



## Buckingham & District U3A

### Minutes

**For the 237th Committee Meeting held at 10:00 am 24 February 2020 in the Buckingham Community Centre.**

Present: Martin Paul (Chairman), Lilia Bogle (Vice Chairman), Paddy Collins (Treasurer), Steve Heywood (Group Liaison Officer), Derek Morgan (Webmaster), Lorna Joy (Membership Secretary), Carolina Kenealey (Newsletter Editor), David Illing and Cliff Dammers (Secretary)

Apologies:

Roland Simkins

Absences

None

The Chairman welcomed the Committee Members and David Illing, Group Co-ordinator for Antiques and Collectibles and opened the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2020 were approved.

Matters Arising

The Committee discussed the Group Co-ordinators Lunch to be held on 14 May. There will be a talk/training on how to run a group, an open discussion (venues, insurance, outside guests, etc.) and lunch at the end. Derek Morgan had attended a training day for volunteers in Milton Keynes and the speaker was very good and is a possible speaker/trainer.

Steve Heywood is to send a hold the date notice of the “workshop and lunch” to all the group co-ordinators.

The agenda will be agreed in March when the speaker has been arranged.

Potential group co-ordinators will be invited. This will be mentioned at the April Open Meeting and through the group co-ordinators.

The Committee decided to continue with inviting group co-ordinators to attend the Committee Meetings and the Open Meetings in alphabetical order.

The Committee discussed the Third Age Trust AGM on 27 August 2020 in Nottingham. The Chairman and the Secretary will attend. The Chairman will announce at the Open Meeting and at the Group Co-ordinators Lunch that members are invited to attend and their reasonable expenses will be paid by the Association.

The Secretary will send the Chairman's and the Secretary's names to the Third Age Trust as the Association's representatives.

#### Webmaster's Report

Derek Morgan reported on his investigation of the way the gmail system for charities works. There are still issues to be sorted out before the Committee will be in a position to make a decision on migrating away from RoundCube.

#### Newsletter Editor's Report

Carolina Kenealey reported that she would like to resign from the editorship but has not found a replacement. She is willing to continue for a while and will look for a replacement.

Richard Gallimore, who has been proofreading the Newsletter, had indicated that he might be willing to take over the Newsletter but he has decided that he is not prepared to do so.

The deadline for next month's edition of the Newsletter is 29 February.

The Committee discussed the distribution of the Newsletter. Currently 177 copies are posted in physical form, at a cost of approximately £85; the remaining copies are sent by e-mail. The Committee discussed reducing the size to a single A4 sheet of paper.

The Chairman will ask the members at the March Open Meeting and at the Group Co-ordinators Lunch how many members read the Newsletter.

#### Group Liaison Officer's Report

David Illing, Group Co-ordinator for the Antiques and Collectibles Group, described the group's activities. There are sixteen members and three people on a waiting list. The Group meets in the Tesco meeting room.

Steve Heywood reported that he had received a query about rules for groups. These are available on the Association's website.

Paddy Collins has prepared a list of venues groups can use. It will not be published but is available to group co-ordinators.

#### Membership Secretary's Report

Lorna Joy reported that 69 people have joined the Association since the beginning of 2020. She will send a reminder letter to lapsed members.

She will resign at the end of the current year. There has been no response from the notice seeking a replacement that appeared in the autumn Newsletter.

The Committee discussed requiring all subscriptions to be paid by standing order. A decision will be taken by a resolution at an AGM of the Association.

#### Treasurer's Report

Paddy Collins reported that the Association's finances were in good shape.

#### Any Other Business

The Secretary reported that the Third Age Trust had written to say that the National Office has moved into temporary accommodation and is in operation.

The Brandenburg Choral Festival of London, which does a Christmas concert with the U3A, has written asking that the Committee bring to the members' attention that the Choral puts on a Sunday afternoon jazz series in London. The Committee decided not to announce the invitation.

The Secretary reported that the Third Age Trust had written to say that the membership subscriptions are due on 1 April 2020 and the Trust will be sending out the annual return form to be completed and returned. Paddy Collins said that he has it in hand.

**The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 23 March 2020 at 10 a.m. in the Buckingham Community Centre.**

Charity No. 1177534