

**Minutes of the 178th Committee Meeting of the Buckingham and District U3A
held on
Monday September 22nd 2014 at the Council Chambers**

Present: Clive Cowdy (Chairman) Joan Hatherley,(Treasurer),Lesley Suggate (Membership Secretary), Val Bradley (Business Secretary/Group Liaison Officer), Di Procter (Minutes), Don Horne (Publicity), Christine Dodds (Speaker Seeker), Carolina Kenealy (newsletter)

1 Welcome: Clive welcomed everyone.

2 Apologies : Roland Simpkins (Website), Martin Paul (Vice Chairman) David Angrave (Technical Resources).

David's wife had sent a letter tendering David's resignation from the committee as he had had a fall. Val to write and thank him for his 10 years of service.

3 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes were approved and signed.

4 Matters Arising:

- Note Paper: The heading is now fine and the Trust are happy.
- Radio Microphone: Geoff Suggate has disposed of this properly.
- New Members' Coffee Morning. It was scheduled for today so would have clashed with this meeting, so it was cancelled. A new date to be set after the AGM. Barbara Willis is keeping a list of names.
- Festive Lunch. Bryan is happy to organise this with the committee's agreement. It will now be a choice of roasts.
- Research form. Some people have completed this.

5 Chairman's Report:

Next Year's Charity: 2 suggestions had been sent in.

- 1) The Friends of Steeple Claydon Day Club
- 2) The Community Care North Bucks Hospital Car Service, aka hospital car service.

The committee felt that due to location the second was probably more suitable but both will be put forward to the AGM for members to vote.

- Wednesday's meeting. Clive will not be there and Roland has offered to front it so Bryan will not be needed.
- Venue for Committee meetings: Several people had commented on how nice it had been at the golf club but it was decided to stay at the council chambers for convenience.

6 Treasurer's Report:

Joan presented the accounts to date. Christine had a small query which was easily answered. Joan has asked Pat Costello to examine the accounts for the AGM and she has agreed. Joan wondered if we should aim to reduce the surplus a bit. There was much discussion. It was agreed that in future Carolina will post the newsletters. Christine commented that she was surprised at how little we had paid for speakers so far this year and that this will probably go up quite considerably next year.

Joan had had a request from the Italian group for a white board but had said it must come from their funds. Croquet had also asked for money for a new croquet set but the amount needed had not been known.

Room Hire. Joan produced a sheet with the breakdown of room hire. There was much discussion. The Monday bridge group, at Chandos Court, are to be asked to pay 50p from October. Joan had had a request from the Cricket Club, where croquet is played, for an increase in rent. At present we pay £50 a year. It was agreed that Joan should offer £100 and be prepared to go up to £200. If this is not acceptable then it must come back to the Committee.

Donations to Bellfest. Again much discussion as to whether we would be setting a precedent. Finally Di proposed and Carolina seconded that we offer to pay up to £100 towards the rent of the Quinton Hall. Joan to check the cost of the hall before the offer is actually made.

GC's are to be reminded of the financial rules. Clive and Joan will work on this together.

Further discussion re the surplus is to take place after the AGM. Need to be prepared that this could be a question raised at the AGM.

7 Group News:

There is a white envelope.

Qi Gond will start on October 2nd at Gawcott chapel for one hour each week. Room hire at the chapel is going up to £7.00 an hour. Rosita Hills, who is going to run it is not a member, and she needs to be for insurance purposes. This is to be explained to her.

Teaching Drawing. Two Magda's seem to have been confused. Val now has tracked down the correct one and is waiting to make contact with her as she has several people on the list wanting to learn.

She has booked 7 long tables for the AGM for display and one for the raffle.

The mezzanine room is now open on Wednesday pm.

It was confirmed that Beryl is still doing days out.

Well Street is not finished yet but is due to be by October. Val is to inquire whether it will be available for letting again. Lesley will take any GC's diaries not collected home after Wednesday's meeting and Val will leave the GC's noticeboard at the venue. (She is moving soon)

8 AGM Planning

There are still no nominations for Secretary. This is to be announced on Wednesday. Also to be sent out via GC's. We cannot proceed as a U3A without a secretary. We also need a new Speaker Seeker.

Pam has been nominated as President. The Committee unanimously voted that Bryan should be proposed to serve another year. Don will post his nomination form to Clive, who now has the other forms.

9 Membership

Lesley reported membership numbers: Current 752. Lesley had tried to send out a group e-mail but this has resulted in her having computer problems.

Janti will be there on Wednesday

Lesley will check e-mail addresses of all GC's

Lesley had had a letter requesting information about our U3A from someone who is moving here. She had sent it and had a grateful letter in reply.

10 **Website**

Lesley asked if we could publicise other events. Don will vet anything first and then it will be put under current events for ONE month only.

11 **Newsletter**

Clive felt that his picture should still be included.

Carolina had had a rethink about the number of newsletters and feels three is plenty. It will go back to December, April and September. Membership cards would then be posted out separately. *May need further discussion.*

12 **Summer Social:** Discuss next time.

13 **Any Other Business**

Bryan has proposed to run a trip to Amsterdam in 2016. This was fully approved by the committee.

The 3 year plan for U3A's has just been issued and Clive had sent it round.

14 **Next Committee Meeting:** Monday October 20th. In the Mayor's Chamber Jennie Smith will take the minutes for Di.