

REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP FEES

I am aware of the feelings about the introduction of a single household membership and the feeling that this is unfair on single people especially where resources are limited.

This became more acute when the fee was agreed at the last AG to double to 24euros.

This increase was felt necessary to cover the increased costs of running the library due to electricity bills having risen dramatically. At the same time the extra fee for group attendees was levied.

The levy on groups raised a significant extra amount last year, which we feel we are now able to drop.

The membership fees were set and came into force on the 1st January and we do not know yet what effect this will have. We are however getting new memberships without concern at the fee!

However, I believe it is up to the meeting to consider whether to:

1. Maintain a household membership irrespective of the numbers of members of the household

For this year we anticipate if no overall significant loss of membership that the figure agreed should suffice.

2. Introduce Single Memberships only

If this is reduced to 12 euros next year, this would reduce our membership but we cannot tell from the records we have by how much.

3. Introduce Single and Joint memberships with a differential in payment.

I would favour this option for example setting 24 and 18 euros.

In addition should we introduce a student rate for this year set at half the household rate and depending on any decision today, I suggest half a Joint Rate if option 3 is adopted, or 75% of a single rate if option 2 is adopted.

We do not have to set a figure today as this will be done at our next AG in November with a review of the financial position then.

DT March 2019