

NEC MEETING 20th August 2022

Present: Matt Ben Francesca Steve John Alison Martin Adrian Tina Ian Andy Gerry Adam

Minutes by Ian

1. Open Meeting

Matt opened at 10.07 am

2. Apologies Rhianna, Erica, Nicky

3. Establish Voting Strength

Four Area Chairs so 4

4. Last Minutes

POA: None

Votes Unanimous.

Matters:

Bank Mandate is still ongoing, Matt could catch up with James next weekend in Midlands

Not much money coming in or out!

5. Review of action points and standing orders from the last meeting.

MD: What about rooms for NAGM etc

AR: Didcot: Main Hall 42 pounds per hour and 110 seating.

Ladygrove room £28/h seats 40.

Other rooms are smaller 24 / 12 etc

Northbourne £26/h 25 people

Park room 12 people £15/h

MD: Prefers face to face

AR: Didcot works well due to his health issues

MD: JS had action to raise a road map sub committee

Please debate single membership at next area meetings- ACTION (all area chairs)

JS: Forgot about that!

BA: Yep (his action....)

MP: Forgot about his action

6. Area reports ASEA, MA, NTC, SA

ASEA: Written

MP: KL has a successful summer do last weekend

BBC Norfolk featured C and D on Treasure Hunt!

TB: Committee? MP: Richard Sanya Martin Kim are main top 4

Midland - Written

MD: Redditch?

JS: New-ish. Been open about a year

MD: They could win new group trophy! LQ still doing well.

NTAC: Tina Written

Lots of activities, Mark H good organiser

Southern: Steve verbal

Couple events, Beach BBQ not well attended. 80th party. Centreparcs failing lack of numbers post pandemic.

MD: Could be cost of living. We are covering our costs. Guesses about 9 members. 4 committee members Steve Nicky Kath Mike. About £500 net worth.

7. Officer Reports

MD: Cannot access bank account neither can AJ - hope to sort it out. 80th was enjoyed by those who went. TB: Thanks to Steve for the coverage online. TB: Wants more events. IC: Make NAGM and NEC more social days, one journey for the price of two

HGS: No report.

Item for discussion

MD: NAGM. BA: Jacobean not available going forward. MD: Hotel or church hall? BA: Room and food still costs money. With the Jacobean we did not pay for the room. AB: Ladygrove £28/h. Assume 9am to 6pm is 28*9. Food

Breakfast £6 pp basic. Working Lunch. Sandwiches fresh fruit kettle crisps fruit juice tea or coffee water £12pp. Buffet from £15.99. Afters local venue has reasonable food. Hotel Milton Park not too far. Total costs... assume 30 people - individual 50-60 for the day. Actually more expensive! AB: Ideally need to book within next month. MD: If anyone has other ideas send them to Top Table. Area Chairs happy to go with what is decided. MP: Happy but what about evening do. AB: Trophies should be at actual meeting. Prob need to reserve the pub if more than about 12 people. Food from about £15-25 - dessert around £5

AB will put the package together. It does look like being a church hall. BA agrees a new hotel from this point will be difficult.

FB: Events put on FB but several (Redbridge) members are not on FB. AB agrees. AB discusses the problems of non-FB comms and other email lists etc. To Area Chairs, please don't assume everyone is on FB, send AB your details for National Directory. AB: Mark's website is still very good.

Back to NFO report.

Lincs quest £30 spend for trophy and that was it. Stuck with access to bank. MD thinks Lloyds quite good (as better than Nat West). Has received a few risk assessments. Thinks James is still the registered address. Needs access to the email account for all the Plus account correspondence. BA: The 80th made a small surplus.

Several said the 80th was a quality event and enjoyed it. Steve thanked Ben.

** MD wants to emphasise that WASH is organised by the WASH committee not Kings Lynn group. **

11. Discussion: Single membership database.

MP: Had forgotten. Richard does theirs on Excel. IC: members would not want data shared with other areas. JS: Would only be shared with NFO - other areas would not have access. SR: Answers the qu of how to contact others not on FB. We could form the database and you can opt in or out - depending on how many comms you might want. IC: Would not reach most members that don't feed back. AB+JS: That applies now - tick box on membership form. JS: members are already given their permission via Area membership officer and NFO. Therefore a centralised system won't change their preferences in principle. JS / AB discuss - getting a 3rd party to store the data, and they can be sued if they breach it. BA Why centralise it anyway? MD: So members going to other members can be checked (aside from valid membership card). MD: NAGM mandated us to look into it. AB: Why

would it have to be a web page. JS: Jeff suggested he knew of more than 1 provider to do it. We could do it ourselves but there could be other ways. IC: Why not just have a centralised spreadsheet that Area membership officers either edit directly or push their data to.

ACTION: Come up with NAGM proposals by end of this month

ACTION: Area Chairs to discuss at area confs the ideas for centralised memberships

MD: We will have a sub committee meeting end of September to sort NAGM. An NAGM sub committee. Will be Area Chairs, NC, HGS, NFO, and tenderers

TB: What is each area doing to recruit new members into Plus and how can we stop dwindling. Facebook group members can have arguments but not moderated. TB: We have 319 members today. AB: All want to be in Plus just don't know it yet. TB: Does £20 put people off? IC: It's dirt cheap and ppl will struggle with cost of living if cannot afford £20. JS: The groups that want new members are working to get them. Group nights, good programme... We also have a lot of groups happy with the status quo. TB: Can Areas help any of the groups? MD: Publicity much more Internet focused. Do people still observe posters in libraries etc Several: We do. AB: Put on events you enjoy doing. Scale it, aim break even or worse case small loss. Don't bite off more than you can chew. JS: Put it all in a programme. MD: How many groups do this? JS: It seems that a lot do programs. Solihull / Lichfield are doing some stuff, programs / publicity drives. JS: Will do a zoom publicity forum on Thurs evening 25th 8.30pm.

TB who is on committee (to JS)

JS: he is chair, Kathy M admin, JO treasurer, MH membership

TB Every area has top 4 which is good.

TB to MP what publicity do you do. MP Groups can apply to area for £50 a year.

TB to SR what about you. SR - JS nailed it. People happy as they are. Ppl reluctant to meet up due to Covid. Abingdon has closed. KG may open Southampton group. The area is effectively a group.

IC: There needs to be a monthly newsletter sent out to members. JS is willing to do this (last minutes) JS has not done owt yet. He will pick it up

JS: Three types of groups, one young, one old, one anybody. Would anyone be motivated by the idea of a "younger" persons group. TB: Not enough younger members to make this happen in reality. AB:

Plus is a quality of life thing not a commodity. JS: Thinks society is changing and we *could* open new groups, likes MD idea of tools to do this.

JR arrived.

MD - what do you think about publ / new groups etc. There was various info at the 80th do

JR - would be good to go back to that, not done it for a while. AB - The Guide to Plus has some good questions for opening a group. JR - where is all this? AB - There should be copies around. IC - This is the feasibility study for opening a group. MD Some of this stuff is dated. JR - can one volunteer to lead on this? JS Volunteered and FW would be useful too.

9. NAO report SR/JR/MH 10 min

Not much happened other than 80th. WASH next biggie, but that is self run. Otherwise NAGM and Hoburn (21-24 Apr 2023). Got 14 booked already!

8 NIO report JR/SR 10 mins

JR read out his report. Has seen some online enquiry near Southampton and Reading. JR has passed them to their nearest group. AB need to consider GDPR. MD: Need tickboxes - tick if happy to be contacted by your local group. Majority thing is to engage people online. How can we make it happen. Can we run some of our existing sort of stuff and allow strangers to be there, Pictionary, Quiz etc? MD - organisers will need to be happy about randoms joining. JS: Can zoom organisers run specific events for PNMs. IC: Can search for one's internet footprint to vet out trouble makers. TB: Have you Jeff replied to the PNMs? JR: Holding replies. MD: We need to be a bit more than that. JR: This is in the road map. JR: Had about 20-30 enquiries Various: Pass it on to others, Area Chairs etc, then contact them! MD This will suffice until we have a better established method

ACTION Jeff to go back through last recent enquiries (1-2 months) and forward the details to Area Chairs.

MD what progress can we see by next meeting

JR - Hosting of new meeting sorted out. John sent me some Wordpress info - can you resend pls?

ACTION JS to resend JR the Wordpress info

Steve is standing down as joint NIO after "nothing has happened" and he is fed up. Also has other roles to consider outside Plus.

IC Can you continue to support the NEC, even if as an observer? SR: Happy to observe for now. SR suggested JR can send enquirers to virtual meetings. TB: As long as they know about it.

Steve left the meeting.

JR: Separate zoom meeting for people directly involved with the project?

ACTION - all, MD - discuss it at the top table.

IC: We need to give Jeff some money to spend. JS - A good domain name?

AB: When for NAGM subcommittee meeting. MD End Sept or start Oct. Sept 24 10am. Proposals in by then

MD: Next NEC meeting? probably on Zoom because AB cannot hire Didcot venue for November. Room 12 people £15 an hour.

Next NEC meeting: 10.00 - 3.00 Saturday 19th Nov in Didcot or Zoom.

AB: Rebranding was not successful, looking for Plus did not bring up our pages (within first 6)

18plus.org.uk - new National Plus website or the Members one - to see Jeff's work

MD - JR - to see some meaningful progress by next meeting and deal with enquiries. JS can help.

ACTION JR to repost the roadmap with updated dates.

Meeting ended 14.15.