

AUGHTON & ORMSKIRK U3A

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING TUESDAY 21st MAY 2013

Present:- Dorothy Harrison, Bernie Handford, Chris Jones, Wendy Craddock, Norma Seddon, Beth Blamires, Willem Wiechers, Bill Hale(Trustee), Alex McMinn, Pauline Jones, Bill Evans, David Blanchflower, Ian Haskell, Mia Faza, Stan Livingston, Cathy Barnes.

Apologies:- None

FORMALITIES AGENDA

1.Election of Officers

	Proposed	Seconded
CHAIRMAN:- Dorothy Harrison	Mia Faza	Willem Wiechers
VICE- CHAIRMAN:- Bernie Handford	David Blanchflower	Stan Livingston
TREASURER:- Chris Jones	Willem Wiechers	David Blanchflower
SECRETARY Wendy Craddock	Beth Blamires	Mia Faza
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Ian Haskell	Willem Wiechers	Bernie Handford
EDITOR Bill Evans	Dorothy Harrison	Cathy Barnes

2. Allocation of Roles

Dorothy Harrison- Chairman-Social/10th Anniversary

Bernie Handford- Vice-Chairman- Resources

Wendy Craddock- Secretary

Chris Jones- Treasurer

Ian Haskell- Membership Secretary

Willem Wiechers- IT Data Protection

Bill Evans- Magazine Editor

Norma Seddon- Assistant Secretary

David Blanchflower- Group Support

Alex McMinn- Publicity

Beth Blamires- Resources

Pauline Jones- Helping Each Other

Mia Faza- Social

Cathy Barnes- Group Support

Stan Livingston- Publicity

3. Mandatory reminders:-

The Secretary reminded the Committee that

1. Confidentiality of matters discussed at committee prior to the minutes being issued.
2. No recording by any device of a Committee meeting
3. The decision of the Committee must be adhered to by all Executive Committee members regardless of how they voted.

It was confirmed that Minutes of all Executive Meetings were available, it was agreed that the decision re access to minutes should be revisited.

Bill Hale Trustee stated that he had never attended a meeting where the mandatory reminders had been presented.

4. Review of 2013 AGM

The Secretary asked for comments regarding both the Administration and Venue of the 2013 AGM. The time lines worked well but it was pointed out that any Papers and supporting documents must be received by the Secretary 28 days prior to the AGM for inclusion on the Formal Agenda. Bernie Handford questioned the venue of Christ

Church and the poor sound system. It is important to ensure that in future we do not hold a Speaker Meeting, then AGM on consecutive Thursdays which could have contributed to the low AGM attendance figure of 118 Alex McMinn said that the meeting would not have been quorate but for the attendance of the group of members who expressed their dissatisfaction at the closure of the S&G HQ on Speaker Meetings. The meeting continued the discussion focussing on ways in which members might support the next AGM.

FORMAL AGENDA

1. **Welcome:-**The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Bill Hale and the newly elected Executive Committee Members Mia Faza, Stan Livingston, Cathy Barnes.

2. **Apologies:-** belated apologies received from Andrew Beeston(Trustee)

3. **Minutes;-** of the last meeting

Signed as a true record proposed Beth Blamires seconded by Bernie Handford

4. **Matters Arising:-** none

5. **Committee Allocations:-** presented to the meeting by Dorothy Harrison

Finance:- Bernie Handford(Chairman) Chris Jones, Ian Haskell, Alan Worthington, Idris Williams, Beth Blamires

Groups:-David Blanchflower (Chairman) Willem Wiechers, Ann Haskell, Eila Wall, Jeff Roberts, Cathy Barnes

Publicity:- Alex McMinn(Chair) Bill Evans, Bob Charlton, Geoff Roberts, Sue Watkinson, Kath Hurst, Jean Leigh, Stan Livingston, Margaret Wiechers

Social:- Dorothy Harrison(Chairman) Norma Seddon, Mavis Whitfield, Lily Bunner, Elva Marsh, Val Bullen, Brian Ingman, June Pardy, Maureen Temple, Mia Faza, Irene Critchley

Helping Each Other:-Pat Atherton (Chairman) Pauline Jones, Judy Ingman, Margaret Kitchen, Kath McMinn, Dorothy Harrison.

6. **Trustee Report:-** The minutes of the 11th February 2013 meeting have been circulated the Secretary read out **item4** the position statement **Aughton & Ormskirk U3A is the publisher of the Memory Course Manual and Student Notebook and, as such, is responsible for the promotion of the books now that they are in the public domain. The Authors hold the copyright of both publications and limit the use of material in accordance with the “ Copyright, Disclaimer and Right to Use” document.** The Secretary stated that she as Secretary of Aughton & Ormskirk U3A and a member of the Memory Course Team reserved her right of reply.

Alex McMinn and Bill Hale informed the Executive Committee that Jeff Roberts, Chairman of Trustees had resigned and would not be attending future meetings. Alex considered that Jeff had resigned from the Trustees being disillusioned by correspondence from David and Ian who had asked why they (as newly appointed Trustees) had not been invited to the recent meeting of the Trustees. It was pointed out that Dorothy Harrison Chairman of A&O U3A had also not been invited. There followed a full and frank discussion re the above issue, matters of procedure were also highlighted. Dorothy concluded that it might prove helpful if the Executive Committee met with the Trustees to facilitate better communication. Ian and David would make their own personal approach to Jeff. Bernie and Dorothy would arrange to meet Jeff.

Bill Hale, who is a member of the Geology group, questioned the intervention by David Blanchflower when he visited the Geology Group meeting. However it was pointed out to Bill that David had been invited by Keith Snell (Leader) although much outside help had been given over the year Keith felt that he now needed support from within the group which had not been forthcoming, David achieved this by formalising a small team and Keith is happy with the outcome.

7.**Horizons:** The problems of Speaker Meeting morning has been fully discussed many times many different options have been tried. Alec McMinn a former Speaker Meeting organiser stated how stressful organising a Speaker meeting was, finding quality speakers meant guaranteeing an audience of 300 plus, publicity, and he and

Ted had spent many frantic Speaker Meetings “corralling” members to attend. The decision to close the S&G HQ on Speaker mornings upheld at the April Executive was again upheld to be reviewed again in three months.

8.Constitution:-Wendy presented the Committee with a date line which outlined discussions re the Constitution from the February Executive meeting at which Ted Morrell and Jeff Roberts (Trustees) presented proposed New Constitution changes, at the March meeting a rigorous discussion took place and it was agreed that the Third Age Trust New Model Constitution Option 3 with Clause 7 amended to suit our needs be accepted in principle. Dorothy thought that the retention of Trustees needed further discussion. The amendment papers will be fully discussed at the June Executive Committee meeting.

9.Treasurer:- Balances Current a/c £5495, Deposit a/c £26078, Groups a/c £33200 Groups are doing nicely and all the groups are fully subscribed and paying their way. Chris said as sound system at the AGM was poor he had had difficulty hearing questions.

10.Membership Secretary New members joined since last meeting 23, last member number 3468, current members 1589, member paid 1590, Subscription income 2013/14 £23840 The welcome letter is appreciated by New Members and has been changed slightly informing them that Speaker Meetings are held at Christ Church Aughton. It was proposed that Groups Leaders informed Ian when one of their members had died. Dorothy would include a section in her Chairman’s report in the Magazine.

11.A&O P.O.Box Bill Evans is to negotiate with the Ministry Centre re collection of mail. .

12.Health& Safety Premises Procedures Alan Nolan has raised the issue of outside speakers assessment forms Chris Jones will speak to Alan Nolan re generic form re risk assessment for outside speakers.

13.Committees:-

Resources: No meeting

Publicity: have a new leaflet for the 10th Anniversary, Cathy Hurst is taking over from Sue Watkinson

Groups: Line Dancing now have a new teacher, Textiles will have some groups within it, ideas need firm proposals to show a course/short course. New course under consideration are Astronomy and Softball.

Social/10th Anniversary: the Market Stall and Litter Pick up is this week. The BBQ caterers have confirmed booking need to push the ticket sales. Civic Reception the school has informed us that we are unable to use the kitchens no ovens or fridges available. Wendy is to talk to Chris re pricing of the tickets re the Civic event. Need a big push for every event.

Speaker Meetings Paul Lathom is the next speaker, Alex can provide a list of suggested speakers if required.

14.Secretary’s Matters:-Wendy read out a warning from the Third Age Trust that commercial companies offering free talks on will writing, financial products, equity release, may be targeting U3A’s throughout the UK following their talk they offer free advice on an appointment basis which takes place at an individual’s home it is then products are introduced and often sold, which may turn out to be entirely unsuitable. Do not under any circumstances give such people access to your members.

INFORMAL AGENDA

15.A.O.BNew Photocopier:- The codes for the new copier have not been released, concerns were raised re music copyright. Bernie will look into methods which emphasise copyright laws, so that the Membership is aware of the issues.

The meeting closed at 12.03

Next Executive Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday 16th July 2013 9.30a.m. at the S&G HQ