

**Preston and District u3a Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes of the meeting held at 10am on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at**  
**St Cuthbert's Church, Lytham Road, Fulwood, PRESTON**

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|  | AJC welcomed the committee and then pointed out the fire exits etc.   |                            |
|  |   | <b>Actions</b>             |
| <b>1. In Attendance</b>                    | Tony Cheetham (AJC) - Chair<br>Kay Harrison (KH) - Vice Chair<br>Sue Holder (SJH) – Secretary<br>Margaret Clark (MC) – Assistant Treasurer<br>Sheila Finch (SF) – Members' Representative<br>Peter Kitchen (PK) - Membership Secretary<br>Sheena Clowes (SC) –Groups Coordinator (co-opted)   | <b>As per signed sheet</b> |
| <b>2. Apologies</b>                        | Janet Nixon, Wendy Tyson, David Parker  |                            |
| <b>3. Minutes of the last meeting</b>      | The minutes of the last meeting held on <b>4<sup>th</sup> August</b> were accepted and signed as a true record.   |                            |
| <b>4. Matters arising from the minutes</b> | Re. Pickle Ball: The Chair has been unable to observe a live session yet.<br>Re proposed "Churches and Pubs" Group: It was decided to pause the setting up this group while the Meet and Eat Group activities are being organised.<br>Re. Spanish Improvers: P Robinson is the new tutor and there are now 16 group members.<br>Re. Meet and Eat: Twenty members are interested and the Assistant Treasurer confirmed that she is putting together a programme of venues. It was agreed to widen interest in the group via the newsletter although a limit of 35 was considered practical.<br>Re. Drama Group: The Chair confirmed that he is expecting to receive an application for funding for the January production by next week.<br>Re. Use of SumUp: The Chair confirmed that his spare laptop has been upgraded by B Brown so SumUp can now be installed by the Treasurer ready for testing at a monthly meeting.<br>Re. Art Appreciation Group: The group now appears to be running well.  |                            |
|  | <b>OFFICERS' REPORTS</b>  |                            |
| <b>5. Report of Chair and Vice Chair</b>   | <b>Chair</b><br>i. A written report was submitted.<br>ii. The Chair, Assistant Treasurer and Members' Representative will reach the end of their terms of office by the next AGM and possible replacements are under consideration. The Chair and Secretary will consider procedures and deadlines to be met before the AGM.<br>iii. The Chair has been proposed for the role of Regional Trustee for the North West on the Third Age Trust Board and will therefore be unable to cast Preston and District u3a's vote at the forthcoming Third Age Trust AGM. It was agreed that the Secretary would vote on Preston's behalf and would need to be registered to do so. It was agreed to accept the majority of the resolutions but to vote against resolutions 3 and 4.<br>iv. The Chair confirmed that the Northumbria Hall has been provisionally booked for 25 <sup>th</sup> January for a 'mix and mingle' followed by a Group leaders' hotpot lunch to acknowledge their efforts throughout the year.<br>v. The Chair and Vice Chair have met with a senior member of UCLAN staff and talked in particular about Health and Wellbeing topics as a possible area of cooperation.<br>vi. The Chair has visited the North East Lancashire "Cluster" of smaller u3as where there was a useful exchange of views.<br>vii. The use of WhatsApp to communicate with Group Leaders was deemed unnecessary as Beacon fulfils the same role.<br>viii. There is some confusion amongst group leaders about who to contact regarding Beacon or website issues. The Groups Coordinator will email group leaders to clarify the issues and adapt the handbook. |                            |

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|   | <b>Vice Chair</b><br>The Chair and Vice Chair will visit St Martin's community hall to assess facilities and costs.  |  |
| 6. Report of the Secretary              | i. Enquiries have shown that a movement/meditation group (5Rhythms) is not viable locally.<br>ii. Following an article in the Third Age Matters magazine the viability of a belly dancing group will be assessed.  |  |
| 7. Report of the Treasurer              | A written report was submitted.<br>The accounts are currently in balance. Costs versus revenue will be assessed at the November meeting when the impact of increased accommodation charges will be more apparent.  |  |
| 8. Report of the Assistant Treasurer    |  |  |
| 9. Report of the Membership Secretary   | A written report was submitted.<br>There are currently 752 members and membership income is significantly higher than at the same time a year ago.   |  |
| 10. Report of the Groups Coordinator    | Following the note to all members from the Chair and Treasurer a full review of income, expenditure and group attendances will be undertaken at the November Committee meeting before a decision is arrived at on Interest Group fees for 2024.<br>Re. a 'Bus Pass Adventures' group: No progress has been possible since the last committee meeting for personal reasons.<br>Re. Scrabble: This group is doing well and moving to a larger room.  |  |
| 11. Report of the Members' Rep          | The interest group account has decreased by approximately £1500 this year although this has been significantly offset by surpluses on All Member Events.<br>It was pointed out that the Ukulele group may be run as a self teaching group in future, when the current tutor moves away, which will reduce costs.<br>The Chair thanked the Members' Representative for this useful information which will feed into the interest group review and discussion of finances at the next committee meeting. |  |
| 12. Report of Beacon Coordinator        | .  |  |
| 13. Report of Speaker Organiser         |  |  |
| 14. Any other Business                  |  |  |
| 15. Date/Time/ Location of next meeting | <p>The next meeting will be held at:<br/> <b>10am on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b><br/> <b>in the Melrose Room,</b><br/> <b>St Cuthbert's Church, Fulwood</b></p> <p><b>The Chair</b> thanked the committee and closed the meeting.</p>   |  |

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD.....

DATE.....