

Aughton & Ormskirk U3A

Management Committee Meeting

Tuesday 28th November 2023 9.30am

Present: J Tomlinson, D Fewings, P Andrews, M Rimmer, E Dixon, L Rippon, D Blanchflower, P Ball, A Trigwell, M Tomlinson, D Slater, M Faza

1. Chairman's Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting including Mia Faza and Deidre Slater as co-opted members.

2. Apologies

None

3. Minutes of Previous meeting (22.08.23)

Accepted as a true record.

4. Matters arising

Southport University Extension Society – the secretary has been to Horizons and gave a short address. They are publicising U3A talks and vice versa.

Audio Visual system in small room – problem with it not working.

Sustain net – decided that the project wouldn't be taken up as we don't fulfil all the criteria for the project.

Art Appreciation Course – no further progress to report at present.

5. Correspondence

None

6. Treasurer's Report

We started the year with £79,973 and now have £99,619. Activities are running at a surplus of £7683. Administration also showing a surplus of £12,143 – due to membership fees being paid in recently. At present little demand for outgoing costs. Not possible to subsidise activities as we then couldn't claim gift aid. It would be possible to reduce admin surplus by reducing membership fees. This would have to be agreed at the AGM.

Action: A proposal was put forward to reduce the membership fee to £10 next year (2024-5) with a time limit of two years after which it will be reviewed. Accepted unanimously.

Action: Proposal that Finance Committee look at how to reduce session fees.

The complications of Gift Aid were discussed including the accuracy of the Beacon system especially where card payments are concerned. We can only track Gift Aid payments via cheque.

Action: Gift Aid Issues to be looked at by Treasurer and Membership Committee and another couple of other members.

Grateful thanks given to Treasurer for his work.

7. Finance Committee Report

Nothing to report.

8. Membership Report

1571 – 1599 at the same time last year 69 new members this year compared to 51 last year. Majority of new members have joined online. Likely to be 200 lapsed members by the end of November which is the same as last year. 46 free members (32 last year). Group Leaders have all been contacted re checking that all members have renewed their fees. Discussion took place about the use of Beacon by Group Leader. Membership team are going to post out a communication to Group Leaders who have not engaged with Beacon or email re checking of group lists.

Action: Secretary to contact Third Age Trust about accuracy of their information and the fact that Aughton and Ormskirk are not on the map.

Thanks were given to Membership Team for their hard work.

The old tablet is no longer required and has been written off.

9. Communications Report

Magazine to be published 3rd week in January. 500 printed copies. To be published online and not posted. Copies will be available at Horizons, AVH etc.

Action: Deadlines for magazine material to be published in enews in future.

Clarification sought re the PO Box – L30 6WY – this links to Chair's address.

Action: Agreed that Flyer be published.

10. Social Committee Report

Christmas Lunch – 78 tickets sold so far, around 30 more available. Discussion will need to be had re the future of the event in terms of next year. Suggestion that a different type of event could happen next year.

Diaries – the format has changed so they are not as popular. Agreed that diaries wouldn't be available next year.

11. Group Support Report

New palates group has started. Stamp collecting group also to start.

Group Leaders thank you party in February/March.

Discussions have taken place with parking and The Sands.

Chris Kelsall has been in contact re facilities at Aughton Lawn Tennis Club – agreed a small advert could be placed in the back of the magazine. It was also suggested that Chris Kelsall could set up a U3A tennis group.

12. AOB

Tea rota for MC – people to provide own refreshments in future.

Christmas decorations to be put up at AVH next Thursday, December 7th at 4pm – any help would be appreciated.

Projector in small room at Scout HQ – reference made to the original request re updating the AV system and fact that it isn't working. Alan Starkie has now provided a smaller quote of £870 for HDMI cable link and speakers in small room.

Action: Chair to inform A Starkie that we have agreed to the new quote of £870 for audio visual improvements in the small room with a request that the company look at the projector with a view to repairing or replacing it.

AGM to be held 13th June 2024 at Scout HQ with the possibility of it being virtual. This will then be followed by a short MC meeting to elect officers.

Action: Chair to speak with Alan Nolan re a virtual link to the AGM.

Other MC dates

27 th February 2024	9.30 a.m.	H.Q
28 th May 2024	9.30 a.m.	H.Q
27 th August 2024	9.30 a.m.	H.Q
26 th November 2024	9.30 a.m.	H.Q
25 th February 2025	9.30 a.m.	H.Q

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 27th February 2024. 9.30am. Scout & Guide H.Q.

The Chair closed the meeting closed at 12.10 and repeated his gratitude for everyone's hard work and support.

SIGNED _____

PRINT NAME _____

DATE _____