

**Minutes of 184th Committee Meeting of the Buckingham & District U3A
held on Monday 23 March 2015 at the Council Chambers**

Present: Clive Cowdy (Chairman), Paddy Collins (Treasurer), Martin Paul (Speaker Secretary & Vice-Chairman), Lesley Suggate (Membership Secretary), Don Horne (Publicity), Carolina Kenealy (Newsletter), Roland Simpkins (Website), Sheila Everson (New Members), John White (Technical Support), Lilia Bogle (Group Liaison Officer), Valerie Shaw (Secretary)

1. **The Chairman welcomed everyone.**
2. **Apologies:** there were none.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting on 23 February** were passed as accurate and signed.
4. **Matters arising:**
 - 1) **Disabled members + use of mezzanine:** advice from Fire Brigade and H&S has provided no definitive answers. GCs to be informed that the onus is on them and disabled members to check access with library staff on a particular day.
 - 2) **John Bercow** cannot manage 22 July. We will wait for a Wednesday during a Parliamentary recess..
 - 3) **The unpaid GC sub.** has now been paid.
 - 4) **Summer Social:** catering to be diverted to groups, to take turns in plating up bought-in food, max.150 ie 15 tables, using caterer Mary Price. Strollers to be approached first. **Lesley** to co-ordinate. "Socials" to be regularly on the agenda from April.
 - 5) **Committee observers:** agenda to be sent to tea-rota group each month, inviting a rep. to attend the next meeting. Flower Arranging Group (April) to be contacted first.
 - 6) **Agenda** will also be posted on the Website.

2016 U3A Calendar: At this point Dusty Roades arrived to explain his ideas for a Buckingham U3A calendar, to raise money for Young Carers and to raise our profile. The committee approved his examples and agreed to order 250. Each GC to be given a copy to encourage sales. **Dusty** was asked to proceed.

Saturday 25 April, Young Carers' event: Don will represent U3A.

5. **Arrangements for next Open Meeting, 25 March**

Open up Hall – Paddy
Picture display – Roland
Greet – Rosie & Martin
Entry money – Rosie & Martin
Sign up members – Lesley
Chair meeting – Clive
Sound system – John
Bring milk etc. – Carolina
Tea-rota alerted – Carolina
Hand back Hall – Paddy

6. **Chairman's report**

Clive had met with Joan and David Hatherley and had agreed a statement which was accepted by all the committee. The issue raised at the GCs' meeting is now closed and the statement will be appended to the GCs' meeting minutes when they are published prior to next year's meeting.

7. Treasurer's report

Mandates for the new treasury arrangements have now been delivered. There is £10,000 in the cash account, together with 2 bonds @£6000 each. TAT annual return has been submitted. The following were offered as suggestions for reducing excess funds:

- 1) Barbara Willis has requested £159.68 to purchase an Android Tablet. Approved.
- 2) 26/27 August, 3rd Age Trust AGM in Nottingham: send 2 reps? Approved.
- 3) New laptop/IT system? **Paddy** to check.
- 4) New amplifier? But perhaps not worth it, especially as Community Centre is willing to spend some money.
- 5) Suggestions to be invited from GCs, although everything under £50 should be covered by group members.

8. Membership Secretary's report

746 members, 4 more than in September

Skills question now on application form.

Explanation of new subscription fee to be written for next newsletter.

Lesley

9. Webmaster's report

There was none.

10. Newsletter Editor's report

Carolina advised to approach GCs directly for copy if she was short of material.

TAM to be informed, with picture, of Susie Kelly's appearance on "Call the Midwife"

Draft of Newsletter to be sent to Clive via Word and PDF, by 4 April.

11. Group Liaison Officer's report

Lilia explained that family illness may restrict her U3A duties for a while. She was urged to let Clive know if she felt the pressure was too much. Carolina offered to help field some queries
Music Appreciation: falling numbers owing to GC's illness so effectively no longer meeting but one member wishes to carry on.

Drawing Group: closing for now but may re-open. Mezzanine booking to be cancelled.

Clive

Art Appreciation: GC unwell so temporarily closed.

New Friendship Group based on MM Hall? Cooperation with the Hall not very successful in the past.

A question for our Speaker on Wednesday?

Ukulele Group: Notice to go up on Wednesday to start a group. A willing GC has been found.

12. AOB

- Pocket First Aid Guides to be ordered for each GC @25p/10 per pack.
- First Aid Training, especially in the use of defibrillators, to be offered to any member interested (but there may be number restrictions) at the Community Centre. **Paddy** to check available dates, **Martin** to organise.
- GCs' lunch – in October. A caterer to be requested.
- New members' coffee morning: Golf Club not available in the summer and not very convenient. It was decided to use the Small Hall and provide coffee and biscuits in-house – Sheila, Carolina, Lesley happy to help.

Next Committee Meeting: Monday 20th April 2015 at 10.00am