

Driffield and Wolds U3A Committee

Minutes: of the meeting held on Friday, January 5th, 2018.

Present. M. Blackwell, M. Killin, P. Dunn, J. Dunn, G. Carrick, T. Carrick, J. Robson, T. Robson, B. Kavanagh, K. Taylor, P. Casson. Apologies: H Walker.

Minutes of 01.12.17:

Item 8[b] Associate Membership. It was pointed out that members holding multiple memberships are not Associate (as minuted) but full members of U3A's to which they belong. The minutes were then accepted and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising 01.12.17.

M. Blackwell advised that cheques must still be headed/signed as Wolds U3A as title change will not be advised to the bank until hearing from the TAT who has now received our revised constitution for approval.

M. Blackwell raised the matter of Accord joining in with us for the 2018 Driffield Show; this was agreed as shown in the minutes of 1st September 2017.

Communications.

M. Killin advised that she had received several TAT communications, passed to her by S. Adamson; J. Dunn queried why these had been sent to the previous secretary and asked if the secretary had advised TAT of changes of officers to the committee. This was not confirmed and J. Robson advised that she would check and confirm after the meeting.

Letter received from TAT Chief Executive enclosing:

A] Committee Communications Calendar.

B] Letter regarding TAT articles.

C] Draft copy of TAT Articles of Association.

D] EGM Flyer

E] Public liability assurance cover note for 2018.

Second letter received from TAT Chief Exec. enclosing:

1] Information to all U3A's regarding changes to their constitutions.

2] Revised information advice pack on Financial Matters.

Communication received from TAT regarding a national workshop series that they will be running in 2018. These are training events for U3A committee members and each workshop will cover:

General Data Protection Regulation.

Safeguarding.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Insurance.

Committee members to visit workshops.u3a.org.uk for details.

NOTE. The first workshop for the north will be held in Leeds on the 13th Feb. 2018 at the Principal Met Hotel, close by Leeds station. This is very short notice and we should enquire if further workshops for these topics are planned.

Letter received from Joyce Fowler who is the convenor for the Local History Group. She advises that she is giving up as convenor (she has already asked K. Taylor to inform members of this and that a new convenor will be required, in the next newsletter). It was proposed and unanimously agreed that we send a letter of thanks to Joyce for all her efforts, Chairman to action.

Secretary.

J. Robson advised receipt of a Communication from YAHR Region regarding workshops they will be holding in Jan. Feb. And March. This was circulated.

JR. Also advised that Accord would like a copy of our welcome pack for their January meeting. K. Taylor advised that the current pack is not fully up to date due to changes being implemented. Further discussion suggested that it was an introductory pack as opposed to a "welcome" pack.

JR. Reminded the committee of the offer to U3A members from the leisure centre regarding enhanced membership terms. This is to be publicised at the next monthly meeting.

Treasurer

M. Blackwell pointed out that the recent TAT 'Notes on Financial Matters' advises that we should have a financial policy, which we do not currently have. J. Dunn suggested that a sub group be formed to look at this and report back to the committee, this was agreed and the following committee members will action this. MB, PD, PC and BK.

MB. Re-affirmed that consumables should be bought by activity groups. Capital equipment that could be used by other groups may be bought out of general funds,

subject to committee approval, and placed on the asset register. In view of this MB further suggested that magazines etc. should be regarded as consumables if they were specific to a particular group and not of interest to others.

MB stated that in her opinion membership fees, for multiple members, should be subject to members approval as they changed the amount agreed at a previous AGM, which was for full membership including capitation. (If this is the case could this be included in the SGM that will be called to accept the revised constitution, minute sec.).

MB. Queried as to how payment had been made to cover purchase of the Christmas tree. MK advised she had contributed some of the money she was to hand in to the treasurer and the rest was borrowed from the membership sec. The tree is now placed on the asset register.

Membership

T. Robson proposed JD's suggestion that membership be commenced in September, BK queried the advantage of this (suggestion related to the fact that some activity groups close down for a period in the summer months). MB stated that as the AGM has to be within 3 months from the start of the financial year any change would cause difficulties. GC suggested that as the open day would be in September this could coincide with a new year. Following further discussion no decision was reached, this matter to be looked into further.

TR advised that the present membership stood at 435.

Liaison

P.Casson stated that activity groups were very varied, some being insular whilst others were more amenable to joining in with more general activities of out U3A. He acknowledged that he has to work on this. MB suggested that groups try to arrange functions that did not clash with monthly meetings etc.

Notice Board

K Taylor stated that originally the use of the small notice board was not for activity groups. As the secretary has a key she should be approached by those wishing to post notices at which point she can rule on suitability etc.

Mobile Phone

K Taylor suggested that a mobile could be used to provide a dedicated number for membership queries; this would be permanently available and could be passed on at times of holidays etc. GC felt that this would be more expensive and the idea was rejected by the majority of the committee.

Any Other Business

M Killin read out an e-mail that had been received from D Greaves regarding start-up funding for his new group. A lengthy discussion followed as to whether he had been misinformed or had misunderstood advice he had received from group liaison and possibly others. The result was that he was currently out of pocket by £70. BK proposed that to clear the situation we pay on a one-off basis this sum and explain the financial rulings that should be followed. PD seconded this and it was passed by majority. MB agreed to provide a written explanation of the above together with the remittance.

P Dunn raised the issue of payment method for holidays involving members. In the past we have been advised to make all payments through our treasurer. However, we are now advised that to give members better protection in the case of complaint against a holiday company or hotel etc. each member should pay separately to the provider. This also protects an organiser who is not covered by insurance for holiday arrangements.

G Carrick thanked Jan and Ted for their donation of a Mah-Jong set. This will be placed on the asset register.

M Killin thanked the organisers of the combined day trip and Christmas lunch which she felt was well received.

Due to ongoing problems with the Cass Hall venue J Robson suggested Kirkburn Village Hall for committee meetings. Following discussion this was not accepted but it was agreed to further investigate.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.25.