

## **IBM Retirees Club (Midlands) Committee Meetings – 8 March 2021**

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

Apologies from Sheila

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

### **Chairman's Report**

John stated that the club's Oversight Manager, Jayne Cutler, is retiring this week. Club chairmen have been invited to attend a leaving Zoom meeting for Jayne. So far, we have not been informed who will be taking over Jayne's role.

### **Treasurer's Report**

No change to the club's assets this month. The IBM Midlands Club have now cashed the cheque we sent them to cover cross charging arrangements for last year. We need to prepare a budget to cover this year as we start to plan and organise real events for members for the second half of 2021. Paul has prepared the financial report for the AGM.

### **Membership Report**

There are no changes in membership numbers this month and total remains at 431 members. Latest report received from IBM during our meeting.

After Gary wrote to 38 members who did not have email addresses we have now obtained email addresses for 7 of them and Gary has now included them for our distribution list. Only one letter was received from a member who did not have email but wished to be kept informed.

### **PC Technology Group**

At the February meeting Gary gave a demonstration of fitting a camera inside a ThinkPad. Also John gave a talk on Python programming. For the March meeting Paul will give a talk on laptop security.

### **Planned Events Update**

#### **E2101PHO - Photo Competition – Winter Theme**

The committee judged the 18 photos submitted on the 8 February and the prize of a bottle of wine was won by Susan Lees for her Winter Landscape. The best three photos were displayed in the February newsletter and all photos were available for viewing via the **BOX** link.

#### **E2103AGM – Annual General Meeting**

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 17 March starting at 10.30 for the committee and at 11.00 for members. Robert Tickell is our guest speaker and will be giving an update on the IBM Pension Plans. Notice of the AGM was given to members in the February newsletter and a reminder will be in the March newsletter.

#### **E2104PHO - Photo Competition – Spring Theme**

The Spring competition will use similar rules to the Winter Theme. The best photo, to be judged by the committee, will win a good quality bottle of wine (value around £10). All photos entries are to be emailed to Ray, in JPEG format, who will place them in a **BOX** folder. Photos may be submitted from the date of the March newsletter to the end of April and judging will be held in early May.

## **2021 Event Planning**

Suggestions for future virtual events were: Spring Lunch and Spring Photo competition.

Terry stated that it should be possible to restart the Rambling Club monthly walks when regulations allow. To be discussed further at the April committee meeting.

Now that the government have advised that most social restrictions should be removed by 21 June the following real events were discussed:

August - Summer Lunch buffet on board a Thames river boat. Paul will progress this.

December – Christmas Lunch in early December. Gary will progress this as he has an outstanding credit from the Oaks venue following the cancellation of the Spring lunch last year.

Further real event planning will be held over the coming Monday meetings.

## **Newsletter**

The March newsletter will include a reminder for our AGM to be held on 17 March and will highlight our guest speaker, Robert Tickell, who will update us on the IBM Pension Plan changes. It will also include details of the Spring Photo competition.

## **AOB**

None

**Next Official Meeting - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 10.30 at home via Zoom**