

Buckingham & District U3A

Minutes

For the 213th Committee Meeting held on Monday 18 December 2017 at 11 am in the Council Chambers at the Buckingham Community Centre

Welcome

Present: Martin Paul (Chairman), Paddy Collins (Treasurer), Dusty Roades (Publicity), Steve Heywood (prospective member), Lorna Joy, Janti Mistry (Membership), Derek Morgan (Webmaster), Mike Weston (Vice Chairman) and Cliff Dammers (prospective member and secretary)

Apologies

Absences

The Committee gave a vote of thanks to Lilia Bogle for her service as Group Liaison Officer.

There was no formal agenda as this was the first meeting with a new Chairman and secretary.

Matters Arising:

The new members of the Committee must complete and sign forms and signatories for the Association's bank accounts must be updated.

A resolution to co-op the two prospective new members of the Committee will have to be adopted.

The arrangements for the Christmas social were discussed and approved.

After a discussion it was agreed that for the time being Committee meetings would continue to be held every month.

42 members have reserved places at the annual lunch in January.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had the new Committee members sign the necessary forms.

The Association has two bank accounts; the main account is with CAF Bank and there is an account with Lloyds plc which is used for subscriptions and the Christmas Social.

Each account has four signatories and any two can operate the account. Rosemary Gadd is ceasing to be a signatory. The signatories going forward will be Clive Cowdy, Paddy Collins, Martin Paul and Mike Weston.

It is intended that the Association convert to a charitable incorporated organisation in order to eliminate the personal liability of the trustees. It will take until the end of the current financial year to complete the conversion. The Association will need a constitution, to be drafted by the Treasurer based on the form supplied by the Charity Commission. A draft will be circulated before the next meeting of the Committee. It will be necessary to create a new charity.

Dusty Roades submitted a letter of resignation, to take effect from 15 January 2018. The Chairman thanked him for his three years of contributing to the Committee.

Membership

Janti thanked Lorna Joy for sorting out the membership cards and helping with membership.

There are 803 current members, 110 lapsed members (having failed to pay the subscription) and 220 past members. Past members remain on the list for three years and then are purged from the list. There is one pending member.

Mike Weston lead a discussion about finding volunteers to serve as the newsletter editor and publicity person. It was agreed that this would be announced on the website and at the Christmas Social, making it clear that volunteers do not have to commit to three or six years of service. The U3A model sets a limit of three years for four offices and six years for service on the committee.

New Business

Clifford R Dammers and Steve Heywood were co-opted on to the Committee and elected to the offices of Secretary and Group Liaison Officer, respectively.

It was decided to postpone to a later meeting the discussion of re-arranging the roles of various positions.

Carolina Kenealy has indicated that she is willing to serve as the newsletter editor.

There is no need to be a member of the Committee to serve as newsletter editor or publicity person.

The tea ladies have served for a long time and the Christmas Social will be their last meeting. The Association requires two volunteers to replace them. It was decided that the groups would be asked to provide the necessary volunteers on a rotation basis. Two groups would be responsible for each meeting, starting with the meeting in January 2018. The Group Liaison Officer will liaise with the group leaders. He will send an e-mail with the new arrangements and make an announcement at the Christmas Social.

There will be a new members coffee on 30 January at 10 am. Ten new members have registered. Committee members are requested to attend. The Secretary is to prepare name badges.

The arrangements for the Christmas Social were confirmed. Doors will open at 2:15 and the recorders group will play background music. The Chairman will make any necessary announcements, Roger Edwards will report on his history of the Stowe Project, followed by the annual quiz and a music ensemble. There will be a table top quiz and raffle. Food will be served at 3 pm and then there will be carols.

£2 per person will be collected at the door. The Chairman and the Treasurer will collect the charge.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 22 January 2018 at 10 am in the Council Chambers at the Buckingham Community Centre.