

Braintree Area U3A

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 5th June 2019

Agenda items	Action
<p>1. Those present: Welcome and Introductions Shirley Tyrell, Brian Armstrong, Linden Martin, Pat Shelock, Rebecca Fuller, Graham Chamberlain, Jean Ryan, Ian Reynolds, Alan James, Pauline McAllister, June Thompson, Elaine Orpe (Minutes). Everyone introduced themselves.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies for Absence: None</p>	
<p>3. Consideration of minutes of meeting held on: 1st May 2019 The minutes were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by ST and LM, apart from item 6 which should read general meeting not annual general meeting.</p>	
<p>4. Matters arising from minutes. Regarding Pat's report of her meeting with the Dunmow U3A treasurer EO highlighted that they use their own IT equipment but pay towards repairs. EO said her printer had failed and that she had done a lot of printing for two AGMs and monthly committee meetings. She asked whether it was possible to receive some recompense to pay towards replacing it. It was agreed that EO should receive 50% of the cost of replacing it. All agreed. Buying a printer for the sole use of the U3A was also discussed. All agreed that EO should purchase a standard sized printer for the Braintree area U3A. The entrance fee charged for teas/coffees at the general meetings was discussed. Mary Chapman who takes the money at the door says she is happy with the system. Most of the people attending pay the £1 at the door. ST has discussed the provision of the teas/coffees with Andy Beatty who has given her a list of things that need to be prepared. EO to redo the rota with the addition of the new volunteers ST had enlisted. It was suggested that volunteers be contacted a month before to check if they are still available to help. The idea of having a facebook page for the Braintree Area U3A suggested by PS was discussed. AJ said there are some concerns with using social media. RF said that members could receive notifications via a Braintree Area Group facebook page. A vote was held on investigating the setting up a facebook page for the Braintree Area U3A. 8 were in favour, 2 against and 1 abstained. PS said it should be open to the public to attract new members. EO will talk to her daughter who has set up facebook groups to find out what is involved and bring it to the next meeting. To also look at other U3A groups' facebook pages. LM said that there are several groups who have not yet provided a list of members to ST. There are 45 groups altogether. There will be a meeting of group contacts on Saturday 22nd June 2019 at 10am at the Old School Room in Rayne.</p>	<p>EO</p> <p>EO</p> <p>EO</p>

	<p>Cluster (LM) – A meeting was held with the Dunmow U3A to discuss whether working in a cluster would be beneficial to both groups and how we can help each other. Members attending groups that are not held at the other U3A is an option such as astronomy, crafts and mah-jong. Membership fees were discussed. EO said that she paid a reduced fee to join Stanway U3A. ST said that it would be free to attend in the groups.</p> <p>Credit/debit payments (PS) – PS had applied for a debit card and has now received two cards. PS has one and ST has the other one. PS has designed a new payment request form as she would like two signatures to authorise debit card purchases. All agreed with this. The new form has space for two authorised signatures to agree requests for debit card purchases. Current bank signatories are ST, LM, Geoff Mead and PS. DC has now been removed as signatory. PS asked if the Braintree U3A financial regulations be updated. JT said that she is happy to help PS with this. This will be added to the agenda in August.</p>	JT/PS
9.	<p>Members Reports:</p> <p>Chairman (ST): ST said that the Crafty Yarners’ group had someone from a charity come in at their last meeting who provide bags of goodies for children and the group are knitting teddies to be included in the bag. ST said that they would need to add the U3A to their group logo. They have asked for a table to show what they do at the July meeting. ST said this was ok.</p> <p>Ann Bright, who runs the family history group, said that she has someone who is going to speak at her group about family history and would like to open it to all members. ST agreed to this and suggested they talk to LM and JR about putting it on the website.</p> <p>Regarding Christmas ST has spoken to Martin Fee and he is happy to be involved again at Christmas. He is happy to play the piano and sort out the slides. ST will arrange a meeting with him in the summer to start organising it.</p> <p>Vice Chairman (LM): Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Secretary (EO): Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Treasurer (PS): Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Website Editor (JR): There were 4509 hits last month. There were some missing data problems but this had been resolved.</p> <p>Membership Secretary (RF): RF said that the membership currently stands at 472.</p> <p>Group Co-ordinator (LM): LM said that following last month’s meeting she has set up a group contacts’ meeting to be held on Saturday 22nd June 2019 at 10am at the Old School Room in Rayne. She said that she had also spoken with another U3A group member who said there most popular group was a Singles’ Group. It was agreed this is a good idea. IR said that he had received an email from the Arriva Bus Company who is working with Essex U3As. PS said that she had replied to this. LM to ask the membership if there was anyone interested in setting up a singles group. LM also suggested having a tie and posh frock dinner. BA said he would look into this. PS said that</p>	<p>LM/JR</p> <p>ST</p> <p>LM</p> <p>BA</p>

	<p>she had 17 interested in attending her Smartphone and tablet group with 6 confirmed starting next Thursday.</p> <p>Newsletter Editor (GC): GC said he still needs items for the next newsletter. EO said she would do at item about the photography group. GC asked if non-U3A items could go in it but it was decided this was not appropriate. ST said she would send him some Wimbledon Trip photographs. RF said that she would ask Heather to do an article on the Wimbledon trip. He will get 250 copies printed. ST will ask Geoff Mead to do an article about the group trip to Potters Resort. ST said she would do one on the Hyland's House trip.</p> <p>Speaker Co-ordinator (PM): PM wrote to Linda Scoles to thank her for her talk last month - seems she missed a good one. Peter Regelous has confirmed his visit for 19th to talk about 'My Life in Showbiz over the past 30 years'. All he needs is a table and the sound system set up. PM said that she would check the list for next year and bring it to the committee to agree to which speakers we have. PM has nine names already for next year.</p> <p>Information/Publicity Officer (JT): JT had researched what parish magazines there are locally with a view to submitting articles to them. She said there are 54 parish and town councils and has sent out emails to 28 of the local parishes and now has list with the contact details. ST asked whether there could be a way of checking where new members had heard of us. EO suggested putting a box on the membership form. It was agreed this was a good idea. JR to speak to RF about redesigning the form. JR offered to redesign the form and send it to RF and ST.</p>	<p>EO</p> <p>RF GC ST ST</p> <p>PM</p> <p>ST/JR/RF</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>A.O.B.</p> <p>GC asked if the idea of the posh do be a dinner or dance. It was suggested both. JR will be absent at the next meeting. A treasure hunt was suggested. PM has prepared a car treasure hunt and will update it and suggested doing it in the Autumn and will bring it to the next meeting. JT said that she is participating in the Essex Association Quiz Day called the Brain of Essex tomorrow afternoon at Chelmsford. Eight people going.</p>	<p>PM</p>
<p>Closure Time: 12:10hrs</p> <p>Date of next Meeting: 3rd July 2019</p>		