

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at Carvers Croft, Much Wenlock on 3rd March 2025

Present: Alison Richards (Chair), , Glynn Emery, Jane Hague, Neil Lloyd, Christina Gore, Bill Hague, , Linda Wallace, Jean Buswell and Linda Davies

- 1 **Chairman's Introduction/Apologies for Absence** Action
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Linda D. for hosting. Apologies were received from, Ian Cohen, Jo Cohen, David Foster, Michael Theobalds.
- Minutes of the Last Meeting**
- 2 The Chair thanked Linda W. for producing the minutes, which were accepted as a true record.
- 3 **Matters Arising**
The Wine Tasting Group has been removed from the website.
- 4 **Membership Report**
 - 4.1 254 members now.
 - 4.2 Michael, Neil, Glynn and Alison met to discuss membership process which has been agreed.
 - 4.3 Ten people have Standing orders for the payment of fees, Alison will write to them after the AGM to ask them to adjust their payment details. AR
- 5 **Finance**
 - 5.1 Nothing to report.
 - 5.2 Linda D asked for a payment to cover expenses for refreshments. GE
 - 5.3 Jo Cohen will replace Linda Wallace as second signatory on the Barclays Bank Account. Linda W. has passed cheque book etc. to Glynn for transfer to Jo. He will contact Barclays Bank to organise the change. GE
- 6 **Groups**
 - 6.1 **History** Group: This has proved to be very popular. There are members interested in forming a 4th group on a different day of the week. There is also some interest in forming a Military History Group.
 - 6.2 **Bridge:** Linda W. has been in contact with Carol Fenwick regarding those who have expressed interest in bridge.
 - 6.3 Alison has spoken to Jo who will become the new Groups Co-ordinator. Alison to arrange a meeting with Jo and Neil to induct her. AR
 - 6.4 The Committee thanked Linda for all her work on the Committee over the years, and for her willingness to step up whenever something was needed.

7 **Communications and website**

- 7.1 Website statistics: Most accessed was “Home” page and then “Groups” and then “Events”. The Ukulele and Walking Groups make most use of the website.
Neil reported that there are 20 -80 visits to the website everyday.
- 7.2 Neil asked Glynn for two finance documents for posting on the website prior to the AGM: 2024 closing position and 2025 budget. GE
- 7.3 Neil asked Michael for information regarding the new History Group for the website. MT
- 7.4 Communications . Jane to include a message in the email to encourage attendance at the March meeting to help to ensure we are quorate for the AGM. She will also include the message from Creative Writing 2 asking for more interest. JH

8 **Review of February Meeting**

39 people attended the talk by Jenny Flack. It was thought to be a good, and interesting talk and she showed no ‘gory’ photos, but went over the requested time by some 35 minutes.
It was agreed to place a clock in view of the speaker to be a reminder of the time. It was agreed not to interrupt the talk.
She was difficult to hear at the back of the room, in spite of stating that she didn’t need a microphone. In future we must ensure a microphone is worn, or at least a sound test is done. When booking speakers, Jean was asked to mention that they would be required to wear a microphone. AR
JB

9 **Next Meeting –12th March**

Natalie Cumming will talk about the violin. She will start with a clip from The Repair Shop. The connections between the ipad, speakers and projector will be tested at 1 pm on Wednesday prior to the meeting. AR
She requires a screen, a table for books, and a music stand or lectern. AR
Her fee and expenses come to £81. Glynn will leave a cheque for Alison for her. GE, AR
Chairs need to be set out in portrait format, with extra chairs at the back as we anticipate a good audience and there might be late comers. MT
Introduction by Jean, thanks by Ian/Alison JB,
IC/AR

10 **AGM**

- 10.1 Nomination forms from Jo and Ian have not been received. Alison to chase. AR
- 10.2 Alison to include a request for people to come onto the Committee.
We must be prepared for some discussion regarding increase in fees.
To pass a motion, voting must show a simple majority.

11 **Recording attendance.**

Agreed not to take names on arrival, but to assign people.. AR, BH, and LW to check the building especially the cloakrooms, at the end of the meeting and in case of an emergency exit. Also to look out for those with mobility scooters.
We should point out exits at the start of each talk. AR, BH,
LW
We should all make ourselves aware of the exits, and ramps, when next in the hall. All

12 **Date of Next Meeting**

31st March 10 am, at Oaklands, Harley.

13 **Any Other Business**

Shropshire Network is looking for a Minutes Secretary
Alison will be stepping down as Chair next year.

The meeting closed at 11.35 am