Saltash u3a Executive Committee Minutes August 4th 2023.

Present: Amanda Smith (Chair), Gill Higgins (Vice Chair), Barry Olver (Treasurer), Jason Lamb (Webmaster), Lesley Brunskill (Groups), Peter Payne-Hanlon (Shadow Treasurer), Sue Pym (Minutes).

Apologies: Jennifer Gegg, Rose Olver, Marilyn Read.

This meeting did not follow the standard format as it was called at short notice to deal with urgent matters which had arisen.

1. **Lottery funding bid:** As there had been no communication re our Lottery Funding Bid which was sent recorded delivery in April, enquiries were made and it transpires that Lottery HQ were unaware of having received it which was a mystery. A second form has now been completed and will be posted on Saturday 5th August, this time using Registered Delivery so that it must be signed for at Lottery HQ. The amount requested is £3K to cover four new laptops, a Microsoft office package, and 2-3 hours installation fee. *ACTION Amanda.

2. **New Groups: (i)** Four new groups have been suggested by members, Art, History, Dog Walking, and another Wine Appreciation group. As Art has 10 interested members and History 12, it was agreed that a preliminary meeting at the Shado Centre with those members would be arranged on Friday 1st September to be slotted in between Photography in the morning and the Executive Committee meeting in the afternoon which would move back half an hour to 2:30 in order to accommodate this. *ACTION: In order to achieve this, Barry will enquire when the afternoon session at the Shado centre expires and Lesley will notify the interested members. **(ii)** Groups for Men: a new member Rob Jenkins is keen to front this. An inaugural coffee morning funded by our u3a has been arranged at the Shado Centre 1000 on Friday 11th September. All male members will be invited.

3. **Tamar Valley Network Day:** This to be held on Tuesday 19th September at Trethorne Leisure Park. Following further discussion it was decided that no-one would attend this meeting due in part to the potential unknown cost that may be incurred and what benefits would be gained. *ACTION: Sec or Chair to inform SW Representative.

4. **Constitution:** It was felt that the 2018 Constitution required an update to alleviate the issue regarding our current difficulties in recruiting members onto the Executive Committee. Peter had been tasked with suggesting a possible way forward and he presented a revised document. We are currently faced with the situation that a majority of the Executive Committee have now reached the end of their terms of tenure and without new committee members our branch is in danger of folding. To

avoid this, it was proposed that terms of tenure be extended to nine years and it was accepted that this would only delay the same situation arising in future if Officers and non-officers did not stagger their departure from the Executive Committee from now on. It was also proposed that the maximum number on the Executive Committee be extended to fifteen in order that new members could shadow those currently in post. A lengthy discussion followed after which all present voted to send off the proposed changes to TAT for their approval. TAT now has four weeks to get back to us with their comments. If approved we can go ahead and in the required timescale, present the revised constitution to the members for their vote.

5. **PAT Testing:** As our previous PAT tester Mike Payne has retired the search is on for a replacement. It was felt that his recommendation who works full time and therefore charges VAT is too expensive as he would charge £90 for testing 15 items. *ACTION: Barry now has several other names to contact.

<u>Next Meeting</u>: Friday 1st September at the Shado Centre. Time to be confirmed.

<u>Approved</u>:

<u>Date</u>: