

Executive Committee Meeting 27th July 2010

Present:- Jeff Roberts Chairman, Alex McMinn, Dorothy Harrison Vice-Chairman, Wendy Craddock Secretary, Chris Jones Treasurer, Pat McKenzie Membership, Ann Haskell, Stan Bryon, Bernie Handford, Edna Lally, David Blanchflower, Anne Snell, Margery Sargent, Willem Wiechers, Norman Williamson, Norma Seddon (minutes)

Apologies:- Beth Blamires, Pauline Jones, Bill Evans

SPECIAL KEY MEETING ITEM

External Influences

Alex McMinn reported that over the last seven and a half years there has been major demographic change. A Later Life Officer has been appointed indicating the importance of the growing elderly population and a cross department report Government Paper "Learning Revolution" published. 16 ½ Million pounds is available for bids from Universities for research into the issues which sustain wellbeing/impact on Ageing. Age Concern has received a 50 million grant for research.

Perceived threats to Aughton & Ormskirk U3A/Recruitment

Locally we are aware of the West Lancs Older People Partnership /the Lancashire 50 plus assembly is supported by the Government and Alex would like Fred McMahon to be invited to speak to the committee. A new U3A in St Helens is just being formed with over a 100 at the initial meeting some being A&O members. A new group called The Nifty Fifties based on physical activities and is government funded is now in Banks and Burscough which means that Doctors will recommend them to patients Some U3As have appointed a research nominee, Because of these developments we cannot assume that recruitment will flow so our publicity might need updating.

Fred McMahon to be invited to speak to committee AM WC

Positives

A representative from the Department of Health visited us in April and wrote an impressive five page report about Aughton & Ormskirk U3A. We are covering most elements of wellbeing though moving away from academic learning and the one element which is missing is diet/nutrition. Alex was invited to visit Reading University by Professor Gosney who will come to Aughton and Ormskirk in September to give a lecture on diet/nutrition and initiate a research project. Alex is chairman of U3A Nationally Research committee a list is attached of the other names on the committee. Zeshan Khawaja, Dept of Clinical Psychology, Liverpool University will be publishing his findings on his research on the Aughton & Ormskirk Memory Course next year. Our leaflets are already on display in Doctors surgeries locally. Alex has applied for two buffer grants to cover the cost of speakers at Horizon Speaker meetings. AM

Brookside

Alex reported that the Brookside project is on track and demolition of the acquired buildings is due to start Apartments are to be built and will include accommodation for people will early stages of dementia. The bid had many references to U3A and the activities will be U3A type, coffee bar, meeting rooms, sustain wellbeing, teaching painting, dancing, with state of the art I.T. facilities and should be on steam by January 2012. Alec would like us to invite Alex Walker Associate Director for Transforming Community Services with the Project Architect to come to talk to the Executive Committee. Alex would like someone from Aughton & Ormskirk to take over as the named link for the Brookside project. **Alex Walker and Project Architect to be invited to speak to the committee AM WC**

Alex is looking to move from his present role by 2012 i.e. looking at succession. Within the committee we need someone responsible for "Volunteering" who needs job descriptions to give to potential volunteers. U3A at local levels need to move forward and not live in isolation. Aughton and Ormskirk are lucky to have so much talent at this level and it gives the dimension of our involvement. We should be concerned that other things can overtake us and through lack of positive ways forward we could start to shrink. We have to be proactive in order to grow and we have many councillors as members.

AGENDA

3 .Minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2010 were signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising:-

- a) Speaker Secretary Alex McMinn has taken over this role.
- b) Part of the Gateway grant has been received no date for the last tranche .**C.J**
- c) Key Rings no progress to date
- d) I.C.E in Case of Emergency next of kin/ emergency contact numbers on mobile phone/reverse of membership card the information included in Secretary's Corner. **W.C**
- e) Answer phone this is still ongoing.
- f) Group forms now to hand will be reviewed prior to re instating on the website. **J.R/W.C**
- g) Computer Access now resolved the problem was with one particular group's laptop.

5. Shop Project Jeff Roberts/Alex McMinn

Jeff would like Aughton and Ormskirk U3A to showcase our U3A, our groups and our activities to the wider audience of Ormskirk. The aim would be to rent a shop for a week, considerations and suggestions we made and the committee agreed that this was a good idea. **J.R/D.H/W.C will oversee this project**

6. New members welcome

The initial plan was to invite New Members to the September Horizons to hear Alex talk about our U3A.the speaker has changed and it will now be Professor Gosney .**Wendy will amend the letter to New**

Members in light of the change and Executive Committee comments. WC .New Members now ongoing JR/DH/WC.....

7) Treasurer's Report –Chris Jones

Balances Current A/C £15263.60 Deposit A/C £25015.25 Groups£ 7367.87. There is no change and the first quarter's figures are on course. Groups are generating less income at the moment but that is to be expected during the summer months. The Treasurer has observed that there is higher turnover of members now that we are back at the S&G H.Q the income per week is £60 for sale of coffee at 50p per cup when we were at Aughton Village Hall the income was £40. The grant which we applied for and was approved the 1st tranche has been received but no timing for the second. Our standard annual rentals are calculated £14K, the Newsletter annual cost is 10K and income from our subs is 24K. we appreciate the income generated by the book sales. Half the rents are for group activities. We can afford the shop for a short period of time (refer to item 5). The impact of having Horizons at Aughton Village Hall had been expensive. The rent for the S&G HQ is very reasonable and has just been increased to 8K per annum. The groups are self sufficient but the future is unknown. Our subs are very good value for money compared to other similar organisations but they will be reviewed at 2011 A.G.M.

8) Membership-Pat McKenzie

The membership number is 2744 and the actual paid up number is 1619. The renewal membership figure is not expected to rise further this year. Our paid membership figure is on track this time last year August 2009 it was 1619. The exhibition at Ormskirk Park Praise generated 19 new members our thanks go to all volunteers on that day. We are losing members to other local U3A's but we are still keeping our numbers up. The last 100 members enrolled only 50% came from Ormskirk. We have found that although they have joined smaller U3A's they have also joined us because we offer so much more. New membership is slow at the moment because of the holidays

9) Secretary's matters -Wendy Craddock

- a. The Third Age Trust mailing re the proxy votes for the AGM at Cirencester were discussed and agreed.
- b. The Brookfield Project see previous comments by Alex McMinn
- c. Archiving. Steering Group archiving material has been received from Ted Morrell and the Committee Minutes for 2009 and relevant ongoing information for the last year has been received from Sue Watkinson who has also computer based files to pass on. A new archiving server will be installed and then any existing electronic material can be transferred. We should start collating electronically from now on.

Willem will circulate by email re server. W.W and Wendy will ask Sue Watkinson for her discs. W.C No action as to who is taking responsibility for Archiving-Executive

- d. The Third Age Trust calendar will not be bulk ordered.
- e. U3A News bulk delivery now to Ian Haskell order reduced to 250.

10) Group Support-No meeting

11) Publicity- Stan Bryan

The Newsletter deadline is 1st August. There will be an acknowledgement of Remembrance Day at Horizons this year **Jeff and Bill will look into the possibility of having a Bugler. J.R/B.H**

12) Resources- Bernie Handford

This Committee do not plan to hold regular Committee meetings. A discussion took place about specification/cost of a sound system to work with the T.V at the S&G hut **The various options will be considered B.H**

13) Social Committee- Norman Williamson

The race night tickets will be on sale from the beginning of September. The draft insert for the diaries was circulated no action until after the Newsletter is printed to enable the details to be confirmed. **WC.BE NW** A discussion took place about car parking at the new Church Centre it was decided that the Church would continue to receive £300 per quarter for use of facilities. **C.J will send £300 per quarter to the Church**

14) Helping Each Other Group-Dorothy Harrison

The Dial a Ride latest venture was very successful and others will be planned. The New Brighton Floral Pavilion has excellent facilities and may prove successful addition to theatre choices. Marion Wilson will take over the writing of cards to our members the criteria for receiving a card will be explained in the Newsletter. The Princes's Road Trust would like to come to speak to us at Horizons for 10-15 minutes about young carers and it would be useful to us as well. **DH**

15) North West Region

In 2012 the Olympic year TAT would like all regions to hold events round the waterways networks. Sue Watkinson would like us to be involved with this project. Ron Rigby is knowledgeable about inland waterways **Wendy will pass his details onto Sue. WC**

16) South West Lancs Network.

Ted Morrell along with UpHolland and Maghull are considering undertaking a project on listed buildings of which we have over 400 in the area. This would be a shared learning project.

The committee thought that both the above projects 15 & 16 were good examples of shared learning.

The meeting finished at 12 noon

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be the third Tuesday 21st September at 9.30 am at the S&GHQ

