

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Meeting held on 28th September 2011

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

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

LOCATION:

Parador Hotel, Jávea

The meeting commenced at 11:03

President's Report:

Welcome

Paul welcomed members back after the summer break, especially those new members who had joined today.

Update on Activities over the Summer

Paul gave an update on the following:

- Cliff Leslie, nominee for the vacant Deputy Treasurer position sadly passed away over the summer. Malcolm Neill has volunteered for this position.
- New Travel Advisors have come forward, Gwen Clark, Joan Hills and Jan Davies. John Bellinger-Smith has agreed to co-ordinate the Travel Team.
- An additional 25 sets of crockery and 30 sets of cutlery have been purchased over the summer period making the total holdings of these items at 75 sets of crockery and 90 sets of cutlery. Hire of these items to members for private functions, and their use in support of charitable events, has proved to be extremely popular with the membership. From monies received for their hire to date, we are already well on the way to paying back the outlay of funds needed to purchase these items. Also purchased were a heavy-duty guillotine and a backgammon board.
- On the Events side, a very successful Hog Roast took place raising 965 Euros for Caritas. Many thanks to all who organised this event and to those who attended.
- The Ayuntamiento are looking for volunteers to assist with tree planting in Granadella during 17-24th October.
- Benitachell Bowls Club Christmas Fayre on 30th October
- A Barn Dance is arranged for 11th November, with approximately 100 tickets sold already.
- A Christmas lunch is planned following the November meeting.
- Christmas Dinner Dance is scheduled to take place on 9th December at La Brioche.
- The May Ball in 2012 will take place on 18th May at El Canor.

Previous Minutes

There were no comments from the membership and the Minutes of the June General Meeting were duly approved by Joanne O'Keefe and seconded by Marion Monsell.

Vice President

Discounts

The list has been about 80% updated. "Stars" rating system is now in operation – please provide feedback on your experience of using services on the list.

Speakers

For personal reasons Kathryn Marsden is unable to speak to us this year or next. Members have made many suggestions about potential speakers, which have been gratefully received. Please keep them coming; Peter maintains a list of speakers. George Stevenson, a former MEP, will be speaking to us today and Pere Sapena from the Ayuntamiento will be speaking to us in October about Jávea's new Town Plan.

Treasurer

Mick advised that the transfer of operations to Barclays Bank is now complete. We have a bank balance of around 22,000 Euros with commitments of around 2,000 Euros.

Membership Secretary

Wilma reported that 37 new members had joined today, taking our membership to 1105. 8 members have also renewed for 2012.

Communications Officer

Website

Carol reported that Sam Wells and his team have done a lot of hard work on the website and updates for local activities.

Ayuntamiento

Elizabeth Collins is now submitting details of forthcoming activities and events.

Hosting of Spanish Families

Places are sought for hosting of schoolchildren from Madrid, please contact Krystyna Stefanczyk.

Caritas Food Collection

Carol reminded members that the next food collection would take place at the November General Meeting. As this was the Christmas collection, please make it a good one.

Groups Coordinator

The Group Leader of the Beginners Art Group is seriously ill and the Group is postponed until further notice. New Groups for Tai Chi, Play Reading, Badminton, Scrabble and Spanish for Beginners have commenced.

John expressed thanks to the Travel Group for all the great work they have carried out, and he is looking forward to being part of it. Barbara Gorrod has also volunteered to be a Travel Advisor. The Group's objective is to run one trip each month.

AOB

Paul thanked the committee for their reports.

Paul advised members that the Committee are considering which charity Jávea U3A should support during 2012, and invited the membership to make their views known.

Cheda Panajotvic asked if it would be possible for members to receive notification of activities using email. Paul responded that this topic was being discussed by the Committee at the moment. The website is key; it has a lot of information and is updated regularly. The first point of call for any queries should be the website.

Peter Adams advised that there would be a charity music evening in aid of Denia Salvation Army (which covers Jávea) on the 18th October at the Hotel Pinasol, and encouraged members to attend and support this worthwhile cause.

Graham Muir asked if Jávea U3A would like the Costa Blanca Male Voice choir to perform for them, as they have done before. Paul asked that Graham leave this with him.

Nona Hale advised she has no email or internet access and therefore receives no information until she attends the Parador, by which time events are typically fully subscribed. This is part of the fuller debate regarding the Newsletter referred to above, which the Committee plan to discuss further at the October Committee Meeting. Note: the particular activity Nona quoted (a guitar recital) is not a U3A event but is run by another organisation. Tim Ladd suggested the use of an Internet Cafe.

Brenda Bates informed the meeting of a Tapeo planned for the 1st and 2nd of October in the Plaza de la Constitución Española in Jávea Old Town. This year's would be larger, with more space and entertainment than in previous years.

A member advised that he and others are starting a Costa Blanca Astronomy Society, mainly in Dénia, but all are welcome. Members should contact Paul to be put in touch with the CB Astronomy Society.

Speaker

George Stevenson, former MEP and UK MP, then give a fascinating talk on the differences between the European and UK Parliaments, based upon his own experiences. This gave members an informative and amusing insight into the different approaches of the two bodies.

Paul thanked George for his excellent speech, and presented him with a gift of wine.

Paul thanked the members for attending.

The meeting closed at 12:34.

Proposed by (name) Signed

Seconded by (name) Signed

Signed

Signed

President
Jávea U3A

Secretary
Jávea U3A