

**Minutes of the 43rd meeting of the York Group Committee held in the Oak Room at the Mercure York
Fairfield Manor Hotel on**

Wednesday 7th February 2024 commencing at 19.15

PRESENT: Janis Wright Chair, Elaine Allman Treasurer, Social Co-ordinators Lynne Gray, Adele Storr and Andrew Storr. Jackie Brown Acting Minutes Secretary

43.1 Apologies for Absence: Janice Stace, Karen Colbeck, Brian Mullen

43.2 Minutes of the 42nd Meeting: Agreed and signed by Janis Wright

43.3 Matters Arising not included in the Agenda: The Secretary had forwarded details of Training Courses to Andrew and Adele Storr but it was found that these were not relevant.

43.4 Chairman's Report: This had been previously circulated – see Appendix

43.5 Secretary's Report: Following a considerable time on the phone, Janice was reunited with her York Group at Boundless Community e-mail address and will need to have a catch up session. Her chrome book had died and currently was unable to send an updated 2024 Events list. Also without this e-mail address, she was unable to access the One Trust SEN form and therefore e-mailed the details for the March and April events to Member Communities. An acknowledgement has been received and forwarded to Brian for checking. The deadline for the summer edition of the BOUNDLESS magazine is the 10th March and this covers the months of June, July and August.

Andrew was asked to send details of the Hawes trip for the SEN which can hopefully be included in the magazine. Similarly Janis to forward details of the Renishaw Hall trip. Karen to be notified too for inclusion in the newsletter.

Janice had forwarded details of attendance figures for all events during the year and commented that the average attendance for York's events had fallen from 52.4 to 39.3. Nick Hoath had been notified at the December LGR meeting but he was not concerned as he was working on the 2022 figures. Apart from caravan, car and motorbike rallies we had the highest average number of attendees but this was something to keep an eye on.

Janice confirmed that she was willing to stand for re-election at the AGM.

43.6 Treasurer's Report: This had been previously circulated – see Appendix. Although there was not much in the bank there was enough. An Imprest has now been received for QBA1. Raffle income had been used for various things. It was thought that some members were not aware of how the raffle proceeds were used but this had been explained by Janis at the last Club night.

43.7 Club Council Update: The last Club Council meeting was in November, prior to the BOUNDLESS AGM. Rob Eagles, Events Manager, gave a presentation on the Member Days in 2023 which were all considered to be successful. A substantial number of bookings (30%) were by members who had joined in the last 2-3 years. The format is to be repeated in 2024 with a few tweaks. The focus will be on arranging events in four distinctive areas, North East, North West, South East and South West, with three events in each of the year's four quarters. Each member will be able to book four tickets (i.e. three guests) at £10 per ticket and

the release of the tickets will be spread over the year. It is hoped that members local to the events will help out at busy times as was the case at Harlow Carr.

Adele commented that she could not book a ticket on line for Andrew and was told he had to personally ring up for one due to Data Protection regulations.

Rob Eagles asked that members send suggestions for events to be considered either to him or to Kadie Crichton, Nick Hoath or Member Communities

It was intended that improvements to the One Trust SEN system would be announced in January but this has not yet happened. For the time being, after I have completed the SEN for an event, the organiser of the event will be sent the acknowledgement with the details to check. At the same time, I would like you to check that a) the event has appeared on the York page on the BOUNDLESS website, and b) that the event also appears in the calendar of all Groups' events. The reason for this is that recently when looking on the calendar for another Group, I realised that our January talk was missing. I queried this with Member Communities who said that it was there and sent me the link. On looking further I found that it had been entered after the December 2024 events. If anyone wants to know how to get into the Calendar please let me know.

43.8 Past Events Review: Committee members were asked if there were any speakers they would like to return and a couple of names were recorded.

Comments regarding the Christmas social were favourable and even though the staff were fairly new it was felt they had been most helpful and had done a good job. Each table was served one at a time with the main course choice which resulted in the vegetables going cold. Further supplies of vegetables were quickly brought out after this and running out. The manager was present and kept an eye on things making sure that service ran smoothly.

43.9 Future Events 2024: February - Cyber Crime - Janis had contacted Jerry Holland but had not had a reply but a donation would be sent to the retired Police dogs' charity. Andrew would advise the name. A donation of £70 had been sent to the Bar Convent and a receipt had been received.

March AGM – All members present agreed to stand for re-election. Brian was organising the Truffle making talk.

April – If the Eggheads speaker cannot be confirmed it was suggested that Peter Mather might be a possible stand in.

May – Janis suggested that the “Powder, Paint and Corsets” talk might be aimed at women but preferred this to the “Lavatories” alternative. She would contact the speaker end of March/mid April.

June – Hawes Creamery – Timings of the trip and stop offs were discussed as Elaine needed to know details in order to book the coach. It was agreed to book the coach from 9.30 – 6.00pm.

July – Renishaw Hall – A guided tour of the ground floor of the house and self-guided visits of the museum, garden and vineyard are all included within the overall price.

August - Stillingfleet self drive - Currently the Banqueting Hall at Naburn is under water so an alternative for tea should be found. After visiting St. Mary's church (cost £5pp), the suggestion is to visit Stillingfleet Gardens and Tea room. Elaine to follow up.

September – Vineyard and Aldborough Talk – All organised.

October – Tiffany Glass Talk – All organised.

November – The State of Nature in Yorkshire – All organised.

Christmas Social – Everyone seemed pleased with the event held at the Mercure but comments had been made about certain members driving at night during the winter so it was proposed that the Christmas social be a lunch. This was agreed and Committee members were asked to put forward suggestions of venues which offered a pleasant room with a view and car parking. It was not thought that the Mercure could provide such a room.

Janis had attended the Leeds event and commented that they offered a free raffle but also guests were given a paper bag with handles containing four chocolates. This she considered a lovely gesture which she would like to introduce at our Christmas social.

43.10 Boundless York Newsletter – Karen would publish a Newsletter at the end of February to include details of the AGM. At the end of December there were 111 names on the mailing list with only 12 hard copies requested. Copies of the Chairman's, Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports to be forwarded to Karen by the end of February.

43.11 Volunteers Award – use of - There was £480 left but this had to last until October. It was decided to meet at Maxis before the AGM and the 15th March was suggested and if this was not suitable to let Janis know.

43.12 2025 Calendar –

29 January – Talk - Beningborough Hall – Adele

26 February – Talk – York Archaeology – Lynne

26 March – AGM followed by Talk on Cheese - Andrew

30 April – Talk – History of Teddy Bears – Janis

28 May – Talk – Yorkshire's Vanishing Coastline – Elaine to make enquiries as to who suggested this

26 June – Bar Convent Tour and afternoon tea - Elaine

31 July – Sion Hall and Birds of Prey Centre – Janis

August – Skipton Boat trip to include fish and chip lunch – Adele

25 September – Talk – Staying at the Real Marigold Hotel - Brian

29 October – Talk – Heathrow Chaplaincy – Andrew

26 November -Talk – RSPCA or Cinnamon Trust – Janis

December – Christmas Social - Elaine

Committee Meetings: 5th February, 7th May, 6th August, 8th October, 10th December 2025

Next Meetings here : 1st May, 7th August and 2nd October 2024

43.13 AGM Committee members present confirmed they would stand for re-election.

43.14 Accidents/Incidents – None

43.15 Any Other Business – Brian had had a discussion with HQ regarding the arrangement of contact on the SEN. “Please contact host for expression of interest” It was felt that this statement needed removing as the host would be contacted numerous times when all that was needed was for the members to turn up at the event.

43.16 – the next meeting will be held at the Mercure York Fairfield Manor Hotel in the Cambridge Room at 19.15 on Wednesday 1st May 2024.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.00

Summary of Actions Required

BM – to contact April speaker

JW - to contact May speaker end March/mid April. Submit Chairman’s Annual report to Karen for AGM.
Book Maxis if 15th March suitable for committee

Andrew – to confirm timings for Creamery tour. To obtain the name of the retired Police Dogs charity

EA - to investigate further arrangements for Stillingfleet self drive. Submit Treasurer’s Annual report to Karen for AGM

JS – to submit Secretary’s Annual report to Karen for AGM

KS – Newsletter to be published at the end of February

All committee – to source venue for lunch time Christmas social