

Mickleover Library User Group
Minutes
Thursday July 31st 2008
5pm to 7pm

Present

Sue Walker, Carmel Canavan, Jean Craggs, Maggie Hird, Gerald Towers, Millie Guyler, Evelyn Johnson Jenny Shaw, Jo Greenway, Sue Jones, Jan Southworth, Fran Renwick, Joan Doughty, Richard Billinge.

1. Introduction and welcome

Millie welcomed new member Richard Billinge.

She also welcomed David Potton (Library Services) and Kathy Frain (Quad)

2. Apologies

Jane Buckley, Michael Hird, Susanne Jones, Julie Topham, Maureen Carruthers, Kath Ratcliff

3. Accuracy of minutes

The minutes were accepted as accurate

4. Matters arising from previous minutes:

Further advertising of group

Not in this month's directory – the deadline is August 12th for September's edition

The Telegraph will advertise local groups for free.

The library site will offer a link to MLUG's site (Fran)

Fran will give us a stand which will hold an A3 poster to advertise our coffee mornings

Jo agreed to advertise group and activities in shop window in September. This is now booked to MLUG for that month

Suggestion – we could introduce ourselves at the next Neighbourhood forum. This is at Mickleover Primary School on Wednesday, September 24th, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

5. Financial statement

Mick was absent

He has ordered cards (business card size) to advertise MLUG

Subscription now due Please bring to next meeting if you haven't paid this time.
(Thank you to those who paid.)

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6. Ideas for activities

Talk on China (Zoe Poynton)

Two dates were on offer. Zoe had agreed to talk to us on November 19th.

Talk on Sierra Leone

This would be given by a resident in Mickleover who was in the army in Sierra Leone and has become involved in the construction of a school there. Millie to investigate possibility of a talk in early 2009.

Speed reading evening suggested for spring 2009. An evening of shared reading pleasure dedicated to encouraging people to read a book of your choice.

7. Main agenda

- Debrief on Coffee Morning – went well. There will not be a book swap at the September coffee morning.

- Photography competition

Prizes – 3 books

£150 from community fund.

Mick and Maggie are trying to persuade communities' central fund to give money for publication of a calendar (using photographs from the competition). Fund givers would be advertised in the calendar.

Judges – Peter Meakin and Mike Brown.

- Birthday weekend – was very good well attended. A relaxed atmosphere on Saturday. The walk on Sunday was lovely.

- David Potton talk

David talked about the renaissance of library services in Derby.

He identified his main focus as

Reading

Learning

Community

David recognised that MLUG was meeting these aims.

His problems are :-

Budgetary cuts – 2006 to 2010 – he loses 3% each year.

Services must still be improved.

He intends to maintain the core services but deliver them differently (where necessary).

Under 1964 act local authorities have to provide public libraries.

MLUG – added value for the library e.g. coffee mornings bring in the community.

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- The library is brought closer to the user – the librarian is the working professional
- User groups can act as critical friends
- User groups can act as advocated for the library
- User groups can raise funds which can enhance what the library can afford to offer (museum quality display cases – this would enable user groups to be in contact with another service.)
- User groups can be involved in the staff interviewing process.

Finally, David was very complimentary about MLUGs.

The discussion was opened up to the meeting

It is possible to borrow a projector and screen for MLUG activities. Contact Jenny.

Discussion about the working of the heat curtain as the sitting area though welcoming is chilly. The outer and inner doors appear to open simultaneously.

The public access computers have proved so popular that it is difficult to get onto a machine. Jenny to investigate whether the computer room could be used when not prebooked.

- Kathy Frain (Marketing Officer Quad) –

Kathy gave a short talk about Quad. This is opening on September 26th.

There will be a gallery, cinema, café bar and workshop(s).

Access to all will be paramount. Adverts for the monthly programmes will be on the website or auto boxes or can be requested by post.

There will be an accessible archive of BFI films/TV

We can contact Kathy to ask her for a tour of the building once it opens officially.

8. Any other business

Scrabble – The first meeting will be on September 16th (2pm to 4pm) and there will be no charge for the hire of the room. Tea and coffee will be provided (50p). Scrabble players should bring their own boards and, if they have one, a Scrabble dictionary.

Jane will advertise this in the directory.

Millie queried how the review of the constitution was going – it's ongoing. (I'll place this as an agenda item.)

The next meeting will be on Thursday September 25th, 2008.