

Aughton & Ormskirk U3A
Executive Committee
Meeting 15th February 2011

Present:- Dorothy Harrison Vice Chairman, Alex McMinn Trustee, Paul Thompson Trustee Chris Jones Treasurer Wendy Craddock Secretary, Willem Wiechers, Beth Blamires, Stan Bryan, Anne Snell, Marjorie Sargent, Edna Lally, Norman Williamson, Bernie Handford, David Blanchflower, Pat McKenzie, Pauline Jones, Norma Seddon(Minutes)

Apologies:- Jeff Roberts (Chairman), Ann Haskell, Bill Evans, Andrew Beeston (Trustee)

1). **Welcome** Dorothy Harrison welcomed everyone to the meeting and that apologies had been received from the above.

2). **Minutes** The minutes of the January 2011 were agreed and signed as a true record
Two alterations were made:- those present add vice after Dorothy Harrison, Item Committees/Publicity no need for a.s.a.p. as it is non urgent for the website

3). **Matters Arising:-**

1) New Members Afternoon this will be discussed fully under item 7

2) The letters to the paid tutors will be going out in the next two weeks. The declaration form to be signed at the commencement of a paid tutor's services. To be kept on file.

4) **A.G.M 2011** to be held on Thursday 12th May 2011 at Christ Church Ministry Centre at 10.45am free coffee will be served from 9.30 am onwards. The S&G H.Q will be closed on this morning. It was confirmed to the meeting that Stan Bryon was Retiring, Chris Jones, David Blanchflower, Beth Blamires were offering themselves for re-election and that no one was coming to the end of their six year term. Nomination papers for election to the Executive Committee need to be with the Secretary by 28th April 2011. The Trustees would be asked to act as tellers if necessary. A separate meeting will be held to clarify the exact voting procedure and the organisation details for the AGM. The question was raised of the existing co opted members this was deferred to discussion with Jeff.

5) **Treasurers Report** the predicted payments have been made and the balances stand at

Ca/c £4598 Deposit A/C £25024 Groups £13727

The groups are fine. Subscriptions will remain the same for the next two years. Some new members are paying next years subs at the time of joining.

6) **Membership Secretary** The Membership desk has been very busy with 1 Death, 1 Resignation, 1 Very late renewal, 45 New members. The actual membership is 1771, the membership number is 2896. How are we going to mark membership number 3,000. To take the pressure off at renewal time members are being asked to renew their membership now. It was noted that new members who had joined specifically for a certain groups were being turned away from those groups because they were full as a result we had one resignation echoed by other ex members. This matter will be referred to Group Support as a matter of urgency. The issue to be presented at the next group Support Meeting will be what can be done about oversubscribed groups, especially new members who want to join a specific group, are turned away, then go to other U3A's to enjoy their specific activity **DH**.

7) **New Members Afternoon** see the attached paper. This was a very successful event with a positive outcome. 72 questionnaires had been completed and returned. These showed there were prospective volunteers who will all be contacted individually over the next two weeks. 21 members had not attended anything since they joined from February 2010. One attendee has offered to restart and run the Sunday Lunch Group. **DB** will contact all names on questions 10 & 11, **NW** will contact those wishing to help with tables and chairs, **WW** will contact those showing an interest in computers. **NW** will be invited to attend Group Support Committee on 8th March with his results. **BB** will contact Elizabeth Wylie to see if is feasible for her to help with the line dancing group. **BB** will also contact those interested In Admin. **AS** will email telephone numbers to the above. The format and timing will be reviewed for future New Member events The Executive Committee thanked everyone who had helped to make the afternoon such a success especially the ladies who did the catering.

8) **Committees**

Group Support:- no meeting. The issue of new members and oversubscribed groups was referred to this group as a high priority. An Astronomy short course starts next Wednesday morning. .

Publicity:-The Newsletter is being prepared with the distribution date 17th March 2011 and the Editorial deadline 21st February 2011 An article has appeared in the Ormskirk Advertiser about U3A and as a result they welcome articles from us.

Social:- A decision is requested from the Executive Committee concerning the Christmas event for 2011. The Adelphi Hotel Liverpool initially informed us that they were fully booked for the month of December 2011 other venues have been considered but none can match the exceptional value that the Adelphi offer. **NW** approached the Adelphi again they have now offered three midweek dates in November and Friday the 16th December which is

only available until 4p.m. The Executive Committee agreed that the Adelphi be booked for the 16th December 2011 from 11.45 to 4p.m. and provisionally book the Adelphi for December 2012.

Resources:- The next meeting will be in early March. **AM** we will be putting in submissions for funding closing date 30th March 2011. **BB** will download and complete the necessary forms then forward them to **BH**. **BB** mentioned that huge changes for vetting/barring process have been announced this week.

HEOG. The next meeting is planned for March.

9. Trustees Report The Trustees Meeting 17th January 2011 reported where the organisation is at and that they are concerned about their exposure regarding decision making. Ted is looking at this issue and is waiting for direction from the Third Age Trust .Other U3A's are now considering appointing Trustees and have approached us for sight of our Trustee Documentation.

10. Secretary's News

Third Age Trust. We have received a letter from John Ellison requesting an article on an individual member "On how U3A has changed their lives". The mailing included information on Direct Mailing for the U3A News this matter was discussed and the Executive Committee agreed that no change we would continue to have U3A News bulk delivered. There was also information on the Annual AGM, How to keep your U3A vibrant, The Retirement Show in March in Manchester, Virtual U3A for isolated members, Summer Schools, On line Video making Group, Holidays, merchandising and a DVD of the true U3A available free on request to T.A.T

North West Region letter included apologies for the Lancaster Conference cancellation, Information of the AGM in Liverpool, Myerscough Easter School, Arts/Crafts in Burnley, also included publicity information of our production "That Terrible U3A"

Informal Agenda

11) South West Lancs Network JR & DB have attended a meeting at UpHolland, this is now a reasonable organisation which is starting to function properly The activities of our local U3A's i.e. our musical "That Terrible U3A" are circulated by this network..

12) Shared Learning Project the meeting will be on March 24th a discussion took place considering other possible future topics

13) A.O.B

Monthly Meeting:- Alec McMinn brought this subject to our attention and asked the Executive Committee to consider at a future meeting how the Monthly Speaker meeting should develop. Security issues surround two of our next three Speaker Meetings. Our December 2010 speaker Prof Gosney returns next week. Those members who volunteered to take part have now received their results and have been invited to be involved in further taste trials. Help will be required with the administration..

The meeting closed at 11.am

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on 15th March 2011 9.30 at the S&G HQ