

Meeting of Management Committee
Tuesday 15th March 2022 at 9.30am Scout HQ

Present – Lorna McDade (Trustee)

Alan Starkie, John Tomlinson, Derrick Fewings, Les Rippon, Mike Rimmer, Pamela Ball, Paul Andrews, Doreen Baker, Megan Tomlinson (MC)

1 Chairman's Welcome

Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

2 Apologies

Sue Watkinson

Colin Russ

3 Minutes of previous meeting on 16 November 2021

Accepted as a true record

4 Matters arising

AGM June 16 – Ministry Centre. John Tomlinson to speak with the Italian Group who meet in Ministry Centre on a Thursday morning.

5 Correspondence

Colin Russ has decided to step down for personal reasons. Thanks were given to Colin for his work on the Committee and best wishes were passed on.

5a Finance Committee Report

Committee met. All points discussed are covered in item 6 below.

6 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer had sent detailed reports prior to the meeting.

Change of Bank. HSBC removed free banking for charities before Christmas. Current annual charge around £700. Many high street banks won't take new customers or have a limit on amount of transactions/funds which can be banked. Main issue is low value cheques being deposited (40p per cheque is the bank charge) into Group Account.

Proposed and accepted unanimously that the Group Account is transferred from HSBC to the Co-op Community Direct Plus Account.

Accounts April – September. £76k in bank account – £22k of subscriptions. £11k surplus on main account this year, though there are liabilities to meet. Scouts are currently reviewing their costs/rent. Groups mainly covering their own costs. Most Tutors are putting prices up by £5 per session. It is assumed that Tutors have spoken to Group Leaders.

Activities v Hire Costs Derrick provided an analysis. All groups had accepted the current position. Only about a £1-3k deficit which is much better than in previous year.

Gift Aid Lot of work been undertaken in looking at technical issues with the TAT Beacon management system. Everything possible is being done to ensure that all records are up to date. Thanks to Doreen and Derrick for all of their hard work in this area.

7 Update on proposed New Constitution

Proposed new constitution been submitted to TAT. They have accepted it. There was discussion around the quorate figure of 100. They have accepted that and asked us to revisit the number in 3 years.

Proposed new constitution needs to be available for anyone to see before the AGM. Those who want a hard copy will have to apply for one.

Mention has been made in current magazine about the proposed new constitution.

8 Membership Report

1507 members. 8 new members recently. 125 new members since October 1 2021.

9 Communications Committee

Update given on promotional work/recruitment drive. As numbers are healthy at present it wasn't felt necessary to hold a major campaign. Option of distributing leaflets to local shops discussed. Discussion took place regarding another local U3A which could impact on our numbers resulting in an increase.

Budget confirmed for two more magazines for calendar year 2022, ie 3 per year with a budget of £5k per financial year. This one to be posted. Distribution of other two editions discussed and thought these shouldn't be posted. The design of the new magazine was very impressive, thanks to all involved.

Web team would like more help.

Should there be a designated magazine committee? More people are needed to assist with distribution of magazine.

Succession planning – suggestion that something is put on the loop on the screen at Horizons to encourage people to offer their services to help. Suggestion of approaching the new 125 members this year.

10 Social Committee Report

Vegan Taster lunch – still 15 places available. Could be a shortfall of around £78, this is an event held over from pre COVID so it was agreed that it should continue.

Platinum Jubilee Dance – Aughton Village Hall June 25. Hall booked, caterers on standby. Looking at numbers of around 100. Discussion took place regarding cost.

Action: Paul Andrews and Mike Rimmer to look into the proposal further

Christmas Lunch booked for December 9 2022.

Quiz Night – 30 September at Scout HQ. Hot pot supper. People to provide own drink.

11 Group Support Report

Discussion around combining Group Support and Communications Committees this would then release some people to specifically look after the magazine.

Action: Mike Rimmer to bring up with Communications Committee for discussion.

Group Leaders Thank You Party 2pm Tuesday May 31 at Scout HQ. Theme at the party will be the use of Beacon with a demonstration of the system. Funding was discussed. Agreed budget set at £600.

A second thank you event is proposed for other volunteers.

12 TAT tree planting

Suggestion of a tree being planted near Scout HQ for Queen's Jubilee.

Action: John Tomlinson to contact the Vicar

13 Representative at North West AGM June 15

Megan Tomlinson to speak with Sue Watkinson for more details.

14 AOB

Calendar needed of MC meetings over the year. 3rd Tuesday of the month, 4 times per year.

Reminder that a room is rented every Thursday morning at Ministry Centre which can be used for any small committee meetings.

Keys for entry to Scout HQ. Discussion took place around a fob idea. Another suggestion is a key code system. A rota still needed for opening and locking mortice lock at start and end of day. Scouts prefer a fob system. Agreed that this needs further investigation.

15 Date of next meeting.

May 24 2022 9.30am