

**Minutes of the 177th Committee Meeting of the Buckingham and District U3A
held on
Monday 14th July 2014 at Buckingham Golf Club**

Present: Clive Cowdy (Chairman) Martin Paul (Vice Chairman), Lesley Suggate (Membership Secretary), Janty Mistray (Shadow) Val Bradley (Business Secretary/Group Liaison Officer), Di Procter (Minutes) Jennie Smith (Shadow) ,David Angrave (Technical Resources), Simon Kelly (Shadow), Don Horne (Publicity)

1 Welcome: Clive welcomed everyone, especially shadows

2 Apologies : Roland Simpkins, Joan Hatherley, Christine Dodds.

3 Minutes of the Last Meeting
The minutes were approved and signed.

4 Matters Arising: All are covered later.

5 Chairman's Report:

Next Year's Charity. It was agreed it should be a local charity. Carolina will put a piece in the newsletter, and give anyone with a suggestion the chance to let Lesley know by September 1st. She will bring the result to the next meeting and then the Committee will choose up to 3 to go forward for selection at the AGM.

Theatre Trips. Beryl will not be organising any more trips. Clive to ask if people would be interested in an evening trip in the future.

New Committee members are badly needed and Clive asked the committee to put forward anyone they think suitable..

6 Treasurer's Report :

The Handbell group will be covered by the Trust's Public Liability Insurance for the Bellfest next year.

Social Account. There is a £488 surplus at present from outings. 2 were cancelled. There is a problem in paying for theatre trips. Clive will reactivate the debit card he has.

7 Group News:

There is a white envelope.

Not many names signed up for the possible new groups.

Don Horne is now the group coordinator for Monday morning bridge in Chandos Court.

Tony Randall has proposed a proverb group, studying proverbs in other languages. Clive to announce this next Wednesday.

8 Summer Social.

Carolina has the food in hand and has estimated the cost will be about £188.

Val will see Terry this week to arrange about the table layout.

Clive will bring mint (and anyone else who has some). Martin will make the Pimms and Lesley will help Di to pour the drinks.

The entertainment, from about 3.00pm, is organised. There will be gentle background music and Dusty will run the raffle.

9 Membership

Lesley reported membership numbers: Current 746. We are still getting new members. Some enquiries have had specific requests.

Janti is doing miracles with the database and is going to take over sending out the newsletters. Labels will be done this week. The newsletter will be e-mailed out a few days before the social.

Lesley had been given some publicity by the university. These leaflets will be left in a pile by the door.

10 Website

This is improving all the time but still has one mistake.

It was felt that it should be easier for someone to find out "how do I join the U3A". Something for Roland to think about.

There had been really positive feedback about the flip chart folders.

It was agreed that Don's e-mail address is removed from the website at his request.

Don had put his report on the website but was unsure how to get it in the Advertiser.

11 Newsletter

Carolina wants it to be A4 size on an A3 paper folded, plus a loose sheet of general useful information. A few minor alterations will be made to the draft. Clive will then proof read it.

It was suggested that there be 4 newsletters in future-- more evenly spaced out through the year. September, December, April and June. To be discussed at the next committee meeting when the Treasurer will be present.

It will cost about £244 to print. There is no VAT. Can the printer fold them? Carolina to ask. It was agreed to order 500. (Later reduced to 370 – 375 after a label count!)

Postage costs were discussed. We need to talk to Roland. Franking machine? **To be discussed further next meeting.**

12 Any Other Business

- Carolina hopes the Pantomime Committee will agree to a discount for U3A members at the Thursday performance.
- Note paper heading. It was queried if it is right to incorporate the U3A logo into our new heading. To be checked with TAT.
- Radio Microphone. The available frequencies have changed but we have had no problems at the hall so far, so the one in the case is obsolete. Lesley will take it home for Geoff to see if he can use it and if not he will dispose of it safely.
- Jennie asked, on behalf of Derek and the handbells, if a donation could be made towards their 'Bellfest' next March. **As the Treasurer was not here to be discussed at the next meeting.**
- New Members Coffee Morning: This had been booked for Monday 22nd September at the Golf Club. It now needs to be changed as it clashes with the committee meeting. Barbara Willis will run it.
- Festive Lunch. It was agreed that Bryan should go ahead and run it. He will come to the next meeting. A roast is suggested this time.
- Clive had details of a research project for our age group. It was agreed that this can be advertised.

12 **Next Committee Meeting:** Monday September 22nd. In the Mayor's Chamber