

**Minutes of Becconsall U3A Executive Committee Meeting 10th October 2019 at 11:40am
at Hesketh Bank Community Centre**

Present

Liz Baines
Mike Ellis
Sue Ellis
Maggie Johnson
Glenys Mason
Terry Mason
Elaine Moon

Action By

1. Apologies

Jackie Pickup
Liz Rimmer

2. Minutes of the last meeting – 12.9.19

Proposed as correct – Liz Baines
Seconded – Elaine Moon – Carried unanimously

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting – 12.9.19 – not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

It was noted that the Community Centre Trustees had taken over the organisation of Lancashire Day which will be held on Sunday 24th November at 1:30 pm in Tarleton Bowling Club. Tickets will be on sale from next Thursday at a cost of £12 per person.

4. Declaration of Interests – Mike Ellis

5. Webmaster

Mike requested permission to enter two items on the website:

- 1) Notification of the West Lancs consultation period regarding possible funding for the new hall.
- 2) Notification of the Hesketh Bank Parish Council meeting on Monday 16th October.

Unanimous approval was given for both items as U3A is the biggest single user of both the current halls and wish to give support to the need for a new facility.

ME

6. Treasurer

Liz advised that all monies had been transferred from the old Social bank account and the account was in process of being closed down. The Financial Policy calls for a maximum reserve of £10,000 to be held and we are in danger of exceeding this. After some discussion of alternatives, it was agreed that 2020-21 would be a free year for existing members.

A window of 6 weeks will be established at renewal time and anyone renewing in that 6 weeks would get the free year. Anyone who renews late will pay as normal.

Invoice request: Tiger Muffin Soaps, speaker 14.11.19 - £60. Approved unanimously.

The December talk is free. Liz requested permission to obtain a bottle of wine for the speaker. Passed unanimously.

7. **Group Activity Sheets**

There can be problems for new members finding out about group activities.

Sue Wilson requested that there should be a signing sheet for each group at coffee mornings, which should not be removed by leaders.

Sue Wilson also noted that some groups are now closed because their numbers have reached capacity. She suggested putting out sheets for possible second groups. **SW**

Taster sessions were recommended for suggested new groups.

The information boards need updating and reinstating. Sue Wilson said she would request photos at the next Group Leaders' meeting. **SW**

Mike noted that the Acrylic Painting Group had been well-attended and he was proposing converting it to a general art group, provided current members agree.

It was suggested that there should be a new members' induction session, possibly once a month, for approximately 20 minutes at the end of coffee morning. **SE**

Sue Ellis to discuss this with the Meet & Greet team who would need to be the ones to run this.

8. **Interest Groups Matter**

This event is a workshop in Warrington. Unfortunately when investigated it was found to be fully booked.

In future Maggie will circulate to all committee members upon receipt, rather than waiting for a meeting. **MJ**

It was also suggested that three places be booked immediately – if events are so popular, there would be no problem cancelling if necessary. **MJ**

9. **Maureen Baldwin Memorial**

Terry displayed the plaque, which was made free of charge by Johnathon Ball.

Terry stated that he will now pass the plaque to Peter Wilkinson for mounting on copper. Peter will also not charge for this service.

Letters of thanks to be sent to Johnathon and Peter. **MJ**

The rose will be planted on Thursday 28th November.

10. **Christmas Party**

Glenys proposed that this should take place on 19th December 2019 and that this would be the last coffee morning until 9th January 2020.

Agreed unanimously.

Maggie advised that she had received an e-mail from Liz Rimmer volunteering her services where needed for the festivities. It was proposed, therefore, that as she is social secretary she should run the party.

LR

If the catering is again in the form of a “Jacob’s Join”, then all food should be for everyone – there should be no splinter groups as happened last year.

11. Quiz Night

Glenys advised that she had been asked by Terry Baldwin if he could arrange a quiz night. However, this is not a U3A event.

12. Wellbeing Festival

Mike had received an e-mail from the library regarding this event. Terry spoke to Lydia and Vivian at the library who advised that this is a national event.

Mike showed samples of designs for 4 boards to be used at this event. The cost of printing the larger versions would be £60.

ME

Authorisation proposed by Sue Wilson, seconded by Terry Mason and passed unanimously. Mike to arrange this.

13. Outing Suggestions from Don Fraser Coaches

Maggie had received suggestions from Don Fraser of visits to the Dewlay Creamery at Garstang (with possible stop-off at Barton Grange on return) and the Blackburn Chocolate House (possible return stop-off at Oswaldtwistle Mill). Signature sheets to be prepared to assess possible support.

SW

Additional Item

Cynthia, who is believed to be our oldest member, will be 90 on 18th November. It was agreed to arrange for flowers and a card to be presented to her at coffee morning on Thursday 14th November. Joan Johnson will be 80 on 24th October (which is a Thursday). It was agreed that she will also be presented with flowers and a card. Terry to present the flowers as his birthday is the same day.

Following discussions earlier in the meeting Terry reminded everyone that we should not discuss members’ actions in their absence.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12:50 pm

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 14th November 2019 at 12 noon.