

Mince Pies Meeting, 13th December 2023, King's Head Hotel, Wimbourne

Present: Karen Lindsay, Mark Oliver, Peter Parsons, Sharon Proyer, Sue Stow

Apologies: Ali Chown, Pat Popkin, Gillian Pearson, Jane Pridmore, Lesley Saunders, Angela Rice, Maurice Thomas, Bev Turner, Jane Yeomans,

1 Future Social Meetings

The meeting discussed suggestions for future social meetings, from a grid presented giving possible low cost to higher cost activities in the NW, NE, SW and SE of the county. The broad outline of social meetings would be:

- meet in a cafe,
- an activity
- followed by lunch
- where possible retired members would be given an option to join at appropriate points in the social meeting.

It was decided that the social meetings for the first half of 2024 would be:

Thursday March 14th 2024, Dorchester - guided tour of the town

Tuesday 18th June 2024, Worth Matravers - choice of walks, lunch at the Square and Compass

This means that social activities for this school year are spread around different parts of the county so that it is not always the same people travelling a long distance.

To help retired members who do not drive to attend social activities, the group felt it would be helpful to include information about seeking a car share opportunity.

2 Report from the TUC South West Retired Members, Friday 24th November

Peter Parsons attended this conference. Sessions included:

- new anti-union laws, there is no right to strike because Trade Unions have to seek permission
- State pensions
- The National Pensioners' Convention (NPC) "charter"
- The important contribution to union activity by retired union members in the region.

3 Getting More Retired Members involved in the NEU

A 7 minute NEU video looking at how retired members can support the work of the union or help in schools is at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHj_HpOfF20 This video provides a helpful overview of some options for retired members.

Locally we could:

- Get an updated list of retired members in the Dorset District so that we can let as many retired members as possible know what the NEU are doing locally and the range of ways Retired Members Section are involved in the NEU and schools
- Put together information for members coming up to retirement on the advantages of continuing with NEU membership when they stop working and agree how to circulate this information