

Minutes of the meeting

Present: Matthew Stephens (MS), John Bolt (JB), Richard Drake (RD), Vivienne Waterer (VW), Barbara Hammonds (BH), John Peat (JP), Ernie Taylor (ET), Sue Simpson (SS) and Mike Fairbrother (MF)

1	MS welcomed members to the meeting
2	Apologies: None
3	Minutes of meeting on 2 December 2021, and Zoom meetings on 3 and 19 January were read and accepted.
4	Matters arising - The constitution document was signed by the officers - Oton u3a: Previously agreed that a follow-up meeting to be arranged – MS stressed need to agree aims/objectives and who should attend. MS agreed to meet with the new Olton acting chair (Carol Oakden) and Rob Carmichael after the Solihull Cluster meeting on 9 February 2022. - Death of a member policy was accepted with minor amendments. It was decided that the form was not necessary. - Meeting of Group Co-ordinators on 31 January 2022 was well attended and successful and MS thanked those Trustees who had worked on the arrangements. - Social events: Jim Henry is a singer in a dance band, The Prime Numbers, and would like to discuss an event, perhaps during u3a week in September. The committee were generally in favour and ET and MS to meet and discuss with Jim. The meeting also discussed the Beeston u3a publicity material advertising a fair. Action MS to follow up. - Beacon: RD still to train MS and JB
5	Succession planning. The AGM is in May and three (possibly four) trustees, including the treasurer are leaving the committee. Actions: RD to draft a note seeking a new treasurer. MS to draft a note for Peter Calver to circulate seeking new trustee members (it was noted that a maximum of 12 could serve) BH suggested a coffee morning for new members. Action: sub-group to organise – MS, BH, VW, RD and MH. Trustees to approach possible candidates to serve on the committee before the next Core Meeting on 3 March – it was agreed that a personal approach is usually the most effective - ALL
6	New groups: Noted: joint gardening group with Olton, short mat bowling and bird watching – short presentations on each were given at the Group Co-ordinators meeting.
7	Balsall Common Platinum Jubilee Festival Friday June 3rd 2022, 4.00 to 9.30pm. We have been invited by Christina O'Sullivan to provide security and supervise the car parking. This would require 20 – 30 u3a members to each work one-hour stints (in addition 2 would be required for Car park duty from 2.00 to 4.00pm). MS felt that this would generate good publicity and engagement with the local community. The meeting expressed doubts that we could manage the numbers on a Bank Holiday. Actions: MS to circulate a note to members (via Beacon) requesting support with a

	suitable response deadline. MS to contact Christina confirming this and seeking more time for a response.
8	Solihull u3a cluster. MS to attend next meeting on 9 February. To discuss u3a's role in social prescribing.
9	Preparation for AGM. Action: Sub-group to meet to plan for the AGM. MS, JB and RD
10	Reports (a) Chair: Met with well attended groups: Walking Football sessions (5 new recruits following a Facebook advert), History (zoom) and Ramblers (met new members). Placed articles for the Bugle Magazine (we have 4 pages in the next edition). Held detailed discussions on Social Prescribing, Swing Band/Harper Fields Care Home and Village Festival. (b) Treasurer: Report received. a. Bank balances: Main account: £3,852.40, Group account: £2,818.84, still waiting for invoice from village Hall for October to December b. Around 230 members have renewed with around 100 left to renew. RD to send a reminder e-mail to those yet to renew, and VW will deliver to those not on e-mail. c. RD to set up a meeting with Peter Calver concerning succession planning to administer the web-site. d. Co-op bank. RD has spoken to financial ombudsman re the incentive offer of £1,250 we expected from Nat West. (c) Secretary: To retain all minutes, including from earlier years (d) Membership secretary: currently 339 members, including 8 guests + one honorary member (e) Speakers' secretary: all speakers are booked for 2022. (f) Groups' liaison officer: no report (g) Publicity officer: no report
11	Correspondence: read and noted
12	Other business: Core meeting on 3 March when the swing band is playing. Band needs the hall from 1.15pm to set up. There is potentially a capacity issue. Saxophone players will be on the floor. Family/guests of musicians from other u3as may attend. Action: BH to find out capacity of the hall and MS to contact Nick Carter. We need to find a way to limit the number of members to attend. Perhaps they could register by e-mailing - MS.
	Date of next meeting: 7 April 2022

M. S. Styles

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