

The Arthur Ransome Society

Minutes of Publication Committee 27th Feb 2021

Conducted via zoom

Those taking part, Host Peter Wright (PWr) Peter Willis(PW) Diana Wright(DW) Susan Goldbourne(SG) Barry Goldbourne, Chairman (BG) Michael Glover Secretary (MG) Jules Blue (JB) Cathrine Lamont (CL) David Middleton (DM)

PWr opened the meeting by reminding members to be polite and respect other people's views.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Matters Arising. The only matter was that mail was still being forwarded by Abbot Hall.

Outlaw. The last Outlaw was produced using recycled paper at a lower cost than our usual paper, PW will explore if this is an alternative for Signals. This would add to our sustainability credentials.

Jules enquired re website text for The Outlaw (where TARS publications are summarised) - we can supply this to Diana, if Committee agree.

PWr enquired re Outlaw future subject matter, which was then discussed at length, concluding that we, Blue family, have been discussing this issue recently and, because we have followed a consistent, developing approach to Outlaw copy inclusion, we are about to go into research mode for the next issue of Outlaw which will be themed around Great Northern?, which concludes this approach methodology. For copies henceforward, as raised by PWr, we shall begin to concentrate more on all of the '12' AR set as a whole, centring on specific themes and also AR writing and AR-related writing in the wider context, bearing in mind this is the Journal predominantly for Junior members and so we need to keep that in consideration.

Mixed Moss. CL on track to have a 104 page edition. A favourable quote £2081 for printing had been received and was approved. Cl would like to research her audience and may request some feedback in her editorial.

Signals. PW hopes to have ready to print before Easter with an aim to get into members hands by mid-April. He has masses of material for this issue.

Budget. SG reported savings of £5,500 on 2018 cost as we move to online printing and a return to mailing by the mailing house at Knaresborough.

Website. DW reported that the new website is one year old, and some items need a refresh. Generally working well and producing new memberships. DW to explore costs of online memberships as it would be easier to keep membership list up to date. Cost to be critical factor in this.

Membership. DM reported that memberships stand at about 800, but we are likely to lose 295 in a few days as those not renewing are culled, DW offered to ring 111 members who have not renewed this year, this offer was taken up with her reporting to the board meeting who will then decide ant action to take.

AOB. SG raised the matter of a writing competition, it was agreed to hold an adult only competition this to be promoted in Mixed Moss. An outward facing junior competition would be explored as a means of encouraging children to read the 12 books. A small working group would need to form to discuss how to take this forward and make it happen.

The meeting finished at 21.45 GMT

