

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK OF U3A's
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15.01.14.
AT RICHARD HERROD CENTRE, GEDLING, NOTTS.

PRESENT:- Jane Pavier, Chair, Margaret Taylor, Secretary, Rita Foulkes, Treasurer, Karen Taylor, EDO, Michaela Moody, Regional Trustee and Liz Wilson, Regional Education Officer
Arnold U3A Representatives Rosie Allen and Mary Patterson
Beeston U3A Representatives Liz Barnes and Helen Stewart
Bingham U3A Representative Rosie Garner
Burton Joyce U3A Representatives Paul Geeson and Bob Clifford
Carlton & Gedling U3A Representative Eric Rennie
Hucknall U3A Representative Terry Hill
Keyworth U3A Representative Peter Edge
Mansfield Representative David Ling
Nottingham Representatives Christine Baxter and Jan Bridgeman
Radcliffe on Trent Representatives Dave Barton and Pam Thompson
Ravenshead U3A Representatives Paul Craddock and Alan Walker
Sherwood U3A Representative Jeremy Lloyd
Southwell U3A Representatives Pewter James and Carolyn James
Worksop & District U3A Representative Mary Mitchell

ITEM 1 **WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Jane Pavier welcomed members and accepted apologies from:-
Rowan Bird, Bingham U3A, Ian Robey, Carlton & Gedling U3A, Rita Turner Mansfield U3A, Neil Williamson, Nottingham U3A, Lesley Sumner Retford U3A, Peter Hickling, Soar Valley U3A & Carol Williams West Bridgford U3A.

ITEM 2 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Jeremy Lloyd of Sherwood U3A volunteered.

ITEM 3 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** dated 25.09.13.were corrected as follows:-

2 Representatives from Ravenshead U3A did attend the last meeting but apologised for not signing in.
The Minutes were then proposed by Christine Baxter and seconded by Rosie Allen as being a true record.

ITEM 4 **MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Item 9 (2) – Michaela Moody emphasised that Groups should not “employ” tutors for groups including Tai Chi. There were plenty of classes available that U3A members could attend and learn from a qualified tutor. They then could show the U3A members how to do a particular activity.

All Action Points were completed.

ITEM 5 **NETWORK CONSTITUTION**

Dave Barton of Radcliffe U3A proposed that this be approved which was seconded by Jeremy Lloyd of Sherwood U3A. All U3As present (1 vote per U3A) voted unanimously to approve the Network Constitution. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer then signed and dated the document. A copy will be lodged with the Third Age Trust.

ITEM 6 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Rita Foulkes went through the accounts, answering any enquiries on them. The Network accounts run from 1st August to 31st July. Unfortunately the subscription invoices for the current year had not been sent to the Nottinghamshire U3A Treasurers for payment. Rita had now prepared invoices to go to all of the U3As in the Network which were handed out after the meeting. Karen Taylor proposed that the Treasurer's Report be accepted with Liz Barnes seconding.

ITEM 7 **SECRETARY**

Margaret Taylor asked if there were any volunteers to take over from her as Secretary and County Contact as she intends to step down at the next AGM in Autumn. If anyone is interested they should contact Margaret who is willing to mentor for the next couple of meetings.

ITEM 8 **EAST MIDLANDS REGION UPDATE**

a) **Report from Regional Trustee**

Michaela reported that she has been extremely busy attending meetings and opening new U3As. She thanked everyone who had been involved.

Future workshops planned are:-

11.02.14. Development Team and understanding the planning of new U3As.

May 2014. A second workshop continuing the theme of the February workshop.

October 2014. A workshop on Constitutions and Committees.

The Regional Conference is to be held on 15th July 2014 at Long Eaton. The theme is “Participation”.

The Regional Conference for the following year is to be held in July 2015 in Lincolnshire. The theme is

“Variety is the Spice of Life”.

More information re these Conferences will be available nearer the dates.

In July 2015 Derbyshire Region is planning a Festival in Matlock on a Friday or Saturday.

b) Report from Regional Education & Development Officer

Liz Wilson reported that a Regional Summer School is going ahead in 2016. The venue is still to be finalised and it may be a choice between Brackenhurst College in Southwell or Sutton Bonnington. There will be no particular theme just 7/8 topics on offer. Liz would like help from anyone within the Network or any individual U3A in organising this event.

c) Report from Network Regional Representative/s

The Regional Treasurer asked that the 5 Network U3As who had not yet paid their subscriptions send their cheques as soon as possible.

ITEM 9 NOTTS. DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT

Karen Taylor reported that 2 new U3As had been set up in Cotgrave and Rainworth with Eastwood opening this year. There had been some tentative requests from ethnic minority people with a view to opening U3As in the NG7 area of Nottingham.

If anyone would like to help the Notts. Development Team in the future please speak to Karen.

Jean Hogg from Southwell U3A is interested to know if any U3A is doing anything re the 1st World War Centenary.

Radcliffe U3A has successfully obtained a grant to do research on “Radcliffe in the 1st World War”. They intend to put on an exhibition from 2nd to 10th August at the British Legion in Radcliffe and hold a week of events.

ITEM 10 REPORTS

U3A OPEN DAY AT GEDLING BOROUGH CIVIC CENTRE

Rosie Allen read out her report which will be circulated after the meeting.

WORKSHOP & DISTRICT U3A's SHOWCASE EVENT AT THE SAVOY CINEMA

Mary Mitchell commented on her report which had been previously circulated.

ITEM 11 NORTH NOTTS. NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

In Rita Turner's absence it was reported that a “Picnic in the Park” is to be organised this year.

ITEM 12 WEB SITE REPORT

Peter Edge said that on average 60 visits per day were made to the Network Web Site. New U3As were also being helped by their neighbouring U3As on their Web Sites until their own ones could be set up. Any publicity or items of interest should be sent to Peter to go onto the Web Site.

ITEM 13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Change of Venue

After discussion it was agreed that the next meeting be held at the Richard Herrod Centre although it was noted that the acoustics were bad. David Ling would bring equipment to try and help alleviate this problem. Liz Wilson proposed that out of the 3 meetings (usually held each year) that at least 1 be held at another venue. This was seconded by Radcliffe. It was also suggested that the Secretary send out a letter from the Chair asking why certain U3A's did not attend, send representatives or even send apologies. If the venue is found to be a problem then the U3As involved would be approached to arrange a venue in their own area for at least one meeting. **JP/MT TO ACTION**

b) Approval for Member U3A's Contact Details to be circulated

The Network agreed that a list of U3As in the Notts. Network is circulated but that emails are still sent out as “blind” copies. **MT TO ACTION**

c) In Depth Learning Project

Jean Hogg had circulated her report on the D.H. Lawrence study. If any of the member U3As had any ideas for future learning projects could they bring them to future meetings?

d) Peter James of Southwell U3A offered a PA system with extras for free which was taken up immediately.

e) David Barton of Radcliffe U3A is looking at internationally “twinning” between U3As. Michaela Moody will send him information on this. **MM TO ACTION**

f) Liz W. asked if she could have a copy of any DVDs showing U3A Activities

ITEM 14 NETWORK PUBLICITY

The meeting broke into small Groups to discuss movement to raise awareness of the U3A in the County. Forms were given out to complete at the meeting and a 2nd form was asked to be completed by the individual U3A's at their next Committee Meetings. However as the wording has to be altered slightly it was agreed that the Secretary would send a copy to each U3A with a date to respond by. These could be returned to the Secretary so that Karen Taylor of the Development Team would have a chance to look at them prior to the next meeting in April. **MT TO ACTION**

ITEM 15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING is on Thursday 3rd April 2014 at 10am.

Chair.....Jane Pavier Secretary.....Margaret Taylor