

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Meeting held on 27th April 2011

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

President	Paul Wessendorff
Vice President	Peter Allin
Treasurer	Geoff Milnes
Secretary	Tom Stevenson
Membership Secretary	Wilma Stevenson
Groups Coordinator	John Bellinger-Smith
Communications Officer	Carol Pilgrim

LOCATION:

Parador Hotel, Jávea

The meeting commenced at 11:00

President's Report:

New Members

Paul welcomed the eight new members who had joined that morning and Carol outlined the Welcome process which had been trialled for the first time today.

Previous Minutes

Paul stated the minutes of the AGM had been circulated and described the Addendum to the Presidents Report. There were no comments from the membership and the Minutes were duly approved by John White and seconded by Joanne O'Keefe.

Appointment of Treasurer

Paul advised that due to ill-health, Geoff Milnes had had to tender his resignation as Treasurer. A vacancy on the Committee therefore existed for the position of Treasurer, and Mike Cox, currently Deputy Treasurer, had offered his services to fill this position. Paul confirmed that following discussion, the Committee were pleased to accept Mike Cox in the post of Treasurer, and in accordance with Article 16 of our Statutes, had provisionally appointed him to the post, which will be held until the next Annual General Meeting of the Association. However, a vacancy now existed for the post of Deputy Treasurer, and Paul invited applications from members for this post.

Objectives

Paul reported that the committee had made a start on delivering the objectives set for 2011-2012. The Welcoming process had started; Peter would be running a review of Subscriptions and reporting back to the Committee in May, with the outcome to be advised to members subsequently. John would update the meeting on Group Funding later in this session. The Committee had also started consideration of the other objectives – Social Activities, Fund Raising for Charity and Online Payment of Subscriptions.

Travel

The Travel Team would be losing Angela Chantry and Pat Johnson at the end of June, and Mike Frost at the end of the year, leaving just one person in the Travel Team. Paul stressed how important it was that replacements come forward and repeated the invitation for people to apply.

Statutes

These have now been returned approved and will be published on our website. It is now necessary to record the new Committee with Alicante.

Annual Ball

To be held on 6th May with around 320 attendees booked. There are still a few tickets available, and Paul asked anyone interested to see Shirley King.

Vice President

Peter reported he had now been in the position for one month and his main task so far had been the to arrange the Parador for this meeting. He would now be looking at the advantages and disadvantages of changing our current Subscription rate. Requests from companies seeking to provide discounts for U3A members continue to be received and Peter asked that if members identified anyone willing to offer our members a discount they be directed to him.

Treasurer

Geoff reported that he had enjoyed being Treasurer. The financial position had hardly changed since the previous month. The U3A was in the process of switching banks; the current bank was charging 70-100 Euros per annum and the new bank would be free – and it was also expected to be more efficient. He thanked Mike Cox for stepping up and advised the handover had commenced.

Membership Secretary

8 new members had joined this morning taking membership to 1030. Wilma advised that a number of members had not collected their membership cards and were invited to do so at the end of the meeting. A number of “newsletter” emails had been returned undelivered and members were reminded to advise Wilma if they have changed their contact details.

Communications Officer

Carol outlined the New Members Welcome process – a point of contact, information on activities and communication with groups. The process was trialled today. The members of the Welcome team would rotate and Carol invited more members to volunteer for this. The aim was to keep contact with new members over their first three months in the U3A. Some issues had already been identified and ideas are welcome on how to improve the process. There is also the suggestion box and Carol asked that contact details be left with submissions. Comments can also be left through the website.

Groups Coordinator

John advised the funding of Groups had been reviewed and nothing had been changed. He summarised the current principles noting that Group Leaders should submit requests for assets through him. Consumables should normally be funded by the Group itself; however in exceptional cases the Committee may approve expenditure on consumables. The Car Treasure Hunt was cancelled last month due to lack of numbers, but has now been rescheduled for May. A new group has been proposed, the Vindaloos, a curry meal group. Contact Tom and Jean Miller. Moraira have approached Jávea to start a Skittles group, which they will assist in getting started. The bi-annual Group Leaders meeting will take place next week, and John asked that members pass comments on to the relevant GL for Tuesday. John noted that New Members can contact him for Group information in addition to the Welcome Team.

Paul amplified one point about Group funding, that John can authorise asset expenditure up to £100, over that it has to go the Committee for approval. He noted that around 40 GLs are expected at the GL Meeting, around double the attendance at the previous meeting.

AOB

Cheda Panajotovic suggested that members’ comments be available through the Discounts page on the website. This was felt to be a good suggestion. Peter was directed to amend format of Discounts page to include feedback from members. Pat Robinson suggested a “star” system, which is used successfully elsewhere.

Speaker

Chris Duffin gave an interesting and highly amusing talk on her experiences in the UK Prison Service. Paul presented Chris with a gift as a token of thanks from the membership.

The meeting closed at 12:05.

Proposed Seconded

Signed Seconded