

SEPTEMBER 2022 - QUEEN ELIZABETH II 21.04.26 - 08.09.22 (96 years of age)

Just an hour before our meeting began, it was announced by the media that the Queen had died that afternoon. So in a sombre mood Gerry (standing in for Joanna) welcomed members and we stood for a minutes silence in memory of our Queen and then we sang Jerusalem. Apologies were received from Elizabeth Clarke, Susan Clemow, Joanna Defries, Pam Fox, Jenny Godfrey, Annagret Hicks, Ruth Herman, Judy Kiln, Vilma Lewis, Sarah Smith, Nancy Taffs and Mavis Wallace. The July minutes were on the table for viewing. In Matters Arising Gerry mentioned how enjoyable the August Social Pimms & Puddings evening had been and the members gave the hostesses of this (Sue A & Amanda) a round of applause. Also enjoyed were the 2 outings over the summer; Open Air Theatre and the Tyttenhanger Trains so we will probably do both of these again next year. Gerry had bought in her laptop to show members our website and our Facebook page during refreshments, in the meantime, she had it running showing tributes to the Queen. Correspondence: Debbie mentioned the County Annual Council Meeting 15th October where Gerry will be our delegate but members could also attend by purchasing Observer tickets at £12. She then went on to explain County's proposed change to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and asked members if they supported this motion. A show of hands proved unanimous for this. Debbie also pointed out that although most members had signed consent forms for photos/videos it is good practice that should anyone take photos during a meeting or event that they let it be known beforehand. Orders for calendars and diaries have to be placed with Di tonight. Articles in both August and September issues of County News were highlighted - Jill will accompany Susan at the October Speaker Auditions. The 2 notes in the Suggestion & Feedback box from our last meeting will be discussed at the next committee. The Book Club will be meeting on 5th October at Pam C's. There is still a waiting list for Elizabeth's theatre club trip (25th Oct to see Choir of Man) Sue R reported a the good day out with the Town Twinning on their recent canal trip and there will be a barn dance in October. Future Plans: Smallford Station event refreshments Sun 11th Sept, Gerry encouraged members to come along to this if they weren't already volunteering as it was good to support the station and also it was a fund raiser for us. Debbie encouraged members to buy £5 tickets for the Mymmswood Group meeting on Wed 14th Sept 2pm Brookmans Park with speaker Martin Orkin on Songs the Beatles gave away - 4 members will attend this. There is a sign up sheet for a Chain Reaction garden party 17th Sept 2.30pm at Veronica's (56 Bullen's Green Lane) cost £5 - 14 members will attend this. Gerry tells members that due to popular demand we will be having our Christmas Meal Out at the Sibthorpe Arms again 7 for 7.30pm - interested members are to sign up with Di and the menu will be available next month. Next meeting is October 13th and the speaker is Pete Butchers on Protecting Badgers. Gerry explains that there will also be a Bring and Buy table at the October meeting. Pam C will give the VOT and Marion and Sue C will help Veronica with the teas and the competition is a badger! In A.O.B. Gerry reminded members of the Vinted account and were told to contact Susan after 22nd Sept if they have an item for her to photograph and, hopefully, sell. Copies of the new Phone Tree were passed around for members to check their entries were correct. Members were advised that we will be collecting for the Christmas Hampers raffle again. Then Gerry introduced Jeff Lewis who gave a talk and presentation on Neuro-Linguistic Programming which included a question and answer sheet designed especially for us to understand how we use our senses in everyday situations and how helpful it can be if can recognise and use this. Gerry gave the VOT and after refreshments the raffle was drawn. There were no entries for the competition (a vegetable animal) which was disappointing! There was no time left for the planned social time of 'Gerry Bingo' so Gerry recapped dates of events and closed the meeting. We did not feel it was appropriate to sing the National Anthem under the circumstances.