

AUGHTON & ORMSKIRK U3A EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Christ Church S&G HQ. 9.30am 18th August 2015.

Present: G Maitland (Chairman), C Barnes, L Bunner, L Burden, M Faza, D Glennon, I Grant, I Haskell, P Jones, D Latham, S Livingston, D Morley, G Roberts, I Smart, B Watkinson.

A McMinn was present by invitation to address Item 8 on the agenda.

ITEM 1 WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

ITEM 2 APOLOGIES: No apologies. All members present.

ITEM 3 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21st JULY 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st July were accepted as a true and accurate record with a single amendment:

It was agreed Linda Burden would be the Executive Committee's representative on the Web Sub-Committee.

ITEM 4 MATTERS ARISING:

PJ wrote to the Manager of Ormskirk Witness Services and agreed that the matter be put on hold pending the decision re the possible closure of Ormskirk Courts.

BW received a letter from HSBC which was a reply to the Secretary's letter requesting a list of the present signatories of our U3A. BW will pass this on to the Secretary.....ACTION BW.

Linda Burden confirmed that she had asked Margaret Wiechers if she was able to scan posters to put on the Web-site but she was unable to do so. PJ will scan them and email them to Margaret...ACTION PJ.

A letter was sent to the Group Leaders explaining the changes to the arrangements for refreshments at Group Meetings. PJ will send a copy to any Group Leader who did not receive the letter. It was recognised there is a need for an up-to-date register of Group Leaders.....ACTION PJ.

ITEM : CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

The Vice- Chairman responded to a letter from a member recognising the significant contribution of the previous Chairman.

The Secretary will respond to a letter from the Chairman of Aughton Community Together explaining why the U3A cannot offer financial support. GM is willing to meet the author of the letter....ACTION PJ AND GM.

A letter was received about the arrangements for putting out chairs, etc at Horizons. Following a discussion about current arrangements, a number of suggestions were made to improve the

situation. The correspondent will be approached to identify his role in future arrangements.....ACTION PJ.

The Senior Physiotherapist at Brookside wrote asking PJ to visit Brookside and give a talk about the U3A. The Chairman offered to accompany her on the visit.....ACTION PJ and GM.

A letter from a member about a proposed trip was discussed. It was agreed the U3A does not give support to commercial organisations but the member will be advised to publicise the trip in the Magazine and determine the response in the normal manner....ACTION PJ.

ITEM 6 FORMAL APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION/ISSUE TO MEMBERS & DATE OF SGM:

The revised draft Constitution had been circulated to Committee members in advance of the meeting.

IH took note of the amendments agreed at the meeting and once these had been established the draft Constitution received unanimous support.

The Secretary will ensure the Draft Constitution is available for viewing on the web-site and hard copies will be available at Horizons or by application to the Secretary.....ACTION PJ.

The proposed date for the Special General Meeting is 5th November at 10.30am in Christ Church. PJ will book the venue and place Notices in the Magazine and on the website.....ACTION PJ.

The Executive Committee agreed a resolution that 'The proposed new constitution for Aughton & Ormskirk U3A' be adopted.

The Executive Committee requests that any proposals for amendments to the Draft Constitution should be submitted to the Secretary in time for the Executive Meeting on 20th October with an absolute deadline for the submission of proposed amendments being 14 days before the Special General Meeting. If any amendments are received, the Secretary will inform members where they can be viewed.....Action PJ.

Once again, the outstanding contribution of IH in producing the Draft Constitution was recognised.

ITEM 7 STANDING ORDERS:

This matter will be dealt with at a future meeting.

ITEM 8 REPORT FROM A McMINN re EXTERNAL RELATIONS:

The Chairman welcomed A McMinn and invited him to address the meeting.

Paperwork had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Alex pointed out there is a range of objectives to be achieved externally and these are rarely discussed.

The A&O U3A is viewed nationally as an excellent model. Alex identified the numerous good links we have with external agencies and institutions but pointed out that with financial cut-backs their future is sometimes uncertain.

Alex highlighted the various networks which exist within the U3A. He spoke in detail about the progress of the South Lancashire Network and how help is provided for smaller, more vulnerable U3As. Following discussion and a vote, it was agreed (with one Abstention) that we would give approval to the South Lancashire Network establishing a Constitution.

Alex referred to a development programme "Understanding Tomorrow's World" and how our U3A is assisting in its progress.

It was recognised we will have to plan ahead for the proposed visit by the Third Age Trust Committee to our December musical. We will organise appropriate hospitality when we get further information about their arrangements.

Alex agreed to give quarterly updates on External Relations if invited to the Executive Meetings.

It was recognised that there is a significant amount of paperwork associated with External Relations and Alex pays for the secretarial support he receives.

Alex was thanked for his presentation and all the work he undertakes in External Relations.

ITEM 9 REVIEW OF BANK ACCOUNTS:

Paperwork and statements had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed the Finance and Resources Sub- Committee would produce a paper for the next meeting incorporating recommendations about the Bank Accounts.....ACTION BW.

ITEM 10 TREASURER'S REPORT

BW answered specific questions on recent spending. Other matters will be dealt with in the paper to be produced for the next meeting.

ITEM 11 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Paperwork had been circulated in advance. IH had researched the patterns of people not rejoining and noticed about 50 to 60 people remain members for only one year.

Invitations have been sent out to new members for the Afternoon Tea Meeting. It was agreed new members should be encouraged to help and play an active role in the organisation of the U3A.

ITEM 12 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES:

Minutes of the meetings of the Sub-Committees had been circulated before the meeting.

MF reported that Speaker Meetings will be held in the Ministry Centre next year.

It was recognised that the Web Sub-Committee should not be required to submit regular reports to the Finance Sub-Committee but that they would submit applications for any finances required in the normal manner.

Abba Tickets are on sale.

The Web Sub-Committee will consider the required protocol for usage of the new web-site.

Three short courses have been advertised on the web-site. The Group Support Sub-Committee is seeking new Coordinators and additional support.

DM reported on the difficulties of compiling a meaningful asset register. He highlighted the problems associated with inadequate storage space.

ITEM 13 SECRETARY'S NOTICES:

Emmanuel Church is being updated and renovated. We have received a form asking about possible future usage by the U3A and our possible requirements. PJ will respond.....ACTION PJ.

ITEM 14 A.O.B.:

It was agreed the role of External Relations needs to be considered and possible financial implications referred to the Finance Sub-Committee.

IH is our representative at the Third Age Trust AGM.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 15th September 2015 at 9.30am at HQ.