

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK OF u3as - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 28th JULY 2021 ON ZOOM**

PRESENT	<p>Rosie Allen Chair (Arnold), Terry Hardman Treasurer (Sutton in Ashfield), Peter Edge Webmaster (Keyworth), Chris Niven Vice Chair (Eastwood), Margot Gale Network Contact (Beeston), Paul Martinez Support Officer (Carlton & Gedling), Jean Hogg Regional Trustee (Southwell). Denise Swain, Arnold; John Lewis, Bingham; Alwyn Foster, Burton Joyce; Anna Moor, Burton Joyce; David Vanner, Calverton; Nicholas Clark, Carlton & Gedling; Isabell Martindale, Edwalton; Kathryn Cope, Forest Town; Linda Shutt, Forest Town; Kelvin Foster, Forest Town; Melvyn Francis, Hucknall; Carole Harrison, Mansfield; Carolyn Luckhurst, Mapperley; Gill Lee, Newark; Anita Smith, Newark; Jean Berry, Nottingham; Elizabeth Gilder, Park Nottingham; Diane Hibbert, Rainworth; Maria Gabrielczyk, Ravenshead; Sue Ross, Retford; Jeremy Lloyd, Sherwood; Marjorie Bramhill, Southwell; Brian Platt, Southwell; Paco Saucedo, West Bridgford; Sheila Massey, Worksop.</p>
ITEM 1	<p>WELCOME BY CHAIR, ZOOM PROTOCOL & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Rosie welcomed everyone. In these Zoom meetings it is important for participants to show both name and u3a for the records of those present. There were apologies from Sue Blackley Secretary (Beeston); Paul Fileman, Soar Valley; Anne Orton, Nottingham; Jayne Holmes, Eastwood; Allan Bridgwater, Wollaton; Mark Jackson, Hucknall; Lynden Lowe, Rainworth; Allan Barham, Forest Town; Hazel Stenson, Stapleford.</p>
ITEM 2	<p>AGREE MINUTES, ACTION POINTS AND OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETINGS ON 27TH JANUARY AND 28TH APRIL 2021 The January minutes and April notes were approved. Marjorie Bramhill (Southwell) asked for abbreviations such as PSG to be explained in full.</p>
ITEM 3	<p>REPORTS Treasurer's report - Terry Hardman Our current balance is £1,260 but there is a payment of £113 owed to St Peter's for the January 2020 meeting and the total includes £300 which was provided for the Network Festival that did not take place. This leaves an available balance of £847. Regional Trustee – Jean Hogg Information about the planned East Midlands Conference on 29th September will soon be available. The new National Chair will be attending. There are records of those who had already booked and paid for the original date that had to be postponed. Jean said she was very grateful to Chris Hartley-Mills for the work he had done as Publicity Officer and apologised for not including this in her July newsletter. Rosie expressed our gratitude that Jean is continuing in her role for another year. Website update Peter Edge Our website was shown as a good example during the recent Netfest Webinar on Network Communications. The website is a good place to find the latest news in the Network and Regional newsletters. The recently developed 'Retention and Recruitment Toolkit' is on the website under the Network Support tab and is very well presented and explained. Network Development Plan. Rosie Allen Rosie pointed out the number of green items showing how much had been achieved despite the conditions. Paco Saucedo asked about plans to open new u3as, Rosie said that the current focus is relaunching existing u3as.</p>
ITEM 4	<p>CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS Terry reported that 150 seats had been reserved for the event on Monday 31st January 2022 with eight u3as currently showing interest. Arnold and Southwell have asked for substantial numbers of seats and Terry was confident that more seats could be arranged if necessary</p>
ITEM 5	<p>NETWORK AFFILIATION AGREEMENT (NAA) The draft agreement template had been circulated. The main advantages of the agreement are that the network as an entity can use the national u3a branding, and benefit from the public liability insurance. The obligations do not include anything that we are not doing already. John Lewis (Bingham) felt that the agreement was unnecessary as everyone involved is a u3a member. Rosie said that if he wanted to pursue this, he should contact Sam Mauer. Network Link contact Margot said that it is an important document. It will be put to the October AGM.</p>

<p>ITEM 6</p>	<p>PEER SUPPORT GROUPS (PSGs)</p> <p>Publicity – Chris Niven (Eastwood) Chris has recently taken over as chair from Paul. Recent meetings had focused on the use of social media to get the message out, and now the plan to explore other ways of publicising ourselves.</p> <p>Treasurers – David Vanner (Calverton) The group was Initially chaired by Malcolm Brooksbank (Beeston), the second meeting was held on 19th April. There have been no suitable topics put forward for discussion and David and Margaret Taylor (Sherwood) agreed to suspend the group. The group would be of great benefit to new treasurers and there were suggestions for a way forward such as inviting all u3as to suggest topics, meeting once a year, finding someone to make it happen.</p> <p>Chairs Gill Lee (Newark) The group was originally chaired by Arnold but has not been meeting because there has been a change of chair. Rosie offered to resurrect the PSG.</p> <p>Websites – Carolyn Luckhurst (Mapperley) The first meeting was held in November 2020 but the second, scheduled for January 2021 had to be cancelled. Carolyn suggested that this PSG overlaps with the Publicity PSG and the two topics could be combined.</p> <p>Membership – Maria Gabrielczyk (Ravenshead) A meeting hosted by Ravenshead and chaired by membership secretary Andy Bebbington has been held with a second meeting planned for late August. A WhatsApp group has been set up.</p> <p>Speaker Seekers – Paul Martinez (Carlton & Gedling) This is a well-established group operating via a Googlegroups arrangement administered by Paul Fileman (Soar Valley). Paul Martinez will ensure that all u3as are aware of the group</p> <p>Interest Group Coordinators Joe Colls (West Bridgford) was not at the meeting to report, Paco will ask him to contact Rosie with an update.</p> <p>Secretaries – Paco Saucedo (West Bridgford) Paco reported that the group is active with the chair Yvonne Hayes (West Bridgford) doing a great job.</p> <p>General Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolyn Luckhurst (Mapperley) said that WhatsApp groups are extremely useful and could be more valuable than meetings. Rosie said that how PSGs meet is a matter for the individual groups to decide. • Paco Saucedo (West Bridgford) suggested that there could be a role for a PSG coordinator. • Rosie offered to write an item for the August newsletter addressing the PSG issues, suggestions and information for this should reach Rosie by 10th August.
<p>ITEM 7</p>	<p>SHARED INTEREST GROUPS</p> <p>Paul Martinez believes that u3as can make their offer more attractive by offering more interest groups and this can be achieved by sharing interest group more widely across the u3as using Zoom. Carlton & Gedling u3a would like to kick the process off by offering to share two groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film study group (meets once a month) • Opera study group (meets twice a month) <p>Both groups will continue to meet online whatever happens to social distancing etc. Because they are online it doesn't matter how many members are in each group. This offer was publicised in the June newsletter where there are links to more information.</p>
<p>ITEM 8</p>	<p>FUTURE VENUES FOR MEETINGS</p> <p>The October meeting will be held using Zoom when a decision will be held on how to hold the January meeting. Rosie asked how people felt about continuing to hold Zoom meetings rather than in-person meetings, there was support for both options and a combination of the two is a possibility.</p>

