

Minutes of the Group Leaders' Meeting

on Thursday 15th October 2015

Present: Janet Easey, Ursula Wild, Barry Hillyard, Allen Donkin, Patsy Paterson, Jill Clayton, Sheila Holmes, Liz Lockwood-Jones, Gail Appleby, Alan Rooks, June Hawkins, Joan Burn, Ruth Westley, Pat Quinn, David Wild

Apologies: Lesley Woodward, Tony Claricoates, Mikki Wild, Ian Paterson, John Armstrong, Mike Thompson

Minutes of last meeting: Approved and signed.

Matters arising: Sorting out problems/grievances: June reminded the meeting that advice sheets are on our website at www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk under "archives" (select 'general and reference' to locate item more easily)

Cash for community Groups: There could be grants available for some groups from Blaby District Council eg for venue costs, transport costs. For further information go to: www.blaby.gov.uk/communitygrants email: bmh@blaby.gov.uk Phone 2727718

Non paid-up members: Problems are caused by people who have not paid their subs, especially for groups that are organising outings. There is no way for these groups to know whether all the people going on the outings are up to date with memberships. A list of people who have not yet renewed membership for this year was passed around group leaders to enable them to check their own groups and for them to update the list by removing names of those who have moved out of the area, in care homes and those who have died.

After much discussion it was suggested that in future in **July** a list of those who have not paid should be given to group leaders to update as above and possibly they could offer to bring subs to a meeting for them. All information to go back to Sue. Then in **September:** those who have still not renewed could be contacted individually to be asked whether they wished to continue their membership (although this could be arduous.) Or their names could just be erased from the list.

June asked that group leaders inform Sue Wyllie of any changes in the addresses and telephone numbers of members.

News from the groups –

Fit for life: This group is doing well with reasonable numbers.

Singing for fun: Still small numbers for this group but it is pottering on with a few new members.

Play reading: This group is in danger of folding because of difficulty in sourcing play scripts. The Library Service has relocated to Nottingham and is almost impossible to use.

Jazz: This group is now going well and planning outings for the group. Most of these will necessarily involve visiting pubs!! Malcolm and Joan have already investigated a pub in Stoney Stanton and enjoyed every minute of a very lively evening!!!!!!!

Discussion: The group is doing well and still reaching no conclusions.

Travel: Planning a social meeting on 27th October. They need more volunteers to ensure the 'flow' of the group. Outings are very popular.

History: Good popular group. Enjoyable outing to Salisbury. They have just had a successful planning meeting.

Theatre: Numbers have declined recently and several outings had to be cancelled. It may be seasonal but possibly it is because costs and prices have gone up. Time will tell.

Flower Arranging: This is a full and enthusiastic group.

CARE Walking: The group is back to normal numbers and enthusiasm.

Family History: There is a meeting tomorrow morning to elect a leader and work out an agenda etc. This new group could be difficult to organise as they have to first decide where the emphasis should lie. A plan is needed!

Ten-Pin Bowling: People are interested in this group but it is struggling to organise itself because of the lack of a co-ordinator.

Guitar: This group is doing well and now have about ten enthusiastic members.

Bridge: The Bridge Group is doing very well and has actually raised its subscription to £1-50!!!

Kurling: The Kurling Group is now solvent! They have raised subs to £2-00

Garden Appreciation: This group has proved to be a lot more popular than was anticipated with 16 to 18 people signed up on the first day. Ruth has it all in hand! After discussion, it was agreed that all outings are open to all U3A members. No group is totally exclusive!

Cribbage: This group is struggling for numbers. They really need some new members.

Sci-Tech: Good attendance at this group. Alphabetical presentations are still going well.

Folk Dancing: This is still a very lively group that does a lot of laughing as well as dancing.

Solo Sunday lunch: This is a very popular and successful group. Numbers are still increasing and there is a concern that they will have to be limited at the Sunday meal if they continue to grow.

Any other business: none

Next meeting: Thursday 14th April 2016 at 3 pm