

EXTRA-SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, 16th March 2020 at 10.30am

'Chez Philip'

Members of the committee present: Philip Thompson, Granville Dransfield, Doris Wragg, Terry Kendall, Sheila Ireland, George Spencer and Susan Grant.

This emergency committee meeting was convened because of the measures to be introduced to stop the spread of the Coronavirus. Given that most of our activities include people meeting in groups it was clear that our normal programme would have to change.

The following issues were discussed.

1. Emmanuel Church. The committee endorsed the executive action taken by George on Friday 13th March in cancelling all future bookings at the Emmanuel Church. We have a contract with the church. We need to find out whether or not we can take a break in our rental agreement or if the church is closing anyway. We need to make an appointment with the appropriate person at the Emmanuel.
2. Payment for Bronia. As Bronia, our exercise guru, is self-employed she does not receive an income if she does not work. It was proposed that we pay her for 6 weeks and then reassess the situation. We currently pay her out of the Barnsley Bond and the Shawlands Trust Bond, paid in two instalments. George said we have 22 members with Parkinson's in the keep fit groups who were on the list of regular attenders and if necessary we could make a small surcharge to cover the cost.
There was also some discussion about putting keep fit activities online. It was agreed that we should accept the second instalment from the Shawlands Trust and Bronia use the 6 weeks extension to explore online possibilities.
3. Crossroads care. We have a £10,000 grant from the National Lottery. This runs out in April and there is no automatic renewal.
4. This year's programme. Rose thinks that we should cancel the next Tesco store collection because we need to safeguard the volunteers. We can apply again next year.
The Carers' day also needs to be cancelled. Deposits have already been made so we need to ask the Holiday Inn and Bannatynes if it is possible to have a postponement. Philip is dealing with this.
World Parkinson's Day. This event is to be cancelled as well as the plant stall at the vintage car rally in June at Locke Park and at the gala in September.
The first of our outings is to York Railway Museum in July which will be cancelled. A decision about the afternoon tea at Cannon Hall in September does not need to be made just yet.
Our president, Ian McMillan, needs to be told that his slot has been cancelled.
The Blackpool Experience may be cancelled because the specialist hotel is organised by Parkinson's UK.
5. We discussed the matter of the newsletter. It was suggested that it could be a smaller format and if it was published earlier than usual it would be a good method of keeping the members up to date.

While it is not advisable to meet together as usual we will keep in touch by email

(Subsequently Philip established with Joseph (Crossroads Care) that the respite care in the home service would continue subject to carers' availability. Also the Emmanuel Church is now closed).