

Aughton & Ormskirk U3A
Executive Committee
Meeting 17th April 2012

Present:- Jeff Roberts(Chairman) Dorothy Harrison(Vice Chairman) Chris Jones(Treasurer) Wendy Craddock (Secretary) Pauline Jones, Beth Blamires, Willem Wiechers, Edna Lally, David Blanchflower, Anne Snell, Marjorie Sargent, Norman Williamson, Alex McMinn(Trustee) Bill Evans, Ian Haskell, Ann Haskell, Bernie Handford, Norma Seddon(Minutes)

Apologies:- belated apologies from Andrew Beeston

1.Welcome & Apologies The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and no apologies

2.Minutes

- a) **February Amended Minutes** it was noted that the word" amended" had been omitted the minutes were signed as a true record
- b) **March Minutes** the £ sign should replace the no 3 in the Treasurers report the figure should read £23,509. The minutes were signed as a true record.
- c) Wendy has sent an electronic copy of A&O U3A Constitution held by the Charity Commission to the Webmaster Margaret Wiechers for inclusion on our Website

3.Matters Arising

It was agreed that the Constitution should be put on the May 2012 Agenda

4.Membership Details:- Data Protection

The Chair had received communications/proposals from:- David Blanchflower, Norman Williamson, Willem Wiechers, Chris Jones, Bernie Handford, the Chair had also provided a paper out-lining the issues involved these had been circulated to the Executive Committee for them to read prior to the meeting. After full discussion and exchange of views:-

a) The first Proposal

"That the Executive Committee formally endorse Ian Haskell's paper on the security of our Membership Database and the limiting of available copies with the proviso that any member of the Executive Committee may make formal application in writing to the Executive Committee setting out justification why they should have access to a personal copy of the Database. Such formal written requests being circulated to all Executive Committee members seven days prior to the Executive meeting. Each such application would be judged on its merits by the full Executive Committee"

Proposer David Blanchflower Seconder Beth Blamires was voted on:

16 people were eligible to vote the majority vote was recorded however no votes against were recorded and three abstentions were offered

AGREED

Alex presented his justification to have a personal copy of the data base, verbally at the meeting.

The liability/responsibility for the Database information rests with the Executive Committee, not with the Membership Secretary.

The Executive Committee were concerned that the Management of the Database and the knowledge of its management would be exclusive to one person.

b)The second proposal

"A system is set in motion to allow the Membership Secretary to be shadowed by one person in order to understand the mechanics of how the database works".

Proposer David Blanchflower Seconder Anne Snell

16 people were eligible to vote the majority vote was recorded however no votes against were recorded and two abstentions offered

AGREED

5.Treasurer's Report

Chris displayed the year ending accounts on screen. These accounts will be presented to the AGM

The accounts are sound and have pretty much evened out to be in line with previous years. With that in mind Chris proposed that there be no increase in subscription fees for the years 2013 and 2014 this was proposed by Chris and seconded by Beth. The Treasurer proposed that a new auditor- Mr Brian Molloy be appointed (subject to AGM approval) to succeed Mr Jack Dixon as Auditor. Thanks were expressed to Alan, Kath, Chris and the auditor

6. Membership Report

There had been 22 new members since the last meeting issue no 3193 to date there were 1174 paid up members. 689 have not yet renewed their membership. The Magazine will not be posted to those who have not renewed their membership by June. A gentle reminder will be sent out to those who have not renewed their membership fees.

Third Proposal

It was proposed for New Members joining in a January/ February that they pay a fee of £20 i.e. to cover the following year ending at the 31st of March be charged for Membership Fees” proposer David Blanchflower, seconder Beth Blamires.

Unanimous

7. Committee Reports

Groups:- no meeting had been held 2 evening short courses had been cancelled due to low numbers and these were to be re-scheduled to day time. Part of the problem may be that the S&GHQ is not available in the evenings and other venues may not be as convenient or popular. Two new courses were planned “Maths can be Fun” “Architecture” Quilling may be demonstrated at Horizons meetings to explain what the skill is about and therefore generate interest. Congratulations were expressed in moving the Bridge Group to Scarisbrick Village Hall and Jack Dixon, as Group Leader, has a group of supportive co-ordinators. Canasta numbers were at 16 on Friday morning. A number of Groups are without a leader David expressed concern about this. Someone needs to take responsibility, for communication with Group Support etc. David will look into the above.

Publicity meeting:- this coming Friday 20th April. There are sufficient stamps held at the Post Office for next year. Jeff wishes to revisit the Postal Distribution of the Magazine later this year. The Magazine distribution could not have been done so successfully without the database which has been in operation for the last eighteen months at an approximate saving of £1k.

Resources:- The minutes had been circulated to the Committee, a service contract for the Risograph has been agreed, the purchase of five bridge tables for the Friday Bridge Group at Scarisbrick has been agreed, the sands holes and the danger to members is an on-going issue. It would appear that LCC have claimed ownership of the Sands. David suggested that a letter be sent to the Director of Education re the Sands and the critical need for repair if unsuccessful then write to the Chief Executive of L.C.C and if necessary to the Ombudsman to make a formal complaint. Bernie will liaise with Jeff re above.

Scarisbrick Village Hall:- Beth is to liaise with the Village Hall Committee re installation of a water heater, permission for the storage of 50/60 mugs has been given. It was proposed that should a water heating system be installed that a rent freeze be negotiated for the next two years

H.E.O.G had undertaken very successful trip to the theatre on Easter Saturday. A trip to the canal is planned. Pat Atherton has agreed to be Deputy Chair of the H.E.O.G

Social Group Norman reported that 96 tickets had now been sold for the Sinatra Evening and that Thursday 19 April was the deadline in order to facilitate catering numbers. BBQ tickets on sale May 3rd for the planned event on the 30th June. Beth expressed her thanks to Norman, as this was his last meeting for the “brilliant” job he had carried out over the last 3 years.

10th Anniversary The next meeting is to be held on the 25th April. All events as recorded in previous minutes were being planned.

New Members Afternoon Tea is planned for Wednesday 23rd May. Anne Snell will provide a questionnaire. Cakes are required-not sandwiches. Invitations are to be issued to those new members who joined up to Thursday 17th May 2012.

Secretary's Matters :-The North West Region AGM is to be held in Preston on Friday 18th May the guest speaker is Bill Tidy, a request had been sent to U3A's to encourage members to attend.

The meeting closed at 12 noon

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 15th May 2012 9.30 am at the S&G HQ