

## **Minutes of u3a four Border Abbeys 18<sup>th</sup> September at Abbey Row at 10.30**

**Present:** JS, LM, LH, RA, PS, HH, RS, AG

**Apologies:** TB

The resignation of Margaret C was accepted and the committee offered their thanks for all her contributions. JS would organise flowers for the next open meeting.

**The minutes** of 22<sup>nd</sup> August were approved

**Matters arising:** Linda and David H were thanked for hosting the tea party. Leaders had enjoyed the informal gathering.

The rugby club had provided a set of keys for the outside door and the office.

**Chair's report:** A copy had been previously circulated. Trying to broaden the Wauchope Hall in Yetholm would make a good meeting place. RS offered to analyse by post code the distribution of our membership, to see if our members might wish to attend in other areas.

JS attended a meeting of Visit Kelso and will add more information on u3a onto their website.

**Treasurer's report:** RA explained that the group was in a healthy financial position. She and AG explained that renewal memberships had been more problematic this year than usual. Mostly this was due to paying online through Bank Transfer (successful) and then also having to complete a form. The committee agreed that members would only have to complete a new form IF something had change. This would be the responsibility of each member to keep their details up to date. A task force (JS, AG, AS, RS) would consider these and any other changes to streamline the system.

The committee agreed to keep a two month period after the beginning of September for renewals and a month before.

RA had further investigated getting a card machine but was dubious to its value in reducing cash/cheque renewals.

Secretary's report: nothing

Group co-ordinator's report: There were 48 active groups with Science Circle and a new leader for beginners bridge. Details of members of the Strollers have been retained on Beacon in case the group is resurrected in the future. .

With MC having left the committee, the reports on travel group activities would be covered by the co-ordinator.

Membership secretary's report: at the time of the meeting there was a membership of 441; 69 still to renew and 25 resigned with sound reasons (eg moved away, caring duties). HH suggested that we send cards to those members who had 'welfare' problems. JS will contact group leaders asking to be informed if any member would welcome a card or phone call.

Abbey Row update: JS attended a key stakeholders meeting with the new LiveBorders CEx and other officers. Community Asset Transfer was not being considered. The building could be utilised during the Abbey's 900 year anniversary. Room hire costs are controlled by LiveBorders but may need to rise.

Forth Coming Open Meetings:

2<sup>nd</sup> October – Rob Longworth on Trimontium

6<sup>th</sup> November – food curiosity

4<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas gathering

8<sup>th</sup> January – Gordon McKay on keeping safe online

5<sup>th</sup> February- RNIB

5<sup>th</sup> March – AGM

2<sup>nd</sup> April –

7<sup>th</sup> May –

4<sup>th</sup> June – summer social

Dates of committee meetings:

17<sup>th</sup> October; 21<sup>st</sup> November; 16<sup>th</sup> January; 20<sup>th</sup> February; 20<sup>th</sup> March; 17<sup>th</sup> April; 15<sup>th</sup> May.