

**Minutes of 454th Meeting of Barnstaple Third Age Group Committee
Held on Friday 16th August 2024, at 10am
At Fremington Methodist Hall**

Present: Keith Luckhurst, Nigel Wright, Sue Thomas, Norma Woodward, Ian Woodward, Julia Denton, Maureen Penny, Laurence Hillel.

Apologies: Andy Jones

Minutes for approval: Minutes approved by Maureen Penny and seconded by Nigel Wright.

Matters arising: Actions outstanding from previous meeting. All others considered closed.

Action: Keith to ask at coffee morning for more volunteers to work the rota for 2025.

Action: All committee members to consider for next meeting whether they would like to have a 'Groups Day' next year at one of the coffee morning in 2025. All present felt this to be a good idea to promote groups to both new and existing members. It was felt that autumn was probably the best time, however, speakers are now booked for 2025. Therefore, to consider if we get a speaker cancellation, or perhaps spring 2026.

Action: Laurence has had no volunteers come forward for the gardening group. Maureen volunteered she is willing to help and share admin responsibilities for this group if this would help a potential group leader.

Action: Laurence to email all membership to see if anyone is willing to take over the strollers group.

Action: Laurence to enquire if trainers are able to provide a first aid training course in late autumn, October or November, and to confirm charges. **Pending.**

Chairman: *Craft & Collection Day: - there are now 18-19 participants.*

1. Ian to send a copy of table layout to Helen - **Actioned**
2. KL will put a copy of the layout in the Roundswell letter box 48 hours before hand. Ken ill
3. No public entrance before 10.15. Ian to assist Rita to act as bouncer.
Allowed in.... committee members, exhibitors, kitchen staff and any other authorised persons
4. Rita and Bryan to take names of those entering & Christine to assist. There is no entrance charge
5. Julia will Christine help you with your exhibits - Christine to help as above.
6. Discuss table layout - **agreed as per plan**
7. Agnes has promised to take photos
8. Keith will make a cake, Agnes has also promised to make something. If anyone else wishes to contribute , don't forget that you can claim out of pocket expenses
9. Can anyone give a lift to Luchia Potter, she lives at Congrave close off the Newport road EX32 9AN 07453 35076 - **Actioned, Maureen offered**
10. Do we want music playing in the back ground - No

Laurence advised that a member would like to find a new home for her deceased husband's stamp collection, and that it might be available for display at the collections day.

Action: - Maureen to ask Mike Blower if he would be interested in the collection and displaying it.

October coffee morning:- Keith will be away for this coffee morning and Nigel has kindly agreed to step in.

National Office: Details of 3 online workshops given for August.

September sees national U3a week, with events available online.

Nigel advised that N/O are trialling some software and have said that Beacon will not be available on 22nd August, for part of the day.

16th October is N/O AGM. If anyone wishes to vote they need to register their intention beforehand.

Business secretary: nil from Ian.

Beacon: as previously covered.

Treasurer: Accounts sheet provided to all from Sue. £9,398.07 in the bank with £3.71 cash.

Membership secretary: Julia confirmed we have 310 members including 40 affiliated members.

Groups coordinator: covered under previous items, no additional comments.

Speaker secretary: Our speaker for August, Tony Davis, unfortunately received a very low score which Keith will feedback to Linda.

There is a slight modification to our speaker schedule for 2025, with speakers for January, Roger Bartlett, and April, John Riddington-Young swapping months.

Our speaker for October is Lisa ? , talking about the History of Bakery.

Newsletter: nil

North Devon Link: nil

Roundswell and Fremington Hall: awaiting confirmation of dates.

Lunches and coffee mornings: 5 tickets currently sold for the quarterly lunch in September. Sue raised concerns about numbers and ticket prices not adequately covering a tip for staff. It was agreed by the committee to contribute £10, to help cover any shortfall due to low ticket sales. Tickets for the lunch will be available at the September Craft and Collections day.

Action: Keith to announce at Craft and Collections day that tickets are on sale for the quarterly lunch.

Website: Nigel thanked all for their contributions and comments, which have been very helpful.

Importantly, the website is not static.

- * Any changes need to be notified to Nigel and we need to get into the habit of doing this.

- * Nigel needs help with the website, preferably someone familiar with Wordpress. Pictures, etc need to go to Nigel, along with notifications of any events, etc.

- * Laurence to get together with Nigel to discuss the updating, as he is happy to help out.

- * Eventually memberships will be electronic and will automatically be forwarded to Julia directly.

- * **Action:** Nigel to send request to Lin for the new website address to be included in the newsletter.

- * **Action:** Nigel to advise members of new website address at October coffee morning.

Keith gave a vote of thanks to Nigel, from us all, for his tremendous hard work and time in its development.

The website was approved by all, and will go live this afternoon (16th August, 2024).

A.O.B. Julia has been approached by the Wave project, requesting the U3a broadcast their activities to members. It was agreed not to do this as we are a charity in our own right and other requests from other charities could become overwhelming.

Christmas entertainment- suggestions.... Two possibilities discussed - a) guitar/singing duo session by Pete Cains and Bill and b) a balloon bender.

Action: Keith to contact both of the above to see if they might be suitable and willing to perform at the Christmas lunch for us.

5th September 2024 - U3a open crafts and collections day

Next coffee morning: 3rd October 2024

Next committee meeting: 20th September 2024

Coffee/tea rota- Maureen

There being no further business, Keith thanked all for attending. The meeting closed at 11:37