

AUGHTON & ORMSKIRK U3A EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Christ Church S&G HQ. 9.30am 15th September 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.

ITEM 1 WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting. He commented that he is pleased with the progress being made and how the Committee is functioning as a team.

ITEM 2 APOLOGIES: No apologies. All members present.

ITEM 3 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 18th AUGUST 2015:

Once the first sentence of Item 7 had been removed, the Minutes were recognised as an accurate record and approved for publication.

ITEM 4 MATTERS ARISING:

At the Special General Meeting, the Chairman will thank the previous Chairman for his significant contribution during the past year.

PJ has compiled a list of Group Leaders. All Group Leaders have now received information explaining the arrangements for refreshments at Group Meetings.

PJ is working on a new system of communication for the members who put out chairs at Horizons and has completed all the other tasks delegated to her.

ITEM 5 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

The Secretary received a grateful letter of response from Aughton Community Together.

ITEM 6 NOVEMBER 5th VOTING PLANS AND ANY REACTION TO ANNOUNCEMENT:

Alan Bonner will be asked to form a team to assist with the smooth functioning of the meeting.....ACTION CHAIRMAN

It was recognised how important it is to get the wording correct on the voting form and to simplify the system for members to cast their vote.

There had been no reaction to the announcement of the Special General Meeting in the magazine.

The Draft Constitution will be on the web-site as soon as possible.

PJ will ask the Ministry Centre to make the car park available.....ACTION PJ.

The Special General Meeting will have a single item agenda incorporating any possible amendments. The amendments, which will have been proposed and seconded, will be taken in turn to be voted on. Each amendment should provide an alternative wording to replace the

current wording in the Draft Constitution. The final vote will ask for the Draft Constitution to be approved following agreement on the amendments.

The Executive will consider any proposed amendments at its next meeting. The Executive Committee agreed that the Chairman would form a sub-committee to look at any amendments received thereafter if he deems it necessary.

ITEM 7 STANDING ORDERS:

It was decided to defer this item till a future meeting.

ITEM 8 PAYMENT OF EXPENSES:

In discussing this issue, the Executive Committee were seeking to establish a principle for future action.

Following a wide-ranging discussion, it was agreed the Chairman would seek information on a number of identified issues and report back to the Executive Committee before any decision can be taken.....ACTION CHAIRMAN.

ITEM9 REPORT ON BANK ACCOUNTS:

Documentation had been circulated before the meeting.

From the information circulated, the Treasurer highlighted accounts which needed to be closed . It was agreed that the Treasurer would lead a review of all Bank Accounts identifying existing signatories and recommending which should be maintained and who should be the authorised signatories.....ACTION TREASURER.

The Executive Committee agreed that the two dormant accounts should be closed but asked the Treasurer to speak to the “owner” of one of the accounts to ensure that there was no prospect of any imminent resurrection of it.....ACTION TREASURER.

ITEM 10 TREASURER’S REPORT:

The Treasurer had circulated documentation including financial statements in advance of the meeting.

In answer to a question, the Treasurer stated that all signatories can sign any cheque drawn on any of our accounts. This is a requirement from the bank.

The Treasurer answered specific questions relating to the financial statement.

The Chairman will seek clarification about whether the U3A is responsible for paying a particular invoice.....ACTION CHAIRMAN.

ITEM 11 (MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY’S REPORT), ITEM 12 (REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES) and ITEM 13 (SECRETARY’S NOTICES) were not covered due to time constraints. It was agreed that each Committee member would revisit the documentation which had been circulated prior to the meeting and email all other members with any concerns, issues or recommendations.

ITEM 14 ANY OTHE BUSINESS:

IH had circulated a detailed report based on his attendance at the Third Age Trust AGM. He made a number of recommendations to be considered by our U3A and highlighted two in particular, namely we should register an interest in using the Beacon system and Group Leaders should do an annual spot check to ensure that all members of their group are members of our U3A. Both recommendations were approved by the Committee.

It was re-emphasised that commercial firms cannot advertise at the U3A. The Chairman will follow up this matter and report back to the Executive.....ACTION CHAIRMAN.

IS encouraged members of the Executive to attend the New Members Afternoon Tea on 23rd September at 2pm.

IS is seeking a new leader for the Occasional Tours, Visits and Walks Group to replace Carol Potter when she relocates. The Chairman suggested he approach a member who may be interested.....ACTION IS.

On behalf of the Learning and Group Support Committee, IS again raised concerns regarding the new policy on refreshments at Group meetings. The new policy decision was reiterated. The Chairman commented that the decision could be reviewed at some future date in the light of experience. The Secretary will respond to a letter received from the Cribbage Group on this issue.....ACTION PJ.

A letter had been received about wheelchair access to Scout and Guide HQ. The Finance and Resources Sub- Committee was asked to look into this matter.....ACTION F&S Sub-Committee.

The meeting closed at 12.20pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING....Tuesday October 20th 2015 at 9.30am at S&G HQ.

