

## **AUGHTON AND ORMSKIRK U3A**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

#### **Minutes of Meeting held 17 March 2015.**

**Present:** Willem Wiechers (Chairman); Cathleen Barnes; Lily Bunner; Bill Evans; Mia Faza; Bernie Handford; Ian Haskell; Dorothy Harrison; Pauline Jones; Stan Livingston; Alex McMinn; Bill Watkinson; Idris Williams,

**Welcome:** the Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

**Apologies:** received from Geoff Roberts, and Iain Smart.

**Minutes of Committee meeting 17 February** were read and amended as necessary.

**Matters Arising:** PJ. asked if letter from Bob Carlton had been dealt with to which the Chairman stated that he had replied to it. The Chairman announced that the A & O U3A standing orders on procedures for nominations and motions for an AGM are now on the website as are the AGM arrangements.

**Correspondence Received:** a letter had been recently received from Denis Morley. PJ stated that she had written to Mr Morley acknowledging his letter and advised him that the guidelines that she used for all such matters are those that are issued by TAT and the Charity Commission and added that an official reply would be sent after our next Exec. Meeting. The Chairman suggested that Mr Morley be referred to the Standing Orders on the website. BH pointed out that AOB/Open Forum should be on the AGM agenda. It was agreed that PJ would write to Mr Morley formally.

**Proposed New Constitution:** Geoff Roberts (vice-chairman) had sent four pages of notes on this matter which he wished to be considered by the committee in his absence. These were read through by everyone and assisted the discussion of the draft constitution. He asserted that we are at liberty to construct a constitution to suit our needs including such structures that we wish provided we act within Charity Commission Law and acknowledge that the Trustees always have the ultimate responsibility. The draft constitution written by IH was considered by the committee. The committee considered Geoff Roberts proposals regarding option 4.1. Ian stated that there already was a statement regarding about a separate board of trustees. Also Geoff's other points are basic Charity Law, as described in the Charity Commission's "The Essential Trustee" and don't need to be restated in our constitution. There was a discussion as to which option should be adopted in 4.1. and after due consideration it was unanimously decided to adopt Option 1.

Governance and Management, by inserting 'There shall be a separate body of Trustees' and the last sentence altered to read , The Trustees shall delegate the day to day management of the U3A to the management committee. For Transitional Provisions it was decided to adopt Option 2. All other clauses were looked at and agreed. The matter of who is Chairman of U3A was considered and finally decided that the Chairman of the Management committee shall be the Chairman of U3A.

**Treasurers Report;** Deposit Account £28,209.22. Main Account £4,600.08; Groups Account £24,806.49. Bond £20,000. The question of external auditing was mentioned, but. BW. Treasurer reported that Brian Molloy had always conducted a thorough examination of the accounts and recommend that he be invited to continue as the Independent Examiner of the accounts for the next financial year.

**Membership Secretary Report;** 23 new members joined since February meeting.  
Last member number 3832. Current members (not yet renewed from 2014-15 plus 2015-16) 1920.  
Members paid (2014-15) 1915. Position same date in 2013-14 1940.  
Subscription Income 2014-15 £28,215. Members paid (2015-16) 168.  
Subscription Income 2015-16 £2,520.

There is a difference between this year and last year of 25 member payments. This is due to 15 fewer renewals and 10 fewer new members.

The renewals difference between the years is often 30 or 40 and the new members is part of a progression we have seen since 2010-11, as follows: 2010-11: **271**. 2011-12; **245**. 2012-13; **266**. 2013-14; **209**. 2014-15 **199**.

**Sub-Committee Reports;** The chairman suggested that as a lot of time had been given to the new constitution that for today these reports would be held over until next month.

**SECRETARY'S MATTERS:** PJ had received the capitation invoice and statement from the Third Age Trust which she handed to the Treasurer for attention. There was also a copy of the TAT AGM minutes for last year which were handed to Ian Haskell who may attend their 2015 AGM. There was also a paper on networks and regions. Alex McMinn requested a copy of this. PJ showed the Nomination Forms which were passed as appropriate.

**AOB:** the editor of the magazine BE stated that due to requests from members, in future, Notices in the magazine would use am and pm instead of the 24-hour clock.

**Meeting closed** 11.30.

**Next Meeting** 9.30am on 21 April 2015.