



BUCKINGHAM & DISTRICT U3A

MINUTES

**For the 262nd Committee Meeting held at 10:00 am Monday 26th September 2022
online via Zoom**

Present: Lilia Bogle (Chairperson); Howard Mordue (Vice Chairman); Paddy Collins (Treasurer); Roland Simpkins (Speaker Secretary); Mark and Katerina Owen, and Arthur Newman (Group Liaison Officers); Derek Morgan (Webmaster); Dorothy Morgan (Secretary).

Apologies: Sarah Katz (Newsletter Editor).

Absences: None.

- 1. Welcome:** The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting. She had been informed of the passing of Donald Horne, a former Chair, and had given our condolences. Funeral details would be available in due course. The GCs would also need to be informed, and a notice put on the website. **Action: GLO; Webmaster**

With regard to the Banner, HM had been unsuccessful in returning the broken item to the Brand Centre, and was looking into a replacement. Agreed that LB would ask the University to recommend someone to help with the Artwork. **Action: LB, HM**

Membership secretary confirmed nothing further had been heard regarding the Ukrainians joining. LB would speak to her contact. **Action: LB**
- 2. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 25th July 2022:** These were approved.
- 3. Treasurer's Report:** PC confirmed there would be a surplus this year. He has been working with his shadow Sue Geary, who should be able to step in at the appropriate time. Regarding U3A Diaries, nobody had requested these at present, but would order 40. The Bridge group were being provided with new tables for the Maids Moreton hall. **Action: PC; DMM**
- 4. Membership Secretary's report:** JM had sent a detailed report to the Committee. Renewals are taking place, there are around 20 a week, making steady progress. The renewal date is 1st October. Half were being processed by his assistant Fiona Caplin, and he was doing the remainder plus the cheques. He is looking into ways to extend the renewal dates.

FC only has an iPad, and ideally requires a laptop to carry out her tasks. The older U3A one would be sufficient for the time being, and other arrangements could be made if there is any problem.

Renewals are spaced out over 12 -14 weeks from mid-August to November and he would like to shorten that period.

There have been 5 new applicants in the last month, with 5 more coming along.

The lapsed members list will not be sent out to GCs, they would normally receive an email but the list contains 400+names. Once the SM system has all the group members allocated to their groups, then GCs would receive automatic notification of their lapsed members.

GLO would call some GCs meetings with small groups to explain the situation, and encourage them to provide membership lists for the new system. These could be entered for them if they were not confident with the technology. DJM would be happy to assist with this.

Action: GLO

- 5. Speaker Secretary's Report:** RS confirmed all was in order for the meeting on Wednesday, and the speaker would need the Projector. It would be David Skillen on the role of Women in the American Civil War. A speaker had been booked for October; he would circulate the programme covering the next few months.

Action: RS

- 6. Group Liaison Officer's Report:** They would be contacting the GCs. There were 65 groups with 9 new or proposed, and 2 new ideas. There no lapsed groups this month. 24 groups were represented at the Summer Social, GCs for 21 were not present, and there were 13 walk ins. Someone from the University attended and was interested in developing links.

Some of the GCs may have been present in the Orchestra. Language and Bridge had a low turnout. Communication with group leaders is an ongoing issue, AN would email the private emails of GCS. Many of them seem to feel they run a private group, not a U3A one. He and the others will attend the New Members meeting, about 20 invites so far. (*Note this is taking place on Monday 10th October*). Perhaps it should be suggested the attendees bring an interested friend along.

Query regarding waiting lists, for example 4-5 wanting Calligraphy, with members reluctant to step forward to lead. Another example is Italian Beginners where the group have moved on to Improvers. The GLO can see the waiting lists in the SM system.

They would follow up on the suggestion made above regarding asking all GCs to give the names of their group members for Health & Safety reasons.

Action: GLO

- 7. Newsletter Editor's Report:** The newsletter had been sent out by DMM on SKs behalf to all members with email addresses. Printed copies would be available at the meeting on Wednesday.

- 8. Webmaster's Report:** DJM confirmed the website was ok, although lack of interest and input from GCs meant that many pages were not kept up to date. Jazz Appreciation (which he ran as GC) had ceased due to lack of interest.

Spam was an ongoing problem for those who had email forwarded to their home addresses rather than using the webmail or other email client. He would like to persuade them all to use the official system, and this would be offered as the only option to all new group leaders.

- 9. Any Other Business:**

Discussion regarding the Third Age Trust AGM; decision was made to vote against the Special Resolution, and against Resolutions 5 and 6, with the exception of Amendment no

8. to Resolution 6, being an option for a fixed sum increase of £4.40 in 2024.

Representatives would attend online and vote accordingly.

Volunteer request for a Christmas Social catering team has not made any progress to date, it may be an idea to message all members with another request, although it will also be in the Newsletter. One option might be to hold it as a normal Open Meeting with entertainment followed by the usual refreshments, rather than ask for caterers. Milady Clare's Musick ensemble are booked for the event.

**Next meeting (263rd) to be held on Monday 24th October 2022
online via Zoom.**

Charity No. 1177534