

HEADLEY COMPUTER CLUB

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 22nd April 2010

Present:

George Nixon (Chairman)
Sarah Connolly
Jan Curtis
Jim Parker
David Preedy
Gill Riggs

Also in attendance were 16 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

Tessa Bridges, Margaret Camp, Hannah Corps, Janet Ellis, Linda Harknett, Helen Hills, Jo Stein.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6th May 2009 were approved - proposed by Yvonne Stovell and seconded by Beryl Rawkins.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Student software discounts do not seem to be available, but other options have been discussed (see item 4).

Bletchley Park outing was a great success, and a vote of thanks was given to Sarah Connolly for making the arrangements.

Jim Parker has taken on the post of Treasurer.

4. REPORT ON OPERATION OF THE CLUB OVER FIRST TWO YEARS AND PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE

David Preedy reported that the club continues to be a success, and that 96 Beginner's sessions have taken place to date, albeit there was some disruption earlier this year due to weather conditions. The reformatting of the Intermediates group to BeginnersPLUS has been successful, with an increase in numbers being shown.

David outlined the background to the Beginner's sessions, which although high in numbers early on, numbers have now reduced since a second class was introduced. David stressed that he is keen for members to come forward with ideas for class content and how the sessions should be run. He suggested that perhaps the club needs to revert to a real beginners class on one of the days, to ensure that the needs of all learning speeds are covered.

David has looked into the introduction of new software, and suggested that digital photography would be popular. It is likely that with some suppliers, the club would qualify as an educational group and could obtain software at a 50% discount, resulting in a cost for all computers of £250 instead of £500. Options for software discounts are being looked into. **ACTION: DP**

David stressed the importance of the club moving forward, so that members get the maximum benefit from it.

Peter Denyer suggested that one of the Beginners classes needs to revert to complete basics. He also suggested that topics like Facebook, web cams and other basic internet communication methods would be popular subjects, as members would benefit from these in their homes. Peter also suggested that website design might be of interest to members.

The club has held a Silver Surfers event, a Christmas party and a summer outing during the past year.

Two local computer supplies companies have been approached regarding discounts for club members, which were Tech Res in Leatherhead and Ashtead Computer Supplies in Ashtead. Tech Res will offer discounts on some products, while Ashtead Computer Supplies will offer discounts on service. It was also suggested that Brockham Computers be approached.

A membership card is being produced by David and will be available for the start of the next term. **ACTION: DP**

5. TREASURERS REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

Jim presented the accounts to the meeting, and explained that although the club has a surplus of funds, consideration needs to be given to future upgrades to equipment and new software. David explained that computer costs are reducing, and that he is keen for the club to make full use of facilities and software available so that the club continually moves forward.

George explained that the 2 year contract with BT for Broadband services now having ended, Sarah has arranged a new contract with effect from 26th April with Talktalk, and this will result in a substantial saving over the year.

6. FEE PROPOSALS FOR COMING YEAR

The Committee has agreed that there will be no increase in membership or class fees.

7. 2010 OUTING

The majority of members were keen for a summer outing and various options were discussed. Ideas were Westdean Gardens, Weald & Downland Museum, Imperial War Museum, Chatham Docks with exhibition. Sarah agreed to look into the various options and will discuss further with the Committee. **ACTION: SC**

8. APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

George reported that Gill would be standing down, and that a Secretary needs to be found. The remainder of the Committee were prepared to stand for another year, and this was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

David Preedy was thanked for his sterling work in preparing and running the classes and Peter Denyer for all his help and input.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m. and was followed by splendid refreshments provided by Lynne in the Village Store.

Signed Chairman

Dated