

IBM Retirees Club (Midlands) Committee Meeting – 7 January 2019

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

Finance

End of Year 2018 bank balance was £3662.41 which includes £550 Advance deposit for Rioja trip.
£14 due for one person on Xmas lunch (cheque received today)
Budgeting for 2019 events will be discussed in extra meeting this afternoon (see below). (All)

Membership

Membership is now 447 retirees.
291 members receive the online newsletter and 12 more are to be added after database comparison.
Dave has emailed retirees having differing email addresses on the IBM database and the Retirees Club database to ensure we have the correct email addresses.
For members who on not online Dave will post details of the 2019 events planned. (Dave)

Dave's Handover

As Dave is retiring after the AGM in March the following handover was agreed.
Ray will take over the secretarial jobs such as arranging meeting agendas and booking rooms. (Ray)
John will takeover liaison with the IBM Oversight team. (John)
Gary will look after the membership database. (Gary)
Meetings will be arranged to facilitate the handover of relevant data and information. (Dave)
Paul suggested that these processes should be documented for future handovers.

Newsletter

Articles etc. for the January newsletter should be sent to Michael by **15 January** (All)
A link to the 2019 AGM Agenda is to be included. (Dave, Michael)
We need to respond to Jane Cutler, regarding our use of social media. (Michael)

Rambling Club

The rambling club AGM was held in December followed by a meal at the Catalan Tapas restaurant in Warwick. At the AGM it was decided to continue with the £5 annual subscription and also the meal subsidy. The rambling planning meeting will be held later today at Ray's house. (Rambling Committee)

Completed Events

E1811XMA – the Xmas Lunch organised by Alan Bridgman was held at Wroxall Abbey on 13 December. It was attended by 86 members and their guests. Some complaints received about poor quality main course and cold or luke warm plates.

2019 Events Update

E1901JAM John is considering arranging this as an ethnic meal at The Saffron in Warwick. The date will probably be 21 February and John will directly mail members about this in January. (John)

E1902AGM All existing committee members are willing to carry on their present roles apart from Dave who is retiring. The draft agenda has been circulated to committee members by Dave.
Meeting starts with coffee at 10a.m. and a light buffet lunch will be provided. Venue is the British Legion in Knowle.

E1906DBY There has been a poor response for this event with only 8 replies received for 15 bookings. If no further bookings are signs of interest are shown this month we may need to cancel this event.

E1908GDN Chris has planned this as a coach trip to Coton Manor gardens and Cottesbrooke Hall and Gardens. Both these gardens are privately owned and are in Northamptonshire. Cost will be around £35 before subsidy. An article will be drafted for inclusion in the January newsletter. (Chris & Ray)

The schedule of **2019 events** is shown in a separate document.

Any Other Business

The cross subsidy of IBM events has been dropped. We will instead subsidise retiree members who go on IBM Club events to a similar level to the second tier subsidy given by the IBM Club to its members.

Budget and Event Subsidy Meeting held Monday afternoon

This extra meeting was held to discuss the allocation of funds to the 2019 events.

Firstly the Oversight Manager tells us there is no need for an external accountant to audit our accounts. The process now is to send our budgets to the Finance Steering Committee for checking.

The IBM subsidy for our club for 2019 is unlikely to exceed £6,584.00 which is 10% less than last year and may be another 10% or more less. This is about £14.70 per member. Payments are due in February and July. The nationally arranged club insurance premium will further reduce our grant by about another £120.

Paul passed around his costing and subsidy spreadsheet which he had carefully compiled. This was based on previous years allocations and provided subsidies of 40% for meals, 30% for one day events and 20% for multi day events (excluding accommodation costs).

After much discussion it was thought that meals were too heavily subsidised and the multiday events under subsidised. A revised subsidy formula was therefore agreed as follows:

30% for meals and one day events
10% for multiday events but including accommodation costs

Also a separate figure of £1,000 will be set aside to cover subsidies for IBM Club events such as the Theatre events which retirees may attend.

Paul will update his spreadsheet accordingly and circulate revised figures for 2019 event subsidies for formal agreement at the next committee meeting. (Paul)

Next Meeting: Monday 4th February 10.15 for a 10.30 start at IBM Warwick

(Dave, Terry and Michael have advised they will be unable to make this meeting)