



Newbiggin Arts Centre Committee Meeting Minutes

23rd August 2021

Chairman Steve Wilkinson opened the meeting.

Present: Steve Wilkinson, Valerie Hearn, Keith Robinson, Diane Gough, Sue Case, Fiona Rowley, Sue Nicholson, Heather Peel, George Stoker

1. No apologies.
2. Proposed election of George Stoker, who has offered his services to the Charity. George has a background in Art, music, Theatre and I.T. and is very interested in being involved in the upcoming planned art festival and taking the Art Centre forward.

George was unanimously voted in as a Committee member and also as Trustee to the board.
3. Minutes of the previous Meeting were passed and accepted.
4. Matters arising; the new Shutters will be here shortly, CRB is still in abeyance, Fiona to take over Finances at the end of the month.
5. The AGM Date has been arranged for the 20th Sept 10:00 am.
6. Financial Report, we are spending roughly what we bring in at present, and grants are still coming in, after 3 weeks we are already over last month's takings received from the groups further income is to be included from sale's of work, exhibitions and other sources, we are in a very healthy position.
Total grants this year £35,000 - total income this year £38,000.
Steve to sort out a cash flow analyses, a planned spending / cash flow forecast, we are getting to the stage where nearly all the equipment has been purchased.
A grant application has gone in for central heating for Gibson Street .
7. Health and Safety / risk environment., nothing to report.
8. NAC Communications. a request from Val for any articles that may be of interest to our members for the newsletter.
9. Governance. Nothing to add.
10. Children's Group; concern was expressed that of the 20 names on the book and registered to attend, many were not attending , whilst we have set up a waiting list no one is presently awaiting for a place, some who registered at the outset 4 weeks ago have not attended subsequently they have been replaced by others who do want to

attend, using the 3 strikes and you are out rule, as indicated on the handout at registration, some children have been absent due to parents isolating and in some cases they have contracted Covid.

Most absenteeism is due to holidays, a few not all have notified us the reason for their child's absence, the Children's Art group previously only ran during School term time, this is the first time the group has operated in the School holidays. Previously in the summer holidays we put 2 3 hour afternoon Art workshop's on, for any child wishing to come. Discussion took place about moving the venue to Front Street and younger people providing tuition and new ideas, as well as moving it to a Saturday. Things remain as they are for the present.

11 Administration In order to make the gallery available at all times our Chair believes it is time to approach the Arts council for funding in order to pay a salary to someone full time, this will enable the gallery to be open and available, all present agreed, also to fund professional artist i.e.: by the arts council, providing workshops. Also to approach Northumberland colleges and Newcastle university re offering work experience for Art students, with admin and IT knowledge for the gallery, gaining work experience.

!2 AOB The need to delegate things will lessen the load, Fiona to source a donation box.

Easel's; a need for larger easel stands was identified, as occasionally people need one for larger art works, Sue N to look out for free standing preloved easel's.

It was suggested that the "hanging committee " decides which price to put on members work that is on display, as most members are unsure of their worth, and under value.

Steve's future vision is for another Studio /venue for professional artists work, to add to the Newbiggin Arts Centre.

Sue C to attend the town traders for timetables of activities' for Steve to liaise with others and form a timetable of the galleries' activities.

Steve Peel to attend next meeting.re Arts fair.

A list is on the office wall for anything which is identified as being needed.

13. Next Meeting
Monday 27th September time 10;00am

Sue Case

NAC Secretary

18th September 2021