

BRANSTON & DISTRICT u3a
COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 18TH APRIL 2023
BRANSTON SPORTS PAVILION 2PM

Present: Jane Haresign (JH, Chair), Janet Foster (JF), Rick Smok (RS), Anne Pickersgill (AP), Robert Waltz (RW), Marjorie Barr (MB), Diane Prettie (DP), Eileen McKelvey (EM).

1. Apologies: None.

2. Minutes for Approval and Matters Arising: The March Minutes were approved, having been previously sent to all Committee members for comments and amendments. All agreed. Signed by Jane, as were the 2022 AGM Minutes, which had been approved, and passed to Rick for inclusion on the website. No matters arising. **Action RS**

3. Chair's Report: Jane thanked everyone for their support and suggestions. She said she had copied Garry's model for the agenda, just adding "matters arising", and including agenda list items in AOB. It was agreed there was no need for her to provide paper copies of the agenda. She added that she had taken u3a leaflets to the Metheringham Over 60's meeting and the Friendship Group, to hopefully generate some interest. Anne requested that the agenda be double spaced to make it easier to make notes. **Action JH**

4. Treasurer's Report: Janet reported that the balance of the Main Account at 31st March was £5790.75, and that it had been a fairly quiet month. She said most of the membership renewal fees had been received. The Social Account balance was £1189.83. The accounts were approved by all.

She reported that the efforts to add new names to the cheque signatories list were still ongoing, due to the various stipulations made by Santander and Barclays. Anne thanked Janet for undertaking all the work required to satisfy the banks' demands. James Hewson's name will be retained on the list, with his agreement, until the new signatories are approved.

5. Secretary's Report: Anne reported that the AGM went well, and as a follow up to that, new Committee Member Diane Prettie had been inducted as a Trustee on 15th April, details of the new Committee had been posted to the Charity Commission website, and the relevant new Committee had been posted to the Third Age Trust (TAT) website, with Robert now to be named as vice chair.

She added that the annual capitation information had been sent to TAT, so that they could send the bill to the Treasurer.

As there are no personal telephone numbers on the website Anne pointed out that Jane would need the u3a mobile, which Rick would hand over to her. **Action RS**

6. Membership Secretary's Report: Robert reported that there are currently 247 members: 114 individual, 124 joint, 5 affiliate and 4 honorary. Two new members had joined since the March Meeting, and there is 1 prospective new member. There had been 26 resignations to date. There were 238 members to be included in the Capitation list, which Robert had already sent to Anne.

Robert thanked James, Janet and Rick for the all the assistance they had provided to him during his first year as Membership Secretary, and reported that the new members' meeting on 17th April had been a success.

7. Welfare Officer's Report: Marjorie had nothing to report. Rick reported that John Butler was standing down as Convenor of the Natural History Group, due to health reasons, and said he would send a thank you email to John for his work in leading the group. **Action RS**

8. Group Coordinator's and Website Report: Rick said he had had no success in offering the u3a badminton equipment to local u3a's, so he would try further afield. **Action RS**

It had come to the attention of the Committee that one of the groups had a member who was not actually a member of the u3a. There was some discussion about how this would be dealt with. It was not known if the individual was a member of another u3a. Anne pointed out that the

Constitution stated that one could attend 2 meetings maximum without having to join. It was agreed that Jane would speak to the Group Convenor to ascertain the facts and agree a way forward. **Action JH**

Rick reported that he had been approached by 2 members about the possibility of starting 2 new groups: 50's and 60's music and French. He said he had emailed the information to all members and would forward all replies to Mo Ille and Anne Pickersgill. **Action RS**

Rick announced that, following the election of a new Chair, and a large change in the Committee, he would contact all Convenors to review their web pages and interest sheets to ensure all details were correct and with an up to date narrative. **Action RS**

Webmaster: Rick reported he had changed the Chair in Fast Hosts to Jane, had changed contact details for Chair and Welfare Officer on the website, and had removed Programme Secretary and Newsletter contacts on the website.

Rick also reported on the progress regarding the migration from SiteBuilder to Site Works.

- 9. Programme Secretary's Report:** Diane was welcomed as the new Programme Secretary. She was advised to send details of speakers to Rick to put on the website, once she had booked them, and to aim to book up to 6 months in advance, although Christmas would be a priority. Robert said he had been approached by Bryn Jenkins who had volunteered to give a talk on Communications during WW1. Robert would contact him to try to book him for September. **Action RW**

- 10. AOB:** It was agreed that Jane would email to the membership the invitation drafted by Sue Morris for the Coronation celebration at the Moor Lane Pavillion on Monday 8th May. **Action JH**

After some discussion, it was agreed by a majority vote, that the Committee would pay the balance of the hire charge for the Pavilion on the day. This would be £12 for the extra 1.5 hours required for it to be

open from 2-4pm. This was in addition to the Committee agreeing to pay for refreshments. Jane will contact Sue with the decision. **Action JH**

It was agreed by all that Lynn Snelson would keep the new u3a banner at her house and maintain a register of the bookings for it. Rick advised she would have to contact Denise Penistone at the Village Hall if she also wanted access to the flag. All agreed.

Jane was advised that she didn't have to take any action regarding emails she had received from the Charities Commission. They were for information only.

Janet reported that the next Network Meeting would be hosted by Bracebridge Heath on Thursday 18th May. Anne, Robert and Janet agreed to attend. It was agreed that Janet would contact the Chair to request that the distribution of generic u3a leaflets be added to the agenda, also the problems experienced by u3a's finding Committee volunteers. **Action JF**

Anne requested that the review of Committee member roles and of the Constitution be postponed to a later date. All agreed.

PAT Testing: Rick reported that he had been asked by the Village Hall Booking Clerk if we would like to take advantage of the approach made by an electrician to do their PAT testing. He redirected her to Bill Green on the Village Hall Committee, who would be dealing with our PAT testing. There is no access problem for the electrician to come to the Pavilion to test the equipment there, as it would be impossible to transport it all to the Village Hall. Jane will draft an email to Rick for comments before sending it to Bill Green to try to agree a suitable solution. Again it was stressed the urgency of someone volunteering for the role of Equipment Officer. **Action JH**

Summer Social: After Chris Hodson's suggestion of a trip to the National Memorial Arboretum, Jane reported that she had contacted A & P Travel, who could provide a 49 seater coach for £540. Janet said, at this price, members would be charged £12pp, including a tip for the driver.

Entrance to the Arboretum is free, with donations being requested. Janet volunteered to email the membership to ascertain interest, with replies being requested by Monday 24th April. If there was insufficient interest the alternative suggestion of an afternoon tea at the Village Hall would be pursued. **Action JF**

Christmas Get Together: A possible alternative of an afternoon tea, rather than fish and chips, was discussed. It was agreed to await the decision made for the Summer Social, as an afternoon tea would be discounted if that was the option chosen for August.

FOBS: Rick reported that he had informed the Village Hall Booking Clerk that the fob giving her access to the hall had been passed to Jane, along with her contact details. He had also given the Pavilion Booking Clerk the details of the Chair and the Art Appreciation Convenor, who both now held fobs for the bollards.

Village Hall Storage: Rick said he had been advised that the £5 quarterly storage fee at the Village Hall may soon be changed to a monthly fee, after it is discussed by the Village Hall Committee.

11. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 16th May 2023. Moor Lane Pavilion, Branston 2pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.10pm.

Signed by the Chair as a true record

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Janet Hoag
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Date

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16/05/2023
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