

Minutes of NLETS Management committee meeting 10.5.07

1. Present: Woody, Rebecca, Suki ,Martine, Henu, Mary Fee

Apologies: Mamta , Helen, Elizabeth, Sue , Precious ,Martini, Andy

Chair: Woody

Minutes: Henu

2. Previous minutes Minutes were approved as accurate unanimously

3. Matters arising:

3.1 Henu and Helen are yet to meet.

3.2 Mary will contact Tony P. re. his proposal for East London LETS group under the auspices of NLETS.

3.3 We will *try* and bring out next directory earlier than planned (see previous minutes) so trading day and sustainability weeks can be advertised in the mail out.

ACTION; REBECCA (to recruit hands to help)

3.4 Re. LETS LINK LONDON IT system – Mary F noted that this system may not be suitable for us as it uses multiplicity of trading methods whereas we only have single currency , i.e. ‘pledges’. However suitable systems do exist and Mary will look into these.

ACTION: MARY

4. Cafe

Elizabeth K will finalise accounts with Alex ; yet to be received.

Alex will no longer do regular café though will cook at least for the trading day *evening*. Any other times to be clarified with her.

Suki wishes to take over the café and continue to run it the same lines as before.

ACTION: ELIZABETH, ALEX, SUKI

5. Trading day in conjunction with sustainability weeks

Freeschools to be organised by Woody:

- volunteers this far:

Cliff: NVC (Non-violent Communication)

Precious: Italian lesson

Mamta: metamorphic technique, reiki

ACTION : WOODY

6. Membership & pledges

Subs

Martine (temporary membership secretary until further notice) will sort subs. Martine will contact late payers. She may write off with her discretion old gaps in subs (older than two years); recent payers will be considered as being up to date. Special case may be made of organisations with gaps in payments: Yoga Therapy Centre will be charged in pledges .

The historical problem with people making significant contributions to NLLETS and then failing to claim the pledges will be solved by granting lifetime memberships and gifting pledges from system. However it is emphasised that it is the individual member's responsibility to claim for all pledges due and this should be 'once only' solution; person's meriting this actions identified this far as follows:

Life members:

Andy H, Gilly B, Mary F

(No further subs will be asked from these members. ACTION: MARTINE)

Gifted pledges: - to be included in the next session of pledge-entering
Woody 500, Mary F 1000, Andy 3000

Pledges earned by attending MC meeting will be entered without the earner having to present pledge cheques or making special claim.

Helen has indicated (see her report delivered in absentia, sent to MC members) that she will devote a day to pledge entering. Also, Woody and Rebecca have put themselves forward to help out in tackling the backlog of unentered pledges.

ACTION; REBECCA, WOODY, HELEN

7. Introductory nights

Trading can take place on these occasions to demonstrate to new-comers how LETS works, people in large commitment will be encouraged to attend to contribute to the proceedings and thereby earn pledges - with committee member to facilitate.

Woody has the responsibility organising the introductory nights. If he is not able to be present on dates advertised, he will organise cover. Thus the nights take place regularly and reliably and thus there is no needs for interested members of the public to alert us before showing up. This is simpler than the old method and therefore more efficient and avoids any confusion.

ACTION: WOODY

4. Mary reported on developments in IT (see her email attached). See 9.

5- 6. Waived as full MC not in attendance.

7. Office report – see Helen's email.

No news or decision on broadband.

No news or decision on phone in Elizabeth K's absence.

Re. LSW, café, website and pledges – see above.

8. 10 minute Rule

Though there is general agreement about maintaining good order and limiting length of discussions in the meeting, this requires further effort.

9. Paperless office/ IT – current situation and statement of principle

This is work in progress – to be advanced step by step and only as far at each stage as it felt by the management committee that it is helpful to the members. We will seek to appoint an overseeing advocate (working title: ‘official buddy’) to ensure that at no stage persons not using IT (for what ever reason) will be disadvantaged in any way. The aim of introduction of more IT functions to the workings of NLETS is solely for the convenience to the members. All existing paper procedures will continue in parallel to the IT functions.

Currently we have a basic website (current url: <http://www.letslink.org/nll> - see email cc'd to MC members from Mary Fee 10.5.07 11.49am). Currently MC minutes available to MC members; further useful documents will be uploaded as and when checked latest approved versions become available. We will seek to improve the site. e.g. ultimately it should be possible for a member (armed with personal pass word) to amend their own offers and wants on-line and the result to be visible to other members (in possession of pass word allowing access to members area) – thus easing the pressure of work on person updating offers and wants. ACTION; MARY F

10. Events – dealt in matters arising.

11. Next meeting 12.7.07

AOB

Division of labour - proposal for further consideration and development

We will seek to create more clearly defined posts of limited scope (long term or short term) so as to safeguard against any job becoming overwhelming and causing burn out. Currently – for the time being - Martine has taken on the post of ‘membership secretary’, Rebecca ‘offers & wants officer’, Woody ‘recruiter’, Mary F ‘webmaster’.

ACTION : MC