

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK OF U3As
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 03.04.14
AT RICHARD HERROD CENTRE, GEDLING, NOTTS.

PRESENT

Jane Pavier, Chair, Jeremy Lloyd, Vice Chair, Rita Foulkes, Treasurer,
Karen Taylor, EDO, Michaela Moody, Regional Trustee and Liz Wilson, Regional Education Officer
Arnold U3A Representative, Rosie Allen
Burton Joyce Representatives, Paul Geeson and Bob Clifford
Carlton & Gedling Representative, Eric Rennie
Cotgrave Representative, Barbara Bullin
Hucknall Representative, Alan Snape
Keyworth Representative, Peter Edge
Mansfield Representatives, David Ling and Rita Turner
Nottingham Representative, Pat Smith
Radcliffe-on-Trent Representative, Dave Barton
Rainworth Representatives, Jackie Cleverley and Anne Bentley
Ravenshead Representative, Paul Craddock
Retford Representative, Lesley Sumner
Southwell Representatives, Peter James and Carolyn James
Vale of Belvoir Representative, Gwendoline McCormick
Worksop & District Representative, Mary Mitchell

ITEM 1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Jane Pavier welcomed members and thanked Mary Mitchell for taking the notes in the absence of Margaret Taylor. Apologies were accepted from: Margaret Taylor, Secretary, Mary Patterson, Arnold U3A, Liz Barnes, Beeston U3A, Rosie Garner, Bingham U3A, Ian Robey, Carlton & Gedling U3A, Peter Binder, Cotgrave U3A, Geoffrey Foulds, Newark U3A, Christine Baxter, Nottingham U3A, Peter Hickling, Soar Valley U3A, Christine Carr, Sutton-in-Ashfield U3A.

ITEM 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING dated 15.01.14 were received. The minutes were proposed by Karen Taylor and seconded by Jeremy Lloyd as being a true record.

ITEM 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING NOT ON THE AGENDA

Item 13(e) Michaela Moody advised that she awaited a response for David Barton, with regard to the proposal for 'twinning'. Item 7 Jane Pavier asked members to consider volunteering to be the Network Secretary as Margaret Taylor plans to step down from this role at the AGM.

ITEM 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Rita Foulkes reported the position as at April 2014. The bank balance at 5th March was £374.33 and the New U3A Start-up Account stands at £254.37. She pointed out that to present more up to date information, meetings would have to be rescheduled for the third week of the month. It was pointed out that 15 U3As still owed their affiliation fees for 2013/14. The fees for 2014/15 are due on 01.08.14.

Caroline James proposed that the Treasurer's Report be accepted with Dave Barton seconding.

ITEM 5. EAST MIDLANDS REGION UPDATE

Michaela Moody, Regional Trustee, gave the following report -

- a) Declaration Eligibility Form – She undertook to circulate this form, which must be retained by each U3A after every committee member has signed. This is a requirement of the Charity Commission. **MM to action**
- b) Grants – the start up grant is to be increased to £200 and the grant to publicise events is to be increased to £200.
- c) Advice Sheets – these are being updated and will be circulated via the national mailing system. They can also be downloaded from the website "document download". This summer a file is to be sent to each U3A who will then be responsible to keep it updated.
- d) On-line courses – these are proving very popular. There are eight new courses being launched this month.
- e) Calendar – there will be no calendar for 2015.
- f) Third Age Matters – from June this will be available in branches of W H Smith.
- g) Cloud Technology – an Interest Group will be launched at the National AGM to generate further understanding of this new technology.
- h) Regional Conference, 15.07.14 – Members were reminded that they can now register.
- i) Memory Workshop – to take place on 3rd October, to exchange good practice.
- j) Constitutions and Committee Workshop to take place in October – for Chairmen, Treasurers and Secretaries. – encourage your members to attend.
- k) A Summer School is being planned for 2016 and all U3As are asked to think about their contribution.

Liz Wilson, Regional Education & Development Officer gave the following report in regard to other Networks in the Region –

- a) Derbyshire – a new U3A is being set up at Hathersage and they are planning their first Group Leaders course. There is to be a Picnic in the Park at Shipley Park on 17th June.
- b) Leicestershire – a new U3A is being set up at Newbold Verdon and they are planning their first Group Leaders course. A day at Snibston is planned at £10.50 a ticket. Tickets will be available to U3As outside of the County.
- c) Lincolnshire – a new U3A is being set up in Collingham as a joint venture with Nottinghamshire.

- d) Northamptonshire – they are planning a second Group leader’s course. After the successful day out last year, they are planning one this year at Cottisbrook Hall.

Karen Taylor, Regional Representative

Karen Taylor explained that she was unable to report on the last meeting since decisions must first be approved by the Regional Council.

ITEM 6. NOTTS DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT

Karen Taylor, Network Education & Development Officer, reported –

- a) Publicity – information received from all U3As had been collated by David Ling. David was thanked for his hard work and all members who had contributed to this exercise. Thoughts were being given as to how we would publicise the U3A in Nottinghamshire.
- b) Eastwood – a very successful pre-launch meeting had taken place with possible publicity outlets identified. David Ling announced that he had set up a pre-launch website. The second pre-launch meeting will take place on 30th April.
- c) More volunteers are required to join the Development Team and anybody interested should contact Karen.
- d) Michaela Moody has produced a publicity leaflet and suggested that prices were obtained for printing. **Eric Rennie to Action**

ITEM 7. NORTH NOTTS. NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP REPORT

Rita Turner, Chair reported –

- a) There are currently 9 U3As, hopefully soon to be 10, in this group.
- b) A policy had been agreed whereby members of any U3A within NNG could attend another NNG U3A’s Interest Group, provided they could be accommodated, without having to join that U3A. If however they attend the General Meetings then they must join that U3A.
- c) A Picnic in the Park is planned for 4th June between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at Rufford Park. Further information will be circulated.

ITEM 8. WEBSITE REPORT

Peter Edge welcomed any information to be put on the website. It was confirmed that if U3As are to use Facebook, that this should be accessed via their websites. Members were advised not to include their personal E Mail addresses on any website.

There was a general discussion around ensuring that U3As and therefore their members were aware of the websites and all U3As were requested to include this in their own website and newsletters.

Michaela Moody undertook to circulate a power point presentation that demonstrated the structure of the U3A movement that local U3As would find informative. **MM to Action**

ITEM 9. INDIVIDUAL U3A REPORTS

- a) Arnold U3A – Rosie Allen advised of three ‘Big Lunches’ planned across Nottingham at Bestwood Park (18.05.14), Mansfield George V Park (01.06.14) and Bridge Park, West Bridgford (15.06.14). It was agreed that this was an opportunity to publicise U3A, the publicity stand could circulate to these events and be manned by local U3A representatives. Members present agreed to form appropriate planning teams. Rosie Allen has the necessary information.
- b) Liz Wilson advised that each U3A participating in these events could individually apply for the publicity grant. MM will provide information on how to apply.
- c) Hucknall U3A – a Hoedown is planned for 17.07.14 and a concert in September – all U3As are welcome. For more details contact Alan Snape.

ITEM 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Approved minutes on the website – this was proposed by Peter James and seconded by Karen Taylor and agreed by the majority of those present.
- b) Action Plan – it was agreed that any action agreed at meetings could be publicised sooner, including a list of events, since there would be a delay in the approved minutes being placed on the website.
- c) Thanks were expressed to Mansfield U3A for the loan of the sound equipment.

ITEM 11. PUBLICITY, NEW U3AS AND WORKSHOPS

The meeting broke into small groups to discuss these topics. The reports from each group will be summarised by the Network Development Team and reported at the next Network Meeting.

ITEM 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 16th July 2014 at 10 a.m. Venue to be advised.

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