

Coffee & Computers AGM 2018

The 1st Annual General Meeting of Coffee & Computers (C&C) was held on November 5, 2018 at Jacksons Lane Community Arts Centre, 269A Archway Road, London N6 5AA, UK

The meeting commenced at 11.30am.

Members present were:

Alyson Bradley, Annabel Rippin, Ayten Goknel, Bob Lindsay-Smith, Sheryl Hendrikson, Cyril Meadows, David Jeffrey, Edgar Jacobsberg, Eric Wilton, John Wise, Leslie Mckinnes, Lloyd Blair, Martin Boston, Michael Lyons, Mike Klein, Sally Mustoe, Simon Freeman, Vivien Wilkinson, Walter Kumar, Don Kelleher, Richard Grant.
Natalia Cid Garcia (representing Jacksons Lane) also attended as a non-member.

The chair, Eric Wilton, welcomed members and invited anyone attending, who was not a member, to become a member without any monetary or legal obligations involved.

Sally Mustoe proposed a vote of thanks to Eric Wilton for all his hard work. It was passed *nem com*.

Chairman's Report

EW gave a brief account of C&C's antecedents as an activity started by the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum in 2013 where digital skills were shared and taught in an informal setting, to its growth into a separate voluntary organisation, offering its free services each month at three venues in Highgate.

In 2016 initiatives with HAVCO and Public Voice saw the start of sessions at Crouch End, Turnpike Lane, Wood Green and Tottenham. This expansion of activities meant that it was no longer possible for one or two people to run all groups and a system of Group Leaders and a Steering Group was set up. In 2017, in order to become a Community Organisation that could hold a bank account three Trustees were appointed (Eric Wilton, Mike Klein and Richard Grant). The Steering Group is now superseded by a Management Group which consists of members of the Trustees plus all Group Leaders, VenueHolders and co-opted members. The management Group meets twice a year to review C&C's progress and discuss future initiatives.

Venues: C&C currently operates at 7 venues. (Jacksons Lane, Highgate Society, Highgate School, Hornsey Library in Crouch End, Winkfield Resource Centre in Wood Green, at Holy Trinity's Wellside Cafe in Tottenham Green, & St Thomas More in Wood Green.)

EW explained that because of a change in control of the Shine Centre and reduced funding, it was no longer feasible to hold monthly sessions there. C&C had discontinued meetings at the Cape Adventure centre in Crouch End because attendance was low, so that both Crouch End sessions were now held at Hornsey Library. In autumn 2018, C&C welcomed the addition of a second school group, St Thomas More in Wood Green.

Current activity There are currently 12-13 Sessions a month of which 8 are full sessions

and 3 to 4 are drop in sessions.

Weekly mailings about forthcoming C&C sessions go to more than 150 attendees and 50 volunteers.

A separate monthly mailing is sent to a PR list of more than 25 organisations.

EW emphasised that all groups are autonomous and that sessions are entirely dependent on the continuing interest and generosity of our venueholders and the efforts of C&C's conveners and Group Leaders and in particular acknowledged the work of : Anne Jamieson, Kirsten de Keyser, Karen Norris, Michael Lyons, Bob Lindsay-Smith, Public Voice, Mical Nelken and all our Volunteers.

EW also proposed a huge thanks to fellow Trustees & other members of the Management Group.

This was passed *nem com*.

Treasurer's Report (see appendix 1)

The report was presented by the treasurer, Mike Klein. He explained the various line items of income and expenditure.

MK pointed out that the single largest cost item was MiFi. This included the purchase of the MiFi device, which provides an internet connection at C&C sessions for up to 32 users, and the ongoing purchase of the data allowance.

The MiFi device had been a boon at meetings as it meant that on average 15 minutes was saved at the start of meetings rather than time spent in helping attendees to log on, especially at venues where access to the internet was slow or restricted.

In the last 12 months C&C had spent £150 on data purchases and this would be an ongoing cost. While the data subscription was paid up to the end of February 2019 further purchases would be necessary. To the benefit of C&C, competition among ISPs meant that the price of data allowances was falling.

MK reported that the current C&C bank balance was £106.63. Income had come from donors that MK and EW had contacted

EW noted that further expenditure would be on data, on a second MiFi unit if C&C continued to expand its venues and a digital projector for group sessions.

EW moved that the Treasurers Report be adopted and thanked the Treasurer for his hard work. The Treasurers Report was adopted *nem con*.

EW proposed an annual pre-Xmas fund-raising round without obligation. The motion was seconded by Simon Freeman and passed *nem con*.

MK suggested that members could circulate requests for donations among their friends as he and EW had done to raise the original funds.

Sally Mustoe volunteered to organise a raffle.

A short discussion took place on the use of funds for hiring venues. EW said that so far this had not been required although a donation of £25 had been made to Cape Adventure

Centre as a gesture of goodwill, which was much appreciated. EW explained that C&C had insufficient funds to hire meeting spaces and that C&C relied on the goodwill of venue holders. He cited how C&C had graduated from the Library floor at Crouch End to be given use of the upstairs coffee area. Ideally C&C would like to have use of one of its quieter spaces but Hornsey Library was unwilling to let C&C use it without payment, which C&C could not afford. Cyril Meadows proposed that C&C ask for a better room with better acoustics. Lesley Mckinnes reported that a neighbour he had invited to a C&C meeting at Hornsey Library had decided she could not attend again as the acoustics of the upstairs coffee area were so poor.

Sally Mustoe volunteered to raise the matter at the Library as she had past experience of negotiating with the library and sits on a library committee..

Election of Trustees

EW reported that the three Trustees, Eric Wilton, Mike Klein and Richard Grant, were all willing to serve for another year. MK made it clear that any Member was eligible to stand for election as a Trustee. However, no further candidates came forward and Eric Wilton, Mike Klein and Richard Grant were then unanimously re-elected as Trustees.

AOB

Volunteers - EW reported that C&C had a steady stream of new volunteers through its relationship with Team London.

Website - Richard Grant reported that it had been suggested that a resources page be added to the website. He would welcome suggestions of resource links that members had found useful.

There being no other business, the meeting was ended at 12.45pm

Appendix 1: Treasurers Report