - where anyone needing clarification on specific issues, could investigate.

Pam volunteered to become the new Compliance Officer and she, Roger, and Laurence would check to see if they had anything relevant which could be amalgamated to form the basis of a new file.

ACTION: Roger to forward 'Contents page' of compliance file to Pam;

ACTION: Laurence to forward notifications, sent previously to group leaders, concerning members' contact details and health issues to Pam.

6.2 Details of Braunton's coquet group were sent to the newsletter editor

7.1 Gill has sent emails confirming membership

7.2 Gill has established a Committee Group on Beacon

8.1 Group money is now being recorded on the monthly account summaries.

10.1 Still outstanding

ACTION: Laurence to remind group leaders of the need to collect contact details of group members, to be used in the case of any emergency

Roger has been advised by national office not to get involved in first aid kits and training

- 11.0. Keith has reported back to Vicky re. March 'speaker'.
 - 12.0. Laurence has contacted the member concerning inclusion of poetry in the newsletter.
 - 12.2 The correct time for the Strollers group has been circulated.
 - 13.0. Keith has established that Anne Widdecombe is available – see item 11 in main agenda.
 - 14.0. Keith has provided Roger with a copy of the seating plan for Roundswell Hall
 - 16.0. Pam has produced a rota of volunteers to help in the kitchen at the coffee mornings
- Roger has updated and circulated the list of committee members

AGENDA ITEMS:

4 Chairman

Keith's information about speaker dealt with in item 11. All other information already covered.

5 National Office

Newsletters from National Office have been very lengthy of late and it was agreed that there was no need to circulate them to members, unless there was anything specific to our area.

Keith reported that u3a is offering a free, 8 week course to learn Ukrainian – for those who take in refugees

ACTION: Keith to arrange, via Lynne, for this to be included in the newsletter

6 Business Secretary

The annual return for the Charity Commission has been done, as has the return for u3a.

7. Beacon

Laurence asked if we need to encourage group leaders to use Beacon to keep records up to date. Gill offered to help record information on Beacon on behalf of group leaders if they were reluctant to do it themselves.

ACTION: Laurence to contact group leaders to highlight the usefulness of Beacon and keep Gill informed of any help required.

8. Treasurer

Current balance is £10441.25, of which £567 is group money.

Following a query about the income and expenditure of the quarterly lunches, it was agreed that there was no need to create separate account.

9 Membership Secretary

We currently have 249 members, of which 14 are affiliated.

Julia questioned the need for membership cards. The fact that we do not issue them every year was causing some issues with one other u3a, who was asking to see them for proof of membership. It was agreed that our current system was working well and we do not want to the previous, somewhat cumbersome method of renewals.

There followed a lengthy, unresolved discussion about the need for affiliate membership.

ACTION: Keith to clarify with N Devon Link the necessity for 'Affiliate' membership and to check if they issue membership cards annually.

10 Groups CoOrdinator

The new How it Works group is due to meet, for the first time, today. David has received 20 positive responses.

It was confirmed that 7 July 2022 would be our Open Day at Roundswell. Sue agreed to coordinate the event

ACTION: Laurence to draft an email, notifying group leaders, and send to Keith for his agreement, by the middle of May.

11 Speaker's Secretary

Keith asked for opinions of last coffee morning speaker and will feed back to Vicky a score of 8/10.

Keith announced that our speaker for May 2023 will be Anne Widdecombe. She makes no charge and offers 10% of any sales of books, back to the group. There followed a discussion about the number of people who might wish to attend this event and how to regulate and possibly, how to accommodate it. It was agreed that only u3a members would be able to attend, but we need to discuss this further.

ACTION: Keith to contact Tiverton u3a to establish what, if any, special measures they had to take to accommodate members wishing to attend the event.

12 Newsletter Editor

A reminder to everyone to submit items for the newsletter as early as possible.

13 North Devon Link

The next meeting is in June, date to be established.

14 Roundswell Hall Rep.

There will be an increase in fees for Roundswell Hall in 2022, notification of which we will receive soon.

Fremington Hall is increasing its fee from £20 to £24 from September 2022.

15 Lunches and coffee mornings

The Summer Lunch is on 16 June 2022

Coffee morning volunteers have been found.

16 A.O.B

David now has 2 volunteers to help set up at coffee mornings

Our June coffee morning is to be held on Monday 30 May as the hall will be closed on the Thursday due to the Queen's 70th Anniversary celebrations.

ACTION: Keith will advertise the 30 May coffee mornings at our meeting on the 5 May and inform Lynne for inclusion in the newsletter.

Date of next meeting - Thursday 12 May 2022 10.00. a.m. at Keith's house

Next coffee morning - Thursday 5 May 2022.

Keith thanked those attending and the meeting closed at 11.45 a.m.