

**Minutes**  
**Craven u3a Executive Committee Meeting**  
**4.30 pm Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024**  
**St Stephen's Church Hall**

**Present:** Mick Richings (MR), Lesley Perkins (LP), Jacqui Eames (JSE), Doug Hirst (DH), Sandra Firm (SF), Kathy Amey (KA), Anne MacDonald (AM), Linda Hoole (LH) via Zoom, Adrienne Gilchrist (AG)

**1. Welcome and apologies for absence:**

MR welcomed all to the meeting. There were no absences.

**2. Draft minutes from meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024:**

Minutes were accepted as a true record. MR thanked SF for providing the minutes.

**3. Action and matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda:**

See Appendix A

**4 TAT AGM:**

Very successful meeting considering the car crash when previous changes were proposed. Over 80% of members voted for a new governance structure. The Third Age Trust will now move towards having a smaller Board of Trustees and a new Council with regional representatives, **two** from each region.

Margaret Fiddes was elected as Vice-Chair, she was previously the Humber and Yorkshire Regional Trustee. This position will remain vacant with YAHR Team deputising until a council members are appointed.

**5. WestNet Quiz Feedback:**

50 people attended, 99% from Craven. It was a successful event although there were some complaints about the difficulty of some rounds. The plan is to hold it next year in early September but to advertise as a Craven u3a event. There is potential to link this with Craven's 50 years celebration. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations to be discussed at next month's meeting. **Action: LH to add to agenda and action. All to think of ways to celebrate the event.**

**6. Finance Update:**

LP has uploaded the finance update to Airtable.

- Year-to-date income: £48K, which includes £23K in membership fees.
- Year-to-date costs: £27K. A further £12K accommodation costs expected before the end of December.
- The Skipton Building Society savings account is now open: balance is £25K.
- Barclays Bank current account is £50K. This includes bird-watching and walking group balances. The amalgamation of the walking group account into the main account has worked well, with good communication with the walking group treasurer.
- The orchestra group are thrilled with the conductor's chair (cost £85) and pass on their thanks to the committee.
- It is likely the additional table tennis table at Sandylands will be funded by the local council.
- The mahjong group has needed to move to a new venue. It was agreed that although it's more expensive, they can move to the Soroptimists' Club in January. This allows them to increase the size of the group. Venue surcharge to remain the same but to be reviewed in the next financial year.

- MR reported that Barclays are now satisfied that Craven u3a have met all money-laundering requirements.
- Barclaycard statements need to go to LP. **Action: MR to contact Barclays.**

## 7. Summer Programme and Succession Planning

LH is happy to head the planning and organisation of the Summer Programme in 2025. However, she would like to stand back after that. **Action: LH to write an article for the Newsletter once the 2025 dates confirmed to encourage members to shadow her and participate in 2025 organisation.**

Means of payment and communication methods to be reviewed. **Action: DH to investigate communication via email/Beacon.**

## 8. Groups Update:

- AM is booked on to the YAHR workshop on groups on 26.11.24
- There are still plenty of spaces in groups – advertised in last month’s newsletter
- The new art group is working well
- Potential new groups for next year are a walking cricket group, padel tennis, pétanque, photography
- Request for feedback from members in January is planned
- Some groups are organised by facilitators rather than leaders; i.e. WhatsApp groups. The role seems less intimidating.
- **Action: AM, SF and LP to meet to revue venue surcharges before the next committee meeting**
- Latest membership figures: 114 outstanding renewals, 1017 members, number of new members greater than those who have not renewed. MR audits groups regularly to check members have renewed.

## 9. Any other business:

### a) Christmas meal:

Given negative feedback about the meal last year, it was agreed not to hold this event again this year.

### b) Spring/summer publicity:

See item 5, Appendix A

### c) Carol service (11.12.24 at 2.00pm):

Organisation is well in hand by Albert Bonham. AM will be organising refreshments and will put out an appeal in the Newsletter for donations of mince pies. **Action: MR to check if mulled wine can be served.**

Costs of the event: organist, programme printing, drinks. The collection is split 50:50 between the church and a local charity (2023 Sue Ryder).

### d) Increase in demand for blue-tooth microphone:

It was agreed to buy two more (approx. £80 each)

### e) Clarification/training on databases:

DH to provide summary and training for committee members on Airtable and Beacon, updating access rights. There is a need to be able to contact venues more easily.

### f) Monthly meetings:

December is to be Helena’s last meeting. The committee would like to thank her for her wonderful work with a token of appreciation.

## 10. Date & Time of next meeting.

9.00 am, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Venue to be confirmed.

### Appendix A

Item	Who	Actions from committee meeting 30.8.24
5	JSE	Publicity JSE to draw up schedule of potential events for publicity drive. For winter 2024, spring and summer 2025. <i>JSE has contacted local village and town halls, enquiring about Christmas fairs and events, with the possibility of having a u3a stall. Giving a half-yearly u3a subscription as a Christmas gift is a focus of the promotion.</i>
9e	LH	East Riddlesden Hall volunteers: item to be included in next newsletter re volunteering opportunities. Contact National Trust or Friends of East Riddlesden to request a speaker for the monthly meeting. <i>Not yet actioned. It is more likely that the Friends will provide a speaker rather than National Trust staff.</i>
		<b>Actions from committee meeting 27.9.24</b>
4	SF	Contact Town Hall re Open Event 2025 <i>Open Event booked for August 12<sup>th</sup> 2025</i>
8	LP	Contact croquet group <i>Actioned. Venue charges were paid into the u3a account on the 30.9.24. The total tallied with the register.</i>
8a	AM	Contact Singing Madrigal group <i>It was agreed to reduce the venue charge from £15 to £10.</i>
8d	AM	Contact Grassington Bowls Club and Sandylands re possible venue for pétanque and Sandylands for padel tennis. <i>Actioned. Grassington offers pétanque and indoor bowls, and Sandylands padel tennis. Costs are still to be investigated. <b>Action: AM to write article for Newsletter to gauge interest for next year.</b></i>

### Appendix B

Item	Who	Actions from committee meeting 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
4	AM	Write article for Newsletter to gauge interest in pétanque and padel tennis.
5	LH All	Add 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations to November's agenda Consider ways to commemorate the event.
6	MR	<b>Contact Barclays re statements to go to LP</b>
7	LH DH	Confirm dates with Ermysted's and write article about the Summer Programme organisation. Investigate communication by generic email re group allocations.
8	AM, LP, SF	Revue venue surcharges before 4.12.24

9c	MR	Check if mulled wine can be served.
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