

Meeting of Management Committee
Monday 24th May 2021 at 3pm via Zoom

Present – Sue Watkinson (Trustee), Geoff Roberts (Trustee),
Alan Starkie, John Tomlinson, Derrick Fewings, Ian Grant, Les Rippon, Mike Rimmer, Paul
Andrews, Doreen Baker, Megan Tomlinson, Pamela Ball, (MC) Alan Nolan.

1 Chairman's Welcome

2 Apologies

Pamela Green, Colin Russ

3 Minutes of previous meeting

Accepted as a true record

4 Matters arising.

None

5 Correspondence

Letters from the P.O.Box had not been received so a trial letter was sent which did not arrive
and Royal Mail emailed the Sorting Office when service resumed.

6 Treasurer's Report

Our present bank balance is £54,000 and £2032 has been claimed back in Gift Aid. After
paying capitation fees to TAT the balance will probably reduce to £48,000. After June the
quarterly rental payments for H.Q. will resume.

HSBC have closed their counter service, payment in is by machine and a there is a minimum
payment of £500, maximum amount in coin is 1 kilo. Payments in can be made at the Post
Office but paying in large amounts of cash may not be welcome.

7 Re-start Working Party – New Horizons

John Dixon is heading up New Horizons and arranging chairs, tables etc. PA to meet John
Dixon at AVH to-morrow to consider arrangement. Entry charge to be 50p. including
refreshments. Recyclable cups to be used initially, the cost being £16 for a sleeve of 200.
People will be encouraged to bring their own cup. Treasurer's desk to be in foyer and
Membership desk in main hall where renewals can be taken for this year for people now
wishing to take part in activities but our new membership year commences Oct 2021.

Discussion took place regarding capacity at Aughton Village Hall and emergency exit routines. Suggestion that 10.30am announcements include a mention that the fire alarm must be responded to, there will be no tests during New Horizon.

Should there be a one-way system in and out of the Village Hall? Nothing planned for as all restrictions should be lifted by June 24.

The first New Horizons will be a celebration – suggestion of welcome notices, balloons etc.

Action: Following first meeting, a review to be undertaken in order to make any adjustments to arrangements.

Discussion on general re-start. Information issued via bulletins. Uptake on spare slots is slow. Timetable for groups is all in hand. Fine tuning now taking place and will be ready for June 21 start. Hiring coaches – coaches are fully cleaned after use, after June likely to operate at full capacity.

Mention was made of accuracy of group lists on Beacon.

The newsletter to be issued in mid-June will include full details of all group restart information.

If the government issue further information regarding June 21 then the MC will meet.

Agreed: Provisional date for a meeting of MC if necessary - June 14 2021 at via Zoom. Newsletter to be published via email after that MC meeting or later in the day.

8 Update from National Office – Constitution meeting

An update was provided following a meeting for N West u3a groups. A new National Constitution has been drawn up by Third Age Trust. We need to make sure that the use of remote technology is reflected in our Constitution including general meetings. Need to put an amendment to our AGM about the ability to use electronic communication and postal voting for a general meeting. Suggestion of a special general meeting 30 minutes before the AGM to approve the appropriate amendment prior to the formal AGM. Alternatively, the matter could be discussed towards the start of the AGM.

A future discussion is needed of our own constitution – important that any constitution suits us rather than one imposed by TAT. Legally only the objects of the organisation and dissolution arrangements are the elements of the constitution which must be voted upon by members. It would seem that the administrative organisation is in the hands of the Management committee.

9 Speaker meetings

An update was given and what the situation will be going forward in terms of the format such meetings would take – in person, remote or hybrid. There could be some cost in

providing good quality IT equipment, main issue would be a good quality internet connection. Alan Nolan to investigate the technological requirements further.

Agreed that plans can continue to be made for next year. Arrangements for first hybrid meeting on July 8 were confirmed.

Second coffee morning for new members at Chapel Gallery was confirmed.

10 Membership Report

1539 members. Enquiries – 9. Renewal enquiries – 10.

Advert been drafted for membership team to take this forward. Advert will go in newsletter. Letters been drafted for lapsed members and over 90s.

11 Communications sub-committee report (newsletters)

No new developments to report.

12 u3a Day

Ormskirk Market – Borough Council have said that we would need a heavy-duty gazebo not a domestic one, other than that we can go ahead whenever want. We are not able to borrow any stalls.

Chair reported on information he had obtained from TAT web site.

Suggestion that a sub-committee be set up to take this forward. Note to go in e-news inviting people to take part. A budget will be needed.

13 AOB

None

14 Date of next meeting

9.30am Tuesday 29 June at Scout HQ. Bring own tea/coffee/cups. Items for AGM to be discussed at the meeting.

Signed.....Date.....