

## **Minutes of the 225<sup>th</sup> Settle and District u3a Committee Meeting held via teleconferencing on Friday 3rd December 2021**

**Present:** Chris Barnes (CB), Chris Chandler (CC), Ian Gray (IG), Barbara Herring (BH), Jeanne Hine (JH), Sarah Lister (SL) and Les Chandler (LC)

**1. Apologies for Absence:** none.

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2021 were agreed and will be signed in due course.

### **3. Matters Arising**

- a) Group accommodation costs - all invoices are now being checked in arrears.
- b) YAHR SGM - IG attended. YAHR's new banking policy and model constitution, amended to facilitate online payments, were approved.
- c) WestNet meeting - IG attended.
- d) November monthly meeting:
  - Equipment - a camera and a microphone were borrowed for the November meeting; suitable equipment still needs to be researched for future meetings.
  - Room layout - St John's Hall has confirmed that tables and chairs are available for the u3a monthly meeting.

### **4. Reports**

- a) Chair
  - Nothing to report.
- b) Secretary
  - Nothing to report.
- c) Treasurer
  - The bank reconciliation was noted. The balances to date are:

HSBC	£8,508.56
Skipton BS	£5,782.55
  - Online banking: to avoid the cost of cheque payments Settle District u3a needs to pay online but HSBC can't offer the dual-authorisation of online payments that the constitution demands. Barclays could provide appropriate online banking but with the closure of the Settle branch there will be no facility to deposit cash into a u3a account. With no alternative to HSBC, therefore, the constitution needs to be amended to allow single-authorised payments online, with appropriate financial controls.

***Action: a proposal to amend the constitution to allow single-authorized payments online, and to put in place appropriate financial controls, to be put to the AGM in November 2022.***

d) Group Co-ordinator

- The Painting Group has a new group leader.
- The Art Appreciation Group is exploring the possibility of moving to a larger venue to accommodate its increased membership.
- The Friends Meeting House is reviewing its cancellation policy.

e) Membership Secretary

- The current membership is 387.

f) National u3a

- Nothing to report.

g) YAHR

- U3a Trust Chair, Dr Liz Thackray, is visiting the region in the New Year. On 10 January she will visit Skipton and on 11 January she will chair a Yorkshire Forum in York.
- Workshops: a Chairs and Secretaries workshop has been scheduled for February 2022 and a New Trustees workshop for the following month.
- Regional Management Committee: several management team members reach the end of their term in 2022 so new volunteers are needed.

h) WestNet

- Liz Thackray's visit to Skipton on 10 January will include an open house session at St Stephen's Church Hall.
- Bradford u3a has agreed to organise the snooker tournament suggested by Settle District u3a.
- The annual WestNet Quiz will be held in April at Gargrave Village Hall.
- Arrangements are in hand for a treasure hunt in the summer.

## 5. Newsletter

Thanks to SL's hard work the December 2021 Newsletter includes the first of the founder members' interviews but should perhaps make reference to the new format of the Painting Group.

***Action:***

- ***IG to include a reference to the new format of the Painting Group in his leader article for the December 2021 Newsletter.***

- ***A piece explaining the changes to the Painting Group to be included in the January 2022 edition of the Newsletter.***

## **6. Monthly Meeting - Christmas Social**

Given the ongoing covid pandemic it was agreed that the Christmas Social should go ahead in accordance with the latest government guidance on social gatherings. Because it won't be possible to Zoom the Christmas Social it was decided to investigate the possibility of making a video recording.

***Action: IG to canvass u3a members to see if anyone could make a video recording of the Christmas Social.***

## **7. Publicity**

To reach outlying villages as well as non-members it was agreed that, from January 2022, monthly meetings should be advertised in *Settle Community News* and via quarterly posters throughout the district.

***Action:***

- ***IG to arrange for monthly meetings to be advertised in Settle Community News.***
- ***BH and CC to produce a poster advertising monthly meetings from January to March 2022.***

## **8. Coronavirus Pandemic**

Government guidance will continue to be closely monitored given the increasing number of 'Omicron' cases.

## **9. Disposal of laptop**

Webmaster Richard Hine was thanked for his work in refurbishing the old u3a laptop, and for offering to provide training in its use. It was agreed that the laptop, and the Webmaster's training, would be useful to any Settle District u3a member who is unable to join Zoom meetings at present or who has to join using unsuitable equipment.

***Action: IG to e-mail Settle District u3a members to identify an appropriate recipient for the old laptop and the associated training.***

## **10. Painting Group**

In view of its change in format it was agreed that from 5 January 2022 the Painting Group should move permanently from the large meeting room at St John's Church to the main hall, at an additional cost per session of £8.

## **11. St John's Hall User Meeting**

It was agreed that Settle District u3a should be represented at the St John's Hall User Meeting in January 2022.

**Action: JH to attend the St John's Hall User Meeting at 7.30 pm on Monday 31 January 2022.**

**12. Aide Memoire**

- Christmas 'Do' - arrangements in hand.
- New Members' coffee morning - arrangements for a meeting, separate to the regular monthly meeting, to be finalised at the January 2022 committee meeting - subject to the latest pandemic situation.
- New Members' questionnaire:

**Action: CC to review the questionnaire and bring it up to date as required.**

**13. Any Other Business**

None.

**14. Date and Time of Next meeting**

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 1 pm.

Signed: ..... Ian Gray (Chair)

Date: .....