

Questions received via email regarding the (voted) changes to Monthly Speaker-Lunch at the Royal Hotel

Specific questions from Angela Norris (– Answers in Blue Bold)

- is this meant to be £1K until it is spent?
- Or is it 'up to £1K during this financial year'?
- And will it automatically continue if the exercise proves successful?
- Or does it come back to the next AGM for further discussion?

'Budget' is defined as the annual estimate; - in this case the maximum allowed expenditure for this activity during a year. As with any financial governance, this will be reviewed by the committee and recommendations put forward at next AGM.

n.b. When discussed at the AGM, the recommendation from the floor was to increase our proposal from £1K to £1.5K (as documented in minutes)

- Now that it is being subsidised from general monies, are members welcome to come along just to hear the speaker?
- If so, this should be clearly advertised to all members....along with the time that the speaker will speak.
- And, if the event is being subsidised and all members aren't welcome to attend without eating, then hopefully the reason for this will be clearly advertised in the Newsletter.

This event has always been defined as a Talk followed by lunch. Advertising for the event already happens via the newsletter and is clearly defined as a talk followed by Lunch an hour later. This is distributed via email and post, hence all members are notified.

We also have to look at this from the Royal Hotels perspective: -

- **First, the Royal Hotel would not be amused to lay out tables / chairs and then find half their customers disappear when the talk finished!**
- **Second, there is a limitation on capacity if the talk was popular (I do not have a figure, but I would suspect +100) Hence, there would have to be a booking hierarchy – as with any venue.**

Maybe consideration should be given to having speakers at some of our coffee mornings instead of always at the lunches?

This has been discussed within committee – in fact some other U3A's do this and not have a lunch. (Incidentally our members can attend those events as an 'Affiliate' as they are advertised on other u3a web-sites)

For our Torridge U3A, currently coffee mornings appear to work well as a social event. For the time being we intend to continue this practice.