

Present:- Jeff Roberts (Chairman), Dorothy Harrison (Vice-Chairman) Wendy Craddock (Secretary) Bernie Handford, Bill Evans, Edna Lally, Anne Snell, Margery Sargent, Ann Haskell, Pauline Jones, Willem Wiechers, Pat McKenzie, Chris Jones, David Blanchflower, Ted Morrell (Trustee)

Apologies, Beth Blamires, Margaret Kitchen

1. Welcome:- The chairman Jeff Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting and had apologies from the above.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising:- Everyone thanked for making The New Members Afternoon Tea great success. A Snell gave a short report of the analysis of the questionnaires. DB thought that the response re running new groups or short courses was very promising and realised our ethos of participation.

5. Treasurer:- £10k of the £32k in balance is to cover TAT capita, insurance etc.

Tutors fees are due from the Groups Account. Though our balance looks healthy we need to be aware that the retirement age is rising and it may mean some lean years ahead. An anticipated expense is the furnishing of the computer suite when the building work is complete (e.g. trunking etc)

6. Membership Secretary:- 1749 members an increase of 32 members in the last month. (cf 1694 last year)

7. Committees:-

Group Support:- Rather than start new groups for some topics it may be more prudent to organise 4 talks over 4 months to see how it is received.(e.g. architecture)

4 or 5 new groups will be advertised in the next magazine.

Room utilisation still needs considering as low attendance groups using large rooms is not good management of resources. The new computer suite will possibly provide a suitable alternative.

Annie Hazelhurst has volunteered to organise a nature walk on New Years Day.

Resources:- A grant application for £4.5K for equipment has been applied for from Tesco. Details of grant monies were discussed. £8k is ring fenced for the Memory Course and House Bound inclusion.

Publicity: The design for the flyer leaflets and the new bookmark were circulated and accepted. It was felt that there was still scope for an A4 poster but with a lot less writing on it.

The Leaders hand book is being rewritten by DB and information on how to go about starting a new group will be included on the web site with contact details.

Social:- Only 45 Diaries left for sale, Murder Mystery evening sold out. 40 tickets have been sold for the Christmas Lunch and several groups have requested order forms. A Spring event is still under discussion. Joan Stone and Brenda Jacksons tables at Horizons are happy to integrate new members into their groups.

8. Trustees Next Meeting is on 8th November. It was suggested that as the TAT constitution is still now available we should begin work on how our Trustees and sub committees work. TM will discuss with Trustees re terms of office.

9. South Lancs Network:- All 10 U3As were represented at the meeting in Maghull. Skelmersdale 1st meeting is on Thursday 20th. Shared publicity is envisaged for all U3As in the network. The network website provides an overview plus a connection to TAT and individual U3As. We need to encourage our group leaders to make contact with their counterparts in other U3As in the network. Inter U3A competitions are envisaged for 2012 as (TAT 20th???) anniversary including Bowls, snooker etc as well as 'Fantasy Finance'

10. Secretary's mailing:- none received from TAT.

Informal Agenda

10th Birthday year - A report of the informal meeting which had comprised a good exchange of ideas from representatives from all sub committees plus some individuals. Including out and about in the Community, Activities in the park, (jazz, brass band, play, litter picking etc) along with activities which could cover summer and winter groups e.g. tea dance, Christmas Lunch, Big Speaker meeting, cruise, weekend away. Timeline past and future.

H.E.O.G. The trip to the Iron Men at Crosby followed by afternoon tea at Lady Green was a great success. A trip to Liverpool 1 for Christmas shopping and lunch is planned for November 28th.

Group Leaders Coffee Morning:- a request for flapjacks, scones etc was made for November 2nd.

AOB – WI hut and Burscough Wharf are looking for tenants. The cinema facilities at Burscough are no better than ours but the rent at £10 per hour provide potential for new groups use.

Parking – The Old School Yard is Church Property and they are quite within their rights to restrict parking. The main problem is Tuesday morning bridge which coincides with the mother and toddler morning at the Ministry Centre. It was agreed that no group should start before 9.30 am and there should be no vehicle movement between 3.15 and 3.45 pm. This will be explained to the group leaders on November 2nd as a Health and Safety measure, we don't want any accidents.

WW reported that he and Margaret will be on holiday for 4 weeks but anything sent to the web will be dealt with.