

MINUTES OF A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 25 October 2021 @ 10am at 2 Home Way, Petersfield

Present: Steven Watts (Chairman)
Robina Whitehorn (Secretary)
Jenny Thwaites (Groups Co-ordinator)
Linda Hutton (Membership Secretary) – via Zoom

1. Apologies were received from Gordon Watts and Peter Lake.
2. No interests were declared.
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** – The Minutes of the previous meeting of 1 October 2021 were agreed as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising** – The Committee noted that it had been decided not to proceed with the formation of a second Yoga Group at this stage.

SW would talk to the Speaker Secretary about the programme for 2022, and the additional support required at Open Meetings.

ACTION:

SW

5. **Finance Report** – The Committee accepted the Finance Report submitted by the Treasurer, which reflected the grant received from the Third Age Trust for the Open Day and the expenditure incurred.
6. **Membership Update** – Linda Hutton, reported that to date total membership stood at 636; 21 had resigned, 17 had lapsed and 45 new members had joined. The Committee were pleased that this compared favourably with u3as whose membership had declined during the pandemic but regretted that this had not been reflected in a willingness to volunteer in support of the administration.

It was agreed that a year since its formation it would be helpful to meet with the Welcome Team to thank them for their work and to discuss how the team's original objectives had been realised, particularly regarding the non-IT enabled members. A small social gathering was suggested, to be organised by the Group Coordinator and the

Secretary.

ACTION: JT /

RW

7. **Open Day Review** – It was agreed that the Open Day had been a very successful event, with the potential to be an annual or biennial occurrence. The Mayor and Councillor Butler had been welcome and interested guests and the general atmosphere had been enthusiastic and encouraging, although sadly there had been no Press interest. Andy Borthwick had submitted a report to TAT. Eighteen new members had joined on the day, and one more subsequently; there was also the prospect of new Groups.
8. **AGM Review** – The Secretary reported that the AGM had been conducted satisfactorily, although participation had been disappointing; in-person attendance of 80 members was understandable in the present public health situation, but no-one had taken the opportunity of a postal vote. Despite SW's clear warning about the future viability of Petersfield u3a because of the lack of new MC members and other volunteers, there had yet been no response. LH suggested that in future the following Speaker should be of widespread appeal and interest.
9. **Convener's Lunch 3 November** – JT stated that 30 attendees (conveners and volunteers) were confirmed so far. All arrangements were up to date.
10. **Christmas Event 13 December** – It was decided to arrange a quiz, which John Leete had already kindly agreed to compile. Mulled wine and small eats would be offered, the latter provided by a professional caterer. SW undertook to research the latter; as the number attending would need to be confirmed in advance, RW would ask Peter Lake to compile a short questionnaire to be issued via Beacon. LH would approach individuals to lead the Carol singing.

ACTION: SW / LH /

RW
11. **MC / Convener / Volunteer Recruitment** – As this longstanding issue was now critical, it was agreed that it should be addressed at a full meeting of the MC; together with key Advisers – Lynn Battersby-Vogt, John Donlan and Marjorie Day, who would be invited to attend the initial part of the next meeting in November. JT would consult Conveners, and all Committee members agreed to talk amongst their interest groups.

ACTION: RW
12. **2022 Schedule** – RW stated that she was updating the MC Planning Schedule for the coming year. Given the recent reduction in number, she believed it to be especially important for Committee members to keep in touch with each other; individuals were naturally keen to make up for time lost during the pandemic but it would be helpful to record all holiday dates and other absences.
13. **Any Other Business** – LH requested printed signs for use at Open Meetings advising members to have membership cards ready for registration. This was agreed.

There had been expressions of interest in a resumption of "Singing for Fun", which had been in abeyance during the pandemic. JT would pursue a potential Convener and venue.

JT stated that she had written to her counterpart in Liphook u3a about Petersfield's intention to introduce a reciprocal membership fee in 2022 but had received no response.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 12.40pm

Next meeting: Friday 26 November at 1000. Subject to continuing relaxation of Government restrictions, venue 2 Home Way, Petersfield. Lynn Battersby-Vogt, John Donlan and Marjorie Day to be invited to attend initial discussion on MC, Convener and Volunteer recruitment.

RW 26/10/21

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....