

**Aughton and Ormskirk U3A**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2014**

**Present:** Willem Wiechers (Chairman) Lily Bunner; Bill Evans; Mia Faza; Dorothy Harrison; Bernie Handford; Ian Haskell; Pauline Jones; Stan Livingston; Alex McMinn; Geoff Roberts; Iain Smart; Bill Watkinson; Idris Williams; Geoff Maitland (adviser)

- 1. Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. Apologies:** Cathleen Barnes
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014:** These were read and amended as necessary.
- 4. Matters Arising:** The new Horizons Duty Manager rota has been finished and new volunteers found for setting up the table and chairs. Encapsulated signs with the names of Duty Managers have been made.  
It was decided that the magazine distribution would continue as it had been before a complaint had been received. i.e. magazines may now be given out prior to normal distribution day whenever possible.
- 5. External Relations – Secretarial Expenses.** Following up a statement made by B. Handford last month, the Chairman stated that he had carried out fairly extensive investigations and has found that, over a number of years, one of our committee members has made claims for secretarial expenses which were thought by the Chairman to be rather excessive at £3,813 over 6 years. A lengthy discussion took place, following which it was proposed that we leave things as they are until the end of this financial year. This was proposed by Ian Haskell, seconded by I. Smart.
- 6. Health and Safety –** A reply has been received from Jeff Roberts re the lighting outside the S&G H.Q. to the effect that the S&G Committee feel that, in their opinion, the lighting is quite adequate for the purpose. It was agreed that no further action be taken.
- 7. Children attending U3A Groups.** This item was postponed.
- 8. Constitution Working Party –** Geoff Maitland expressed his thanks to the other members of the Working Party who have now presented their findings to this committee. The Chairman thanked Geoff and the rest of the Working Party. The Executive Committee is to consider its response to these findings and will discuss them in full at a Special Committee Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Venue to be advised.  
The Chairman then suggested that two constitutions be presented to the membership for them to vote on. This was discussed by the committee and agreed that only one constitution was necessary.

**9. Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer reported that the accounts are as follows:-

Deposit Account £31,157.45 : Main Account £3,491.68 : Groups Account £24,583.28 : Bond £20,000.

**10. Membership Secretary's Report** – New members since October – 10: Last member no.- 3770: Current members – 1855: Members Paid – 1858 (1873). Not yet renewed – 230.(of these, 59 have told us why.)

**11. Sub Committee Reports –**

**Social Committee.** Everything is on schedule for the Christmas Lunch at the Adelphi. There is to be a new music provider. Soft drinks have been ordered. 79 tickets have been sold so far. There is to be a big push next week as sales need to hit 200.

**Groups Support.** Ninety people attended the Group Leaders meeting and there have been no negative comments received. There will be a German Group starting in January 2015 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays. Accommodation is yet to be agreed.

**Finance and Resources.** They are currently working on recommendations for Group charges. At the moment they do not have enough information on how much each group currently charges and need this before a decision can be arrived at. They hope to be able to provide recommendations by January, plus a report on paid tutors.

**Publicity.** Following last month's decision on magazine distribution it has now been decided to re-instate the early distribution of magazines where possible. They are currently working on designing a new flyer for distribution to the general public.

**Speaker Secretary's Report.** A request was made to promote the Christmas Carol Concert which will be provided by our U3A choir. In future, we will be having a Speaker Meeting every other month only.

**A.O.B.** Geoff Roberts raised the issue of the lack of heating in the church at last month's Speaker Meeting and asked that the bill for the heating be paid by U3A. Bill Evans stated that the heating had only been put on the same morning as the meeting but that this was an error and shouldn't happen again.

Bill Evans stated that one of the leads for connecting a computer to the big screen has been irreparably damaged by rough handling and asked that a note be attached to these leads asking for care to be taken when using them.

Bill Evans also stated that at a recent meeting of the 5-a-side group, which now has 18 members, one member had run into a wall and hurt himself and urged that all Group Leaders be reminded to have their members' names and addresses for cases of emergency. He reported that the Cycling Group which normally finishes in Sept./Oct. for the winter season has now decided to operate a 'drop-of-a-hat' scheme where a member can decide at the 'drop of a hat' to call other members and arrange a cycle ride if the weather was good.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 12.50am.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2014 10.00am at the S&G HQ

