

Minutes of Cheadle u3a Committee meeting
on Wednesday 21 July at 10 am via Zoom

Present: Jenny Crump (Chair)
Val Egerton
Marian Corbishley
Helen Wainwright
Chris Beesley
Michael Prince
Alan Mendelson
Roy Scott
Dawn Maley
Richard Moore
Marj Povey

Apologies: Ann Mundy
Trish Boit
Walter Jaggli

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 June were read and will be signed when we meet in public.

2. Matters arising:-

In the last minutes it was reported we had decided how to deal with the problems arising from Covid-19. It was not decided how we should deal with members who wished to attend u3a meetings. The piece put in July's Enews sets out our policy.

"A primary concern of the committee is the Health and Safety of all our members. To this end, all venues are risked assessed before we use them. Covid 19 has increased our concerns and raised additional problems for when we reconvene indoors.

Following much discussion, and having taken advice from headquarters, we have come to the following decision regarding our restart.

When attending an indoor activity all members must be fully vaccinated and be able to prove this to the relevant group leader. Documentary proof must also be shown if you are claiming medical exemption, and you may be required to wear a mask and remain socially distanced.

Group leaders retain the right to refuse admission if the above conditions are not met."

3. Membership Secretary's report.

There were 554 members. 900 names on the database and there had been four new members.

4. Treasurer's report.

Marian reported that there was £3970 in the bank, it would be necessary to transfer £10,000 from the Building Society account. Two further payments of £2000 would need to be paid to the Guild Hall, £1950 to TAT, 2 payments to CanPrint, £600 for a new photocopier, that would leave £5000 in the Building Society. New signatories would be needed for both the Building Society and the bank following the AGM in September. The treasurer reported that it was not possible to have an online bank account. John Radcliffe and Sandra Carr had agreed to audit the accounts. Riley's would be ceasing to accept money from December and a new place to take it was necessary. Helen Wainwright and Marian to investigate and it was suggested that a safe be purchased in which to store the money.

5. Group Leader Co-ordinator's report. This was circulated to members prior to the meeting. She reminded committee members that single entry to the Guild Hall was not permitted and that the number for the keysafe had changed.

6. AGM. It was not felt feasible to hold a hybrid AGM. Ann's comments were noted about her feeling about the issue of a meeting attended by members. Chris Beesley said chairs could be set out in such a way that there were gaps, Dawn commented that people could wear masks. A minimum of 50 people are necessary for the meeting to be quorate. Roy to check with the printers that they have the necessary documentation. The Frankie posting machine has £300 on it and Roy to ask the printers if they are using this or whether they will use postage stamps.

7. Photocopier

Ann has ordered a new machine although in an email from Jenny on 15 July said that this was agreed in principle but needed to be voted on at a committee meeting. The new machine is expected in six weeks time. Marian to investigate if we are due a repayment of the service agreement on the old machine as it has not been used since the lockdown.

8.AOB

a. Michael reported that PAT testing needs to be carried out. Tim Mundy to be asked if he will do it the only problem was the the Guild Hall was unavailable on Tuesday evenings.

b. Trish and Marj have volunteered to act as joint Business Secretary and would be meeting with Ann before and after the AGM to find out what was involved.

c. Coffee morning. Dawn had spoken to her volunteers and the possibility of a coffee morning in September would be reviewed. She need men to put out the chairs and tables, volunteers to collect cups and volunteers to wash the tablecloths etc. Roy and Alan said they would arrive early to help. It was suggested the Guild Hall purchase a steriliser to ensure that the cups met health and safety requirements. Jenny and Helen to email Peter Lucas setting out this request.

d. Alan asked how many times a year TAT appears and it is five.

e. Helen asked for the requirements for naming committee members and their contact details be reviewed in the light of GDPR.

f. Alan asked if the ukulele group or the community band would be available for a Garden Party in Alton. Helen gave him contact details for the two groups.

9. Webmaster report.

This is attached at the end of these minutes.

10. Date of next meeting.

This will be in the Guild Hall on 11 August at 10 am.

Additional documentation

1. Groups' Co-ordinator's Report to the Management Committee Cheadle u3a – 21st July 2021-07-20

As at 19th July, we are set up to start some of our groups. It has been a difficult time for all concerned with the changes in Covid restrictions, but I think we are moving forward on a positive note!

On Monday at the Guild Hall main Hall Tai Chi re-commenced, with about 20 attendants, spaced around the hall, and a lot of them wearing masks. Mike O'Callaghan, Chair of St. Giles, came and switched the fans on and we opened the doors. Everyone had a good experience.

At the same time Barry Bevington came to re-start his Calligraphy Group in the Oakley Room. Only one person turned up, but there will be more next week, and he said it gave him chance to get his bearings.

Guitar and Melody Makers will start at the Guild Hall later this week and Drama in a couple of weeks.

Ukulele have been practicing outside at Freehay Village Hall and took part in a Festival of Music in Cheadle on Saturday in very hot conditions. They will move into the Guild Hall in September, unless weather forces them inside before then.

Walking hockey continue to meet on a Tuesday morning, but the Leisure Centre will not be open to us until next week.

The Cricket Club and Freehay have enforced delays on opening, but it will be soon.

We have identified a new leader for Thursday Tai Chi at the Cricket Club and I have been to see Grace Hughes and Lynn Smith, both of whom have completed their work with u3a groups. and have a long and worthy service.

Michael and I are in the process of carrying out risk assessment reviews, and including any covid requirements within those.

The Groups and their re-starting dates are on the website and Walt is working on a new format which I will need to learn.

I have yet to meet with people from the country dancing group to talk through how we might take this group forward,.

There are some groups still meeting on Zoom – Architecture; Reading for Pleasure and Writing for Pleasure. They will continue until December.

Stella Heritage is keen for someone to take over running Card Craft.

As I have said before, the venues are all holding our bookings and other venues will be risk assessed during August. Most other groups will start in September and we should be back to full running by the end of September (Covid permitting).

Group Leaders who have finished this year, who need to be recognised at the AGM, are Cedric and Jean Wilkinson (Country Dancing) with 20 years service; Grace Hughes(Tai Chi) with 15 years service; Lynn Smith(Compute Basics) with 10 years service and Margery Stanley, Drama, who has decided to stand down after 20 years service. Margery was a member of the u3a steering group in 1996.

Roy Scott will take over the Drama Group.

The Group Leaders' Handbook needs reviewing and I think it is important that the Committee consider this as it was always understood that all Committee contact details were included. However, it has been suggested that this should not be the case because of GDPR rules? I think we need to discuss this. Members need to know who they can contact.

Helen Wainwright,
20/97/2021

Webmaster's report

Due to other commitments Wednesdays are always difficult for me to attend committee meetings. Please accept my apologies. I wont be able to attend the next committee meeting.

IT Matters

All the equipment in the Computer Suite at the Guild Hall is now up-to-date. Thanks to Helen's assistance I have managed to deal with and complete this task last week.

Website

For the last 4 weeks or so I have gradually worked through the website pages and code and although everything looked fine after the migration in March, there were some problems that needed addressing. The biggest bugbear is the Gallery which is still not working correctly.

At the same time I have prepared a plan to simply maintenance and update of the website and pages. To that end I have replicated the site under the subfolder /cu3a_new and started work on sorting out the technical issues and implement the revised layout. The Gallery works perfectly on the updated site.

I will keep you posted as to progress. Helen Wainwright and Roy Scott have volunteered to help with debugging and assist with the maintenance of the site.

I also think that we need a work-group to advise on web content and its implementation, promote its use to the members and make sure we interface with the rising use of Social Media sites such as Facebook by some of our Groups.

Group Leaders

I will be emailing all Group Leaders individually with the request to check their webpages, make sure its to their liking and that all content is present and correct. Those GLs who wish to edit and update their own webpages will also be required to renew their login credentials.

At the same time I will impress on them the need to keep us posted on any changes and updates on their webpages.

Best regards, Walt