



**Minutes of the 181st Committee Meeting of the Buckingham and District
U3A held on
Monday December 15th 2014 at the Council Chambers**

Present: Clive Cowdy (Chairman), Joan Hatherley (Treasurer), Lilia Bogle (Group Liaison Officer), Carolina Kenealy (Newsletter), Roland Simpkins (Website), Paddy Collins (Secretary), John White (Technical Support) Lesley Suggate (Membership Secretary), Martin Paul (Speaker Secretary & Vice Chairman)

- 1 Welcome and Apologies:** Clive welcomed everyone. Apologies from Don Horne (Publicity) & and Sheila Everson (New Members)
- 2 Minutes of the Last Meeting 22nd November 2014**
The minutes were approved (after minor corrections) and signed by the chairman.
- 3 Matters Arising:**
None that were not dealt with below.
- 4 Confirmed arrangements for Xmas Social on 17th December**
Community Centre to be open from noon
Meeting starts at 2:30pm
Entrance still 50p – Joan & Martin to be on the door
Catering for 160 food at 3:00pm – Carolina Kenealy
Chair – Clive
Sound - Simon
- 5 Chairman's Report**
Community Impact Bucks are holding info sessions for trustees (of any charity) on 20th Jan 2015. Paddy to circulate the info (*postscript done Dec 2014*)
- 6 Membership Secretary's Report**
We have one member in the USA and one member who joined completely online. 644 members at present with 117 lapsed but lapsed numbers still coming down.



10 Webmaster's Report

We now have hyperlink to the visits page.

11 Newsletter Editor's Report

No problems. The newsletter is ready to post out.

12 Secretary's Report

Carolina will do a Job Description for her role from scratch as we do not seem to have a prior version.

Circulating Correspondence mentioned an annual return – nobody was 100% certain what this referred to but it may be the return for when we pay TAT a sum for each member. If so then presumably this return will be sent to us for completion in due course. Paddy to see what Val used to do.

Sheila Everson is still to sign her Trustee Declaration.

13 Dates of 2015 Meetings

These are confirmed as follows:-

Committee meetings (all Mondays at 10:00am till noon)

26th Jan 2015

23rd Feb 2015

23rd Mar 2015

20th Apr 2015

18th May 2015 (*postscript request received from Town Council to move May date to 11th May – is this OK?*)

22nd Jun 2015

20th July meeting with Shadows – venue to be confirmed

No August meeting

21st Sep 2015

26th Oct 2015

23rd Nov 2015

14th Dec 2015

Open Meetings (all Wednesdays 2:00 pm to 4:30pm) (*postscript*

- do we need to book the community centre at an earlier time – we seem to want access before 1:30 pm)

28th Jan 2015

25th Feb 2015

25th Mar 2015

22nd Apr 2015

27th May 2015

24th Jun 2015



22nd Jul 2015
23rd Sep 2015
28th Oct 2015
25th Nov 2015
16th Dec 2015

Can we move the date for a speaker to make a clear slot for a TAT HQ speaker to address us? Clive and Martin to investigate.

Postscript - Speaker from TAT now booked for 25th March 2015

Group Co-ordinators Meeting – date to be arranged by Paddy for Feb or March in small hall of Community Centre for 90 minutes with a 2:30pm start. *Postscript – meeting arranged for Wed 11th Feb 2015 2:00pm to 4:00pm – same time as last year*

The Summer Social which is currently scheduled for 22nd July 2015 is in the school holidays. Agreed to keep to that date.

14 Treasurer's Report

Now doing as much banking online as possible (Joan & Clive doing in through CAF bank – double authorisation required) (Lloyds Bank is just single authorisation – Joan)

Costco Card – Paddy & Carolina now set up. We just have to present ourselves to Costco with ID.

Croquet Group- still not heard from Cricket Club re dates and costs.

Subscriptions – discussion about how to deal with the surplus that has built up over the years. All options were discussed – giving surplus to groups, reduced subs, subs holiday.

Agreed by vote (7 votes for and 1 against) to have a reserves policy of having reserves in the range of between 6 months and 1 year's turnover. (TAT guidelines are 6 months)

This decision now needs to go into a "Policies Document" – Paddy to raise such a document.

The Treasurer recommended that, a free subscription year be given to all members for the 2015/16 financial year. She produced a spreadsheet based on estimated figures projecting an £8.9k surplus at the end of that year, approximately 7 months reserves.

It was agreed that we should put this surplus issue to our membership at the next AGM with a recommendation from their committee as to how to deal with it. We have time to come up with the exact wording but it could be along these lines – "Subs are to reduced to £10 from Sept 2016 for x years then reverting to £13 per annum thereafter"



Also we would submit a recommendation to abolish any reduction in subs for joiners partway through the year (the sums are too small to justify the admin required)

This would give the membership a say on the level of their subs.

15 AOB

No-one has come forward to run the “History & Literature Group” after Liz Loufti moves away so it will probably fold.

The “Drawing Group” is experiencing some issues.

There was odd correspondence from someone wanting to set up an Italian Food & Language group i.e. wanting to cook meals.

Lilia will ensure that it meets our guidelines if we get involved.

16 Date of Next Committee Meeting

Monday 26th January 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Buckingham Town Council’s Chambers