

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK OF U3A's
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14.10.15.
AT THE CENTRE, ST. PETER'S, RAVENSHEAD, NOTTS. NG15 9FD

MEMBERS PRESENT:-

Chairman Jeremy Lloyd, Secretary Margaret Taylor, Retiring Treasurer Rita Foulkes, New Treasurer Pat Smith, Educational Development Officer Karen Taylor, Web Master Peter Edge, County Contact Jenny Greaves, Regional Trustee Jane Pavier and Chairman North Notts. Neighbourhood Group Rita Turner.
Representatives - Arnold U3A Rosie Allen, Ashfield U3A Trish Tootell, Bingham U3A Rosie Garner, Carlton & Gedling U3A Eric Rennie, Edwalton, Gamston & District U3A Chris Shaw, Nottingham & District U3A Jan Bridgeman, Radcliffe on Trent U3A Anne McLeod, Ravenshead U3A Judith Moore, Retford U3A Adrian Sumner & Dee Ashton, Sherwood U3A Liz Wilson, Soar Valley U3A Peter Hickling, Southwell U3A Lesley Elkington, Sutton in Ashfield U3A Chris Carr, West Bridgford U3A Carol Gretton and Worksop U3A Lorraine Wood and Mary Mitchell.

25 Members including Officers attended the AGM. 16 U3As were represented.

APPROVAL OF THE AGM MINUTES DATED 23.10.14.

Karen Taylor proposed and Rita Foulkes seconded that the Minutes were correct. All members present approved the Minutes which Jeremy Lloyd and Margaret Taylor signed.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – JANE PAVIER

This is my last report as the Chairman of your Network as I am now the East Midlands Regional Trustee. Michaela Moody has done a great job as Regional Trustee and she will be a hard act to follow but she has now become a National Vice Chairman.

Over the last year, the Network has put forward suggestions of where new U3As are needed and, as a result, Stapleford and Forest Town have come to life. There was one launch that did not go ahead, for Annesley and Newstead, but rather than consider this a complete failure, the Development Team has learnt lessons that previously they had not considered. My thanks go to all members of the team, who are now busy with next year's programme.

As well as launching new U3As, the Development Team ran two Workshops during the year, one for Speaker Seekers, and one for Chairmen and Committee members, both of which were attended by most of the U3As in the Network. More Workshops are in the pipeline for the coming year.

During the year, I have seen how U3As run their main meetings. They all have the same constituent parts but organise them in different ways. Some have their speaker first, some later in the meeting, but ample time is given to letting members know what is happening in the future. Most important, - all U3As have that vital cup of tea and members enjoy the meetings. The number of interest groups available in the county continues to grow, some common to many U3As and some taken up by only a few.

I attended the East Midlands Regional Conference and AGM. Those of you who were not there missed two brilliant speakers on sleep and memory, both of which are important to us as third-agers. Breakout groups were also part of the programme, discussing a wide range of topics.

The U3A held its National Conference and AGM in Nottingham and again there was an entertaining speaker. One day was given over to Workshops and Discussions; the ones I attended were Diversity, Communication, Signs of a Failing U3A and Working with Universities. The next time the Conference is in Nottingham, please send a delegate (or two?).

Plans are in hand for a Regional Summer School in 2016, to be held at Brackenhust College. Details of the subjects offered are available on the East Midlands website. If you have not registered interest, please do it quickly, as the closing date is 31 October to see if there are sufficient interested people to run the courses.

I have enjoyed my two years as your Chairman and I know the Nottinghamshire Network will go from strength to strength. Michaela tells me Nottinghamshire the best-organised and most enthusiastic Network in the Region. National Office has also told me that the East Midlands Region of U3As is the most organised one in the country – let us try to keep it that way. My best wishes to you all.

TREASURER'S REPORT –Rita Foulkes

I will not receive the bank account for 5th September to 6th October 2015 until around the 10th October but have included any transactions in the Bank Statement sheets which had been previously circulated. In addition £52 has been paid for the venue for this meeting.

Thank you to the Branches who have paid their 2014-2015 fees. Only Rainworth is outstanding at this moment in time. The 2015-2016 fees will be due from the 1st August 2015 but the new Treasurer will be sending the invoices out.

As you know I'm resigning from the Network as of this AGM and wish my successor the very best of luck and hope you all support him as it is a thankless job. Thank you once again for your help and support over the last 3 years.

AFFILIATION FEE 2015/16

Rita Foulkes proposed that the fee be kept at £10 per year which Trish Tootell seconded. All Network members agreed. Pat Smith will send out the invoices.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

I wasn't expecting to be back so soon but following pleas of help here I am again. Firstly I would like to thank Jenny Greaves for taking over from me as County Contact. She has done a splendid job over the last few months and I look forward to working with her during the coming years.

This coming year I thought that I would continue the work that Jane and I had started and with Jeremy's help re-visit the Network Constitution. Therefore, I would like the approval of the Network to form a small sub-committee to look at the Constitution. At the same time we will also look at the procedure for the AGM. I am hopeful that at the next AGM in 2016 this Sub-Committee, after consultation with the Network, I will be asking for agreement to an amended Constitution which will be ok for many years to come.

I am also involved with the other Officers and future meetings for 2016 have been arranged which will lead to better communication between ourselves, the Network Representatives and members of the U3As in Nottinghamshire.

I would also add that if ever you have need to any help or advice please do not hesitate to contact me. Even if I am personally unable to help I am sure that I know of a man or woman that can!

The Members of the Network agreed that the Notts. Network Constitution and the AGM Procedure be reviewed by a sub-committee of 2 officers Jeremy Lloyd and Margaret Taylor and 3 members, Peter Hickling of Soar Valley U3A, Rosie Allen of Arnold U3A and Jan Bridgeman Chair Nottingham & District U3A.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As Jane Pavier had resigned, the Vice Chairman Jeremy Lloyd volunteered to take on the role of Chairman and continue Jane’s term of office until 2016. Network agreed.

As Jeremy Lloyd had now become the Chairman, Jenny Greaves volunteered to take on the role of Vice Chairman but only until 2016. Network agreed.

As Rita Foulkes had resigned, Pat Smith was proposed by Jane Pavier and seconded by Lorraine Wood of Worksop U3A be accepted as Treasurer. His term of office will run from October 2015 to October 2018. Network agreed. It was agreed that Pat Smith, Jeremy Lloyd and Margaret Taylor would be able to sign cheques. PS will contact the Bank with the necessary forms.

Margaret Taylor was proposed by Jane Pavier and seconded by Jeremy Lloyd to continue in her role as Secretary. Her term of office will run from October 2015 to October 2018. Network agreed.

Karen Taylor is the current Education & Development Officer and will remain in post until the end of her term of office in October 2016.

Jeremy Lloyd, on behalf of the Notts. Network, proposed a vote of thanks to both Jane Pavier and Rita Foulkes for their hard work during the time that they have worked on the Notts. Network. The Network wished Jane well in her new role as Regional Trustee and asked that a thank you card be sent to Michaela Moody, the retiring Regional Trustee, thanking her for supporting the Notts. Network. Jane Pavier in turn thanked Rita Foulkes and Margaret Taylor for the support that they had given her over the last year.

The date of the next Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday 19th October 2016 at 10am at The Centre, St. Peter’s, Ravenshead, Notts. NG15 9FD.

Chair.....Jeremy Lloyd **Secretary**.....Margaret Taylor

Date 19th October 2016