

AUGHTON & ORMSKIRK U3A

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting 19th March 2013

Present:- Bernie Handford, Vice Chairman, Chris Jones Treasurer, Wendy Craddock, Secretary, Ian Haskell, Beth Blamires, Norma Seddon, Willem Wiechers, David Blanchflower, Pauline Jones, Bill Evans

Apologies:- Dorothy Harrison, Chairman, Edna Lally, Alec McMinn, Margery Sargent

1. Welcome the Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. Apologies were accepted from the above.
3. Minutes;- the minutes of the last meeting were signed as a true and complete record.
4. Matters arising:-
 - a) The Secretary pointed out that although there had been a Trustee meeting in early February we were still awaiting responses to the two serious matters as stated in the January 2013 Executive minutes.
 1. The inappropriate behaviour of a Trustee and Founding Chairman at Horizons on Thursday 27th November 2012 against the Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee, to date no response has been received by the Executive Committee nor a letter received in reply to the formal complaint. This Committee request as a matter of urgency that a letter of response is sent to the Vice Chairman and that the Executive Committee is kept informed
 2. Please refer to the November minutes of the meeting of the Trustees, a meeting between Andrew Beeston, Trustee, Sue Watkinson, Trustee, was held late January with the Memory Course Team for clarification on the copyright, and intimated breach thereof. To date no response has been received by the Executive Committee nor a letter of conclusion sent to the Memory Course Team. This Committee request that as a matter of urgency a letter of response is sent to the Memory Course Team and that the Executive Committee be kept informed.
 - b) Re- Archiving the Minutes on the website, the Executive Committee requires clarification on access and security. Previous minutes will be revisited and Archiving will be an agenda item at the April Executive Committee meeting.
5. Constitution: Please refer to:- The existing A&O U3A Constitution (2003, amended 2008) the new Third Age Trust Model Constitution for U3A(2012), the February 2013 Executive Committee minutes, the February 2013 Agenda with the attached papers, the Agenda for the March 2013 and attached paper, and two Trustees statements presented by them for consideration at the February 2013 Executive Committee meeting

The Aughton&OrmskirkU3A Constitution has been discussed for the last five years with a view to changing it. The Third Age Trust have produced a Model Constitution for U3A(2012) with Option 1, Option 2, Option 3, which has undergone rigorous legal vetting and has been approved by the Charity Commission. The Executive Committee have had a month to read and digest all the above information prior to this meeting.

The Executive Committee discussed at great length all the papers mentioned above and the implications of adopting The Third Age Trust Model Constitution for U3A, Option 1, Option 2, and Option 3. An e-mail statement from a Trustee was read out "Please can I say, with hindsight, it should be noted that our first Constitution was based on the then recommended Third Age Trust Model Constitution. The TAT has gone to a lot of trouble to come up with a now necessary new model. It is certainly reasonable and sensible to

adopt that (ensuring it meets our needs) surely preferable to amending our current version. If we do so decide to add a "Trustee Section" to the new model constitution then the TAT and Charity Commission would need to be advised."

The Third Age Trust Model Constitution for U3A Option 3 with Clause 7 modified,(please refer to TAT guidance notes), best suits the needs of A&O U3A, the implications of this were reiterated before the vote

This Executive Committee endorses the acceptance of the Third Age Trust Model Constitution as our Constitution subject to the necessary modifications to meet our needs (Option 3,Clause 7) AGREED BY MAJORITY DECISION

- 6 The Third Age Trust Code of Conduct for Trustees and the TAT Advice Sheet on Grievance Procedures, papers handed out at the January 2013 meeting, to be adopted as policy procedures for Aughton & Ormskirk U3A. **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 7 A.G.M the Secretary updated the Committee on the procedures, timescales already in place. Wendy Craddock, Secretary, Willem Wiechers, Pauline Jones have completed three years on the Committee and offer themselves for re-election, Edna Lally, Margery Sargent are stepping down, and with the sad death of Anne Snell there are six vacancies on the Executive Committee at the 2013 AGM. Procedures re voting will be put in place if necessary.
8. Treasures Report:- Balances:-Current a/c £3.3K Deposit a/c 17k, Bond £10k, Groups £33k
We are doing OK . It is anticipated that the I.T. Department will have expenditure of approx. 3k. Our outgoings exceed subscriptions, Gift Aid and Horizons are welcome income. There are no plans to increase subscriptions for the next year. IT department are acquiring new assets and are writing off some equipment. Please note that we have major storage problems and the amount of paper ordered at any one time needs to be cut down.
9. Membership Secretary 12 new members since the last meeting, last member no. 3426, current members 1891, paid members 1901, Subscription income 2012-13 £28,015, Members for 2013-14 183, Subscription income £2745.
10. Health & Safety deferred to next meeting
11. Committees

Resources:- No Meeting but requests have been received retrospectively for the French Exchange visit June 13th – June 16th 2013 for some financial support, this was agreed but procedures need to be adhered to in future by all Group Leaders who will be advised again at the next Group Leaders meeting.

H.E.O.G no meeting but planning on-going

Publicity next meeting 25th March

12. A.O.B

Secretary matters please refer to the TAT website for the latest mailings.

The meeting ended at 12 noon and outstanding agenda items will be carried forward to the April

Executive Committee meeting which will be on Tuesday April 16 2013 9.30am at the S&G HQ