

Registered Charity No: 1105144



U3A Trustees Meeting 20 November 2023

Held at the Wesley Centre, Sandbach CW11 1DG

Meeting commenced at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Stuart Naylor, Linda Bilsborrow, Paula Reilly-Cooper, Barrie Hacking, Alice Holmes, Jenny Haines, Kate Ashworth, Alan Casey, Keith Saywell

IN ATTENDANCE: Ken Talbot

APOLOGIES: Sue Jones, Linda Williams, Moira Egan

Stuart welcomed Ken Talbot, who will be standing for Vice Chair at the next AGM.

2. MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING	ACTION
Review of the September Minutes was postponed.	
3. FINANCE UPDATE Keith said that there are now more groups paying in advance. Last year's finances remained buoyant throughout, partly because the paid tutor groups continued through the Summer. We have a current surplus of £8K+, and this is likely to increase year on year. There is always a surplus from trips, Gift Aid donations are increasing, and we are managing the finances better each year. There was a discussion on possible ways of giving funds back to members. Ideas were: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• reducing the membership fee• encouraging new groups or groups that struggle• offering help to smaller groups Alan pointed out that we may need to retain the reserves as venue costs are bound to rise. No decision was made about returning some funds to members, but this will be kept under review.	
4. FEES WORKING GROUP Nothing to add to advice that has already been issued.	
5. DEADLINES FOR THE AGM Everything needs to be signed off by the next meeting in December. Alan said that the Alternative Voting System in Members Profile needs some changes on the website. Kate asked if we could set up a computer in the library for people to vote.	
6. CHANGES TO CODE OF PRACTICE Three clauses were highlighted, all re conflict of interest. There was unanimous	

agreement to modify the clauses.	
7. AGENDA FOR THE WORKING LUNCH SATURDAY 10 FEBRUARY	
<p>It was noted that car parking was a problem last year and many U3A guests had to use the overflow carpark. A suggestion was to keep arrival time to 12.00 and hire a coach for those that would prefer not to drive. Alice will investigate cost and availability for a 35 seater coach.</p> <p>Topics on the agenda could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session fees – a 5 minute briefing • Discussion on the management of groups – how to determine maximum numbers; are group members still active (we would need printouts of attendances from the Leaders) • 21st Birthday Celebration • Members Meetings – (5 minutes) to encourage more members to attend • Ask Group Leaders to encourage members to log on to SWISH. <p>The deadline for attendees' replies is 27 January. We estimate about 80 attendees. All Trustees are invited.</p>	Alice
8. MEMBERSHIP	
There was an increase in members renewing this year. Only 71 members are not on email, and more people are renewing on line.	
9. GROUP UPDATE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tai Chi is now up and running. We also have another Wine Tasting group and the possibility of a Transport group. • Stuart thanked Alan for the presentation of his holiday at TalkingTravels. • The Town Hall are now asking for proof of PAT testing on any equipment brought in to the hall. They also have a No Smoking or Vaping Rule. • Ken has volunteered to run the Brewing Appreciation Group. • Walking Cricket played a match against a group in Urmston. • Sue was approached to see if the U3A Band would play at an event in Newcastle. • It was noted that the Group descriptions on the website could be improved. • It was agreed that when individual paid tutor groups start off, we can afford to be more generous with support during a trial period. 	
10. TRUSTEE ADMIN	
<p>The Calendar was updated.</p> <p>We need to identify Founder Members and past Chairs to invite them to the Birthday celebrations. Barry can access members and Alan can identify past Chairs. There were over 100 people at the first Sandbach U3A meeting. We need to identify them from their membership numbers, and also speak to current members to see if they remember anyone.</p>	Barry Alan
11. AOB	
<p>We have had no notification on the change to Library hours – when we have the information, we need to inform members via the newsletter.</p> <p>Barry is doing a refresher session on how to use the card reader in the Library.</p>	

<p>We agreed to leave the card reader in the library to save it being transported each time. The PIN number requires changing from 1234.</p> <p>Kate said that she had had a reply from Keep Fit who have some photographs that could be used at the Celebration. Kate will also take some photos for Tai Chi. Walking Cricket and Country Dancing will be doing 2 performances in St Mary's Hall.</p>	Barry Alan Kate
The meeting closed at 11.08am	