

IBM Retirees Club (Midlands) Committee Meetings – 11 April 2022

Present : John, Michael, Gary, Ray, Richard, Paul, and Terry

The previous meeting minutes were approved and there were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report

End of March closing balance on bank statement was £3,686.54, the same as February's. Money is now being received for event E2204EVM - Cote Brasserie meal.

Membership Report

Membership stays level at **419** after one new member added and loss of Alan Bridgman.

Technology Group

At the March meeting Mark gave a talk on text processing which was attended by 10 members. There will be no meeting in April which would have fallen on Good Friday. For the May meeting Paul will be talking about publishing via Amazon.

Future Funding Discussion

As we do not know if we will get any further grants from IBM it has been decided not to subsidise club events for the time being. The club has running costs of around £350 p.a. and as the current bank balance is £3,686 the club can continue for the foreseeable future without asking members for subscriptions. One cost that could be reviewed is the club's hosting website to see if an alternative would be viable. This may be discussed at a future Tech Club meeting.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held via Zoom on Wednesday 16 March. The AGM minutes have been filed on our website for general availability.

Potential 2022 Events

Rambles

Terry is hoping to plan a walk in Badby Woods soon when the bluebells are flowering.

E2204EVM Cote Brasserie evening meal

Members were emailed details of this event on 6th April with links to the booking form on our website. The meal is to be held on Wednesday 27 April. So far 14 people have booked.

E2205PPL Pete's Place

Gary has arranged this with Pete for Sunday 15 May.

E2206GDN Gardens Visit

Ray will be organising a visit to a National Trust or Historic Home garden in June. Hopefully this will also include a house tour and offer lunch or afternoon tea.

E2207GWR Gloucester Warwickshire Railway

Paul will be organising this trip with a fish and chip supper to be held in July

E2208SML Summer lunch cruise

Paul will be organising this lunch and cruise on the Thames to be held in August.

E2209HOL September Holiday

The original discussed trip to Guernsey has now been dropped in view of cost and travel difficulties. Instead a holiday is being planned by Terry at the Holme Lacey Hotel in Herefordshire. This is a Warners Hotel. An initial booking of 5 rooms has been made for 4 nights from Monday 26 September. The initial bookings are for Terry, John, Gary, Ray and Paul.

E2210TFT Triumph Motorcycle factory

Richard will endeavour to organise a factory and museum tour in October .

E2212XML Christmas Lunch

Gary has offered to organise the Christmas lunch again. Venue and date to be decided.

Tribute for Alan Bridgman

Following the recent death of our well respected former chairman, John will write a suitable tribute with input from Terry. This will be published in a future club newsletter together with a photograph of Alan which Michael has.

Newsletter

Michael questioned whether monthly newsletters were still appropriate as we are running fewer events now and event details are tending to be communicated by direct emails to members. No decision was taken at this meeting. Michael will be away abroad on holiday in May and may not be able to do the newsletter for that month.

For now the April newsletter will be sent with details of the Cote Brasserie and Pete's Place events shown.

AOB

Terry had been contacted by a member, saying that they would be interested in a Guernsey holiday next year. This will be considered when planning next year's events.

Next Committee Meeting - Monday 9 May 2022 at 10.30 a.m. via Zoom