

Preston and District u3a Committee Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held at 10am on 31st May 2024 at
St Cuthbert's Church, Lytham Road, Fulwood, PRESTON

		Actions
	AJC welcomed the committee and then pointed out the fire exits etc.	
1. In Attendance	Tony Cheetham (AJC)–Chair Kay Harrison (KH) – Vice Chair Sue Holder (SJH)– Secretary Janet Nixon (JN) – Treasurer Peter Kitchen (PK) – Membership Secretary John Savage (JS) – Assistant Treasurer Laura Mole (LM) – Members' Representative (co-opted) Sheena Clowes (SC) –Groups Coordinator David Parker (DP) – Beacon Administrator	As per signed sheet
2. Apologies	None	
	OFFICERS' REPORTS circulated (Chair, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Member's Representative)	
3. Minutes of the last meeting	The minutes of the last meeting held on 5th April 2024 were accepted and signed as a true record.	
4. Matters arising from the minutes	All post AGM actions have been completed. There is a need to check the position regarding a second signatory on the Lloyds account. JS needs to be able to countersign. LM indicated that there is still an issue regarding the Blue Bird symbol on the Family History Group webpage. AJC undertook to contact the group leader about this.	JN AJC
5. Review of members' coffee morning/ group leaders' lunch	This event went well although there were not as many new joiners present as had been hoped. The format should be reviewed for future events and designed to attract new members possibly by emailing to encourage them to attend. In addition the main event could be held in the afternoon after lunch and include a quiz with questions reflecting the interests of the groups.	
6. Succession planning	The Chair cannot continue in post beyond 20 th March 2025. The Membership Secretary will retire in March 2025 and the Treasurer will have completed a three year term by the next AGM. The ideal situation would be to have identified candidates for these posts by the next committee meeting so that they can gain experience by shadowing the current postholders. The committee felt that the membership should be made aware of the key responsibilities of these posts and, more importantly, exactly what the outcome will be if no-one comes forward. The Chair will approach group leaders initially followed by the full membership if necessary so that everyone is aware that the future of the Preston and District u3a branch is at stake.	AJC
7. All member events	In his role as Speaker Organiser AJC confirmed that speakers are now booked until July 2025. More 'all member' events are planned for the year and are largely given by our own members.	
8. New interest groups	AJC played Pickle Ball at the Bamber Bridge u3a venue which provided all the equipment. Unfortunately neither Fulwood Leisure Centre nor Westview provide this service. AJC will determine whether the UCLAN Sports Centre has suitable facilities. If so it will then be necessary to establish the level of interest and find a group leader. R Astin might be interested in running a History Group. History, Photography and Wine Tasting could be accommodated at St Martin's.	AJC

Summary

<p>9. Payment methods for trips</p>	<p>The move towards a cashless society is creating significant issues when paying for external events. Increasingly members would like to make BACS payments when paying for trips/theatre outings, Meet & Eat etc. However difficulties arise when such payments are made into the wrong account or references are omitted. The committee discussed increasing the use of SumUp which would require the purchase of 3/4 more machines. This could be done gradually starting with larger groups. JN suggested that Meet and Eat and Moto groups could also be targeted as payments are made at monthly meetings.</p>	
<p>10. Social prescribing</p>	<p>Two committee members have been approached by a commercial organisation working with GP practices to involve u3a in this process. Their approach has been rejected as the u3a does not enter into the promotion of third parties.</p>	
<p>11. Treasurer's report</p>	<p>For various reasons a full budget update was not possible for this meeting. All moneys have now been banked. The Treasurer will provide an updated report at the end of June as this will give a six month picture of the finances.</p> <p>Re. TAT: 566 magazines were mailed to our members this year. If the number of magazines is reduced it must be done at the same time as membership renewal.</p> <p>Re. TAT capitation: This has been paid and was based on the number of paid-up members on 31st March. The net membership is now considerably greater at 740 approx. The Treasurer will create an accrual of £1000 to cover a possible additional fee and also check what capitation fee was paid last year.</p> <p>Re. interest group account: This is looking healthier this year following the increase in group attendance fees.</p> <p>Re. Gift aid: This claim will be delayed to allow for new members joining.</p> <p>The committee approved an application for funding of £130 by the Archaeology Group to cover the cost and travel expenses of a speaker who will talk about Vindolanda.</p>	<p>JN</p> <p>JN</p>
<p>12. Members' Representative Report</p>	<p>Not all group leaders supply the same/complete information. Nonetheless this report shows the trends in attendance and as such is a useful tool.</p>	
<p>13. Membership Secretary's Report</p>	<p>There have been 60 non-renewals largely members who did not attend any interest groups.</p>	
<p>14. AOB</p>	<p>Groups Coordinator: There have been several enquiries regarding basic language groups. The current language groups are all intermediate level. The use of St Martin's for these will be investigated.</p> <p>Beacon Administrator: Induction has been provided for new committee members.</p> <p>Chair: A long winded report has been issued to Chairs regarding Fit for the Future, a proposal to create a TAT Council of 27 members which is available to committee members should they wish to read it. AJC provided a 1 page summary for the Committee. Preston and District u3a will be voting on the proposal by email.</p>	<p>SC</p>
<p>15. Date/Time/ Location of next meeting</p>	<p>The next meeting will be held at: 10am on Wednesday 31stJuly 2024 in the Melrose Room, St Cuthbert's Church, Fulwood</p> <p>The Chair thanked the committee and closed the meeting.</p>	

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD.....

DATE.....