

Committee Meeting
6th July 2022. 10.30am
Hillstown Village Hall

Present Peter Coombs, Jean Hassall, Gwen Webster, Gary Hewitt, Wendy Lines, Kevin Bates.

Apologies: Steve Holloway, Jen Sykes, Gill Daly.

Minutes of June 1st meeting agreed and signed as correct.

Matters Arising:

We need to get volunteers for meet and greet and get members to put their names down as they do for tea and coffee, we will try at the next General Meeting.

We still have to source a Plaque for the trees we planted. We will try a bench plaque and make our own support for it.

We have decided to have an advertising banner and flag made, as these seem to be the most useful. Kevin will organise design and purchase as soon as he has some up to date photos suitable to use, probably after the next General Meeting.

Chair report:

Groups and meetings generally seem to be running ok, we do need to find more volunteers and get people a bit more motivated.

Treasurer report:

The bank Balance remains healthy. It was suggested that the compensation we got from the bank should be spent on refreshments this was agreed.

Jean is still having trouble getting the extra signatories registered at the bank. It was suggested she go back to them and raise a formal complaint.

Membership Secretary Report: We now have 109 members.

Secretary report: Nil of note.

Group co-ordinators report:

Flowers for Fun is now closed. National Trust are cancelling this months trip due to the bus charge being unexpectedly higher and low take up numbers, coupled with only a short time to fill the vacant bus seats.

Peters survey revealed interest in British Sign Language and Spanish. Gwen will investigate the cost of a 6 week taster course in both. If affordable we will inaugurate the lessons and see how things develop.

A.O.B.

Report of Jubilee picnic: The weather forced us inside and the event did not develop as we expected. We enjoyed the event but it was not a recruiting event on this occasion.

Langwith Show 3rd Sept?... We decided we would be too busy to attend this event.

Computer training for Website. Arrange a date and who: Peter Jean and Gary will all arrange a date with Kevin to learn how to do the Website.

What leaflets do we need printed? - Diary Dates, Group lists with a general A5 flyer. Kevin was asked to purchase some Holders for leaflets for A4 and A5 literature.

Derbyshire Network Walking Baton Relay, Bolsover to Alfreton: Jean, Gwen and Gary will be organising this event (and form filling). We had about 12 volunteer walkers at the Monthly Meeting. The task ahead is to contact Chesterfield (who will be handing the Baton to us) and Alfreton (who we will be passing the Baton on to) to establish when and where the handover will be.

Peter has contacted English Heritage at Bolsover Castle and they are happy to host the handover in the Castle Grounds, we will need to keep them informed of progress.

One of the challenges is to divine a walker friendly route from Bolsover to Alfreton.

We will be splitting the walk into manageable 2 mile (roughly) sections and to have at least 2 people walking together.

We will need phone numbers of the walkers, phone numbers for I.C.E

Volunteer drivers will be needed to deliver and collect people from strategic points.

The drivers numbers will need to be given to the walkers so that they can communicate properly.

Arrange publicity and photographs.

How did the Gala go?

Being such a windy day we were not able to mount the display we would have liked. We enjoyed the day but did not recruit any new people. Gwen found it useful as a networking event. We did however learn a few things for if ever we do a similar event.

1. Have some greeters around the field to direct to our display.
2. Have some sweets/goodies as give-aways to engage people.
3. Bring display material to represent the various groups.
4. Have some u3a magazines.
5. Have a sandwich board.
6. Don't forget weights to hold paper down if it is windy again and possible extra string/rope and tent pegs.

Gwen states she has mostly booked up speakers for the rest of this year. Jean still has grant funds available for speaker if needed.

It was decided to investigate grants (Stage Coach being one company to offer grants) that are available which could possibly fund members trips out, afternoon tea, advertising, room hire for struggling groups or possibly tutor funding. We will investigate the rules of how to hire tutors. It was suggested that Sheila Somerset might be approached for advice on application form filling.

Derbyshire Network are organising a Photography competition "Spirit of u3a and Spirit of Derbyshire". We will encourage members to enter at the next General Meeting, on the Website and will discuss at the Photographic group meeting.

Derbyshire Network are also organising a Summer Quiz and a Picnic. Details and a link will be put on the Website.

Social Prescribing was discussed. It was agreed that anyone referred to us would be dealt with as individuals and where possible to establish 1 - 1 contact in order to assess how best to help.

We have been advised that room hire charges will increase from 1st September this year. There will no longer be a setting up and break down time included in the hire charge.

Next meeting 3rd August 10.30am Hillstown Village Hall