

Minutes of the meeting of Culm Valley u3a  
Executive Committee held at Halfway House, Willand  
28 September 2023 at 14.00

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**Present:** Chair, Margaret Chumbley (MC), Vice Chair, Janet Bryant (JB), Treasurer, Alison Waple (AW), Membership Secretary, Marian Luck (ML), Groups Co-ordinator, Barbie Bradbury (BB).

Minutes: MC and JB

SHL – Sue Hooper Laurie

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**1. Welcome**

MC welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Apologies:** Business Secretary, Lorna Knowles (LK),

**3. To Agree the Minutes of the meeting 22 June 2023** –The Minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting. All agreed. The minutes will be signed off by LK and sent to SHL for the website.

**4. Matters Arising therefrom –**

It was agreed that an Emergency Number will be requested on the membership form.

**ACTION: ML** to add this.

**5. Signing Trustee Code of Conduct/Charity Commission Forms** – All signed both forms for our records.

**6. Officers Reports** – All reports had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**Chair (MC)** - SHL is going ahead with Live for Today course.

Plan B has been put into place should the monthly speaker be late or simply fail to turn up.

The Quizzing Group have supplied a short quiz, JB and MC have copies. BB will recount one of her short stories “school dinners” etc. Any Interest Group leaders present could give a short talk on their Group, what they do, where and when they meet. We could have a Q&A session to Committee members present from the audience.

We do not now make any charge for members to attend the WVH monthly meeting.

The Tea Team have been given a £30 cash float to be replenished when required on production of the till receipts for expenditure.

Sausage rolls and Mince Pies will be served at the 1 December meeting. No Secret Santa.

It was agreed to buy 100 bells for a purse at a cost of £360.

MC to forward email from National Office to MN re wording on Constitution.

**ACTION: JB and MC** to

organise the refreshments and confirm with the Tea Team.

**Treasurer (AW)** - Forecast for the year to 31 March 2024 is showing an increasing bank balance based on current levels of expenditure and GBP 10.00 membership fee. This will need to be taken into consideration when the membership fee for 2024 is set.

The caretaker Graham will be paid £12 to set out the chairs and tables for the meetings.

**Business Secretary (LK)** – Possible change of Booking with WVH to 1.30 - 4.30 with 1 hour free (12.30 – 1.30) for setting up and paying the caretaker Graham to set up Gopak type tables for us. It was agreed to keep the hall booking to 1 – 5pm as with the caretaker setting up the timing was OK. Re wording of explanation re Chartable status on the Constitution. See proposed changes attached with meeting papers.

## Minutes of meeting 28 September cont.

**Membership Sec (ML)** – ML Met with MC on 11/9/2023 to discuss membership forms. They agreed a plan and an email to SHL had been sent asking if what we would like is possible. SHL changed the website and the Committee agreed the changes. ML would like us to use [cvu3amemsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:cvu3amemsecretary@gmail.com) for her communication.

ML put forward a suggestion for a cvu3a 5 year celebration next year/Christmas meal.

**ACTION:ML** will begin renewals at the November meeting online or in person. **ML** to do write up for renewals in October Update. We have 208 members, including 21 Associate members and 8 do not have email.

**Groups Secretary (BB)** – there are 26 Interest Groups.

The following Interest Groups have all **increased** their membership:

Art in Action. 12 members

Craft – 12 members. This is now the maximum. I am going to try to start a 2<sup>nd</sup> Group as there is now a waiting list.

Draw It! – 14 members

French Conversation – 11 members. Sally can still manage this group's numbers in her own home.

Gardening – 56 members

History – 37 members

ITCG – 20 members. Re starting in October. Andy is now accepting more members

Learn to Draw – 26 members a new cohort starting October 3<sup>rd</sup>

Photography – 9 members. This is the maximum Sue can manage. I am going to try to start a 2<sup>nd</sup> Group as there is now a waiting list

Reading – 16 members

The Gamers – 27 members

Theatre, Cinema and Music – 44 members

Quilting Group starts on October 17<sup>th</sup> with 10 members. Lin A will also run a 10 week Learn to Quilt course along side the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays monthly 3-hour meetings.

Live for Today, Plan for Tomorrow will begin it's 6 weeks short course from Friday 26<sup>th</sup>

January continuing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks in the morning. Currently 26 members interested.

The Jane Austen short course will finish by November. My thanks to Pauline Rosslee for running the course for 7 of our members.

Should we need a 2<sup>nd</sup> French Conversation Group in the future, Pauline has said she will be happy to coordinate it for us.

The Art and Craft Exhibition was very successful and my thanks to all involved especially SHL for coming up with the idea in the first place.

In the new year an Art Textiles short course will be started. Lin will facilitate this.

There were no further comments made.

**7. Payments to Committee Members and Group Contacts** - ML pointed out as in our Constitution we cannot pay money to Group Leaders, only expenses.

We could have a "start up fund" for new groups if they require funds.

**ACTION: BB** to advise Committee of sum required, with the Group to repay these monies when running, on a timescale as previously agreed.

## **Minutes of meeting 28 September cont.**

**8. Membership Form review/ Online Members page** – ML, MC and SHL to meet to redesign the website to make smaller if possible for easier viewing on iPads.

**ACTION: MC** will advise members at the October WVH meeting and October of membership fees for 2024 and reason why we are asking for an Emergency Contact number (accident on coach trip)  
Membership fees 2024 12 months from 1st January £10. For full membership and £6. For Associate membership. All agreed.

**9. CVu3a APP** – SHL had contacted the committee with reference to setting up an app for members. All agreed to the setting up of an app.

and thank her.

and £25 Lime Tree voucher.

**ACTION: MC** to advise SHL

**JB** to send SHL Thank You card

**10. Art Exhibition 2024 AGM - Art Exhibition** to be annual AGM event **MC to advise SHL.**

**11. Amalgamation with Tiverton u3a** – as Tiverton u3a had filled all their committee places this was now not an issue.

**12. Willand Village Hall booking times and set up** - It was agreed to keep the hall booking to 1 – 5pm as with the caretaker setting up the timing was working well.

### **13. Any other business**

Andy Arnold suggested presentation clicker and wireless microphones. Agreed.

**ACTION: JB** to ask AA to buy the presentation clicker but look into microphones and come back to us.

SHL requested leaflets/business cards. She is to be given those we have in stock in the cupboard at WVH and prices will be sought for postcard size leaflets.

**14. Date of Next Meetings** – Next meeting 13th December at Halfway House, Willand.

**ACTION: LK** to get menus and book. 12.30 Drinks, 12.50 Eat, 2.00 Committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 15.50

M Chumbley and J Bryant