

Balsall Common U3A

Minutes from virtual meetings on 17th March & 4th April during Covid pandemic

Coronavirus actions – 17 March 2020

Having listened to the Prime Minister's press conference the coronavirus situation has now rapidly deteriorated to the extent there is a requirement for all of us to reduce non essential social contact, avoid all non essential travel and avoid all gatherings both large & small for possibly the next 13 to 16 weeks or maybe longer.

Therefore I decided to cancel our meeting on Thursday and telephoned each of you to discuss our course of action. The consensus of opinion was to implement these proposals as soon as possible.

Coordinators meeting - Postpone to another date to be determined later (LT to inform coordinators & BH to cancel venue)

An Afternoon of Jazz - Nick and his fellow musicians have agreed that this will now not go ahead. (NC to action including notification to all attendees)

Jim's farewell - Postpone to another date to be determined later (JM to action)

Ian has agreed to coordinate the dissemination of the following information to all our members (including visiting members) with the help of Peter Calver & Len Tomnie and consider ways of engaging members' continued interest with BC U3A via The Sentinel, website, email and other social media. Coordinators will be requested to see if there is anything that they can do to keep members of their group in touch with one another and provide help to those "housebound".

AGM - The model constitution dated Dec 2018 states that "An annual general meeting must be held in each subsequent year and not more than fifteen months may elapse between successive annual general meetings." Note that this paragraph is not in our constitution.

However taking the fifteen months guideline we will postpone our AGM until 6 August and reconfirm this decision by 9 July. This will then allow the formal notification to be circulated with the required minimum of 3 weeks notice before 16 July.

The current committee members will therefore remain in post until this AGM is held.

Core meetings - These will be cancelled for the next three months (April, May & June) and will be reviewed at the beginning of June#. (VW to cancel speakers & BH to cancel St Peter's Hall)

Group meetings - These will be cancelled forthwith until the end of June and, like the core meetings, will be reviewed at the beginning of June#.

May I ask that you hold the afternoon of 4th June in your diary, which would have been a core meeting, for a committee meeting (either face to face or virtual)?

These proposals may sound draconian but are made primarily with the members health & well being & also gives certainty rather than keep reviewing things on an ongoing basis.

Proposal to use Zoom for core meetings - 4th April

Graham Harper suggested that Zoom be used for Core meetings. My response to him was:

“In order to consider further your suggestion to use Zoom for our core meetings, I circulated our exchange of emails to the committee members for their opinion. I can now inform you that the consensus was that Zoom would not be suitable for our core meetings. However thanks for your suggestion.”