

Minutes of the U3A Vall del Pop General Assembly held on Thursday 1st February 2024 Venue: Polivalent, Murla.

1. Introduction

Paul welcomed members to the GA and thanked them for attending. He thanked all the volunteers for helping to set up the venue and help with running the meeting. Paul explained that the original speaker from Logic financial services was unable to attend due to family illness and Pauline McGough had also had to postpone as she has lost her voice. Paul would be entertaining us instead and Closeness would be presenting to us.

Paula then explained that Bob and Sandra were unable to attend and gave a brief update on Sandra's health as members were concerned. She thanked all members for their concern and best wishes which Bob and Sandra are very grateful for.

2. Minutes of the General Meeting held on January 11th 2024

These were approved by Sonia Higginson and seconded by Marion White as being accurate.

3. Matters Arising.

None.

4. Correspondence.

None.

5. Committee reports

Treasurer's report.

Roger submitted his report to the members. Please find a copy attached.

Membership Secretary.

At the last meeting, there were 470 members. Prior to and at today's meeting we welcomed new members which we are delighted about bringing the total to 481.

Satellite Renewals, dates and locations are: 14 February – Citrus Bar, Orba, 19 March – JVH Animo, Alcalali. Please keep an eye on the website for further details.

Finally, we would like to remind all members that, although their membership ends on 31 December 2023, we are allowing the normal 3 months grace to renew, ie to maintain membership members must renew by 31 March 2024.

Groups Coordinator.

Teresa reported that groups are progressing well.

The dining experience lead by Diane Holmes is proving popular with the next lunch at Riu Rau on Feb 29th.

We would be interested to know if members would like a singles dating group?

The cinema club is proving very popular with 43 attendees this week. The next showing is on 12th Feb: "A Haunting in Venice".

The bridge club would welcome more members. They meet weekly at 2,30pm on Wednesdays.

We are delighted a new member has shown interest in a wine appreciation group so watch this space!

We have interest shown in a book club and Teresa is keen to gauge interest.

Just a reminder that Let's Sing Together starts again on Monday 12th February 2.30-4pm at the Pensionistas in Jalon.

TCET.

Sonia read out a report which is attached. She explained that whilst TCET and Goodwill operate as 2 separate groups, they are working closely together to support each other on events and trips and to coordinate schedules.

Places are available for the day trip to Valencia in April. Contact U3Avalldelpoptravel@gmail.com. There will be another shopping trip, this time to include Ikea and the Biopark on 12th June.

On 24th June there will be a visit to San Juan for the festival.

Sonia is planning a trip to Benidorm Palace this summer to see the new in house show, no date yet.

Bi monthly coffee mornings are planned and they are exploring new suitable venues. Dates are on the attached report.

Sonia confirmed she is stepping down this year as TCET Coordinator but will continue to help organise trips. If anyone is interested in taking up this interesting role please do let us know. Paul thanked Sonia for all her hard work and dedication on behalf of the committee and members.

Goodwill.

Paula informed the members that the Goodwill team have now heard from the 6 beneficiary charities for 2023 with the required information and donations will be made next week. All are very excited and hugely grateful to members for their generosity. There is a healthy carried forward balance from last year of almost 2800e due in part to fundraising events in December.

The 1st event of 2024, the OK band event on 20th January, was a huge success and raised 1951e, a truly fantastic amount.

The team has several fun and exciting events planned which include:

A cake sale at the April GA

A car boot sale on the rastro site in Jalon on 14th April

A plant sale at the May GA

11th May a 60/70s summer party/bbq with music,dancing, bbq and bar

29th May a glamorous afternoon tea with cava and clothes sale with live music

Sausage rolls at the June GA

28th June a Wimbledon/Henley/Ascot inspired night with the fabulous Entertainers

29th Sept a music quiz, meal and disco

31st October a Halloween night with meal and music

Lots to look forward to!

Sharing and Caring.

Nothing to report

6. **AOB.**

Paula explained that at the AGM in March the committee will be elected for 2024/5 and that we will need to fill the positions of President and Secretary as Bob and Sandra are stepping down after many years of dedicated service, and there are also opportunities for TCET Coordinator and additional vocales, committee members

without a specific role or responsibilities. She encouraged anyone who is interested in joining the committee in any role to approach any of the existing committee members to find out more and pointed out that applications forms were available on each table.

Paula provided brief feedback on the survey results from the January meeting. These results will be made widely available once other members have had a chance to comment and we would welcome any feedback or suggestions.

Members were encouraged to have a go at the fun Valentine's Day table quiz with a chance to win bottles of wine.

Paul informed members that Ca Murla bar/restaurant is reopening under new ownership on 1st March

7. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 7th March. Doors open 10am, meeting starts 11am.

As well as voting in the new committee there will be a talk by Arne Soeten, President of Project 4 All, one of our beneficiary charities, who feed and support homeless persons from Denia to Benidorm.

Bill White will be entertaining us on the keyboard, always fabulous.

Paul will be testing our music knowledge with a "Name that Tune" quiz

Jude and Paul will sing some popular songs for us

And Goodwill will be offering delicious home made scones, jam and cream for sale

The popular Preloved and bookstall will be there.

Promises to be an enjoyable and busy meeting.

8. Representatives from Closeness, the internet and phone service provider, then gave a very useful and informative talk on fibre broadband that is widely available in the valleys and other services. Many members asked questions and approached the Closeness team afterwards for information.

We are very grateful for the delicious cakes they provided and the very generous offer to purchase a projector stand for us.

9. Paul then sang a few songs, the Valentine's quiz was scored and Christine Brazier's table won bottles of wine. The meeting ended.