

BRANSTON & DISTRICT U3A

COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 18th January 21, 2022

BRANSTON SPORTS PAVILION 2PM

Present: Garry Snelson (GS, Chair), Janet Foster (JF), Anne Pickersgill (AP), John Tyerman (JT), Rick Smok (RS), James Hewson (JH), Mary Corbould (MC), Christine Hodson (CH), Brian Sentance (BS), Eileen McKelvey (EM),

1. Apologies: None

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising not covered in the Agenda:

James said Eileen's position on the Committee required clarification. After some discussion it was agreed that Eileen would continue as Minutes Secretary but not as a member of the Committee.

Garry reported re 3.2 in the previous minutes that he would be contacting Lincolnshire County Council Library Service in March. **Action GS**

Re item 3.6 Garry reported that everything was now sorted out with the Croquet Group.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were approved and accepted. Proposed Rick Smok, seconded Brian Sentance.

3. Chair's Report:

3.1 As previously stated Garry offered congratulations on the organisation of the Christmas Fish and Chip Lunch. He said a great success by all involved.

3.2 As advised Garry said he had postponed the Convenors' meeting which had been planned for January. He said he and Rick would rearrange a new date in due course. **Action GS and RS**

3.3 Garry reported that Lynn Snelson had attended the L.I.V.E.S. First Aid Course on Monday 10th January and had passed. He asked if we would now be offering a second place to another member. It was agreed that he would send out an email to all members, offering a place on a first come, first served basis, with the proviso that whoever took up the place would be expected to attend as many General Meetings as possible. **Action GS**

3.4 Garry showed the Committee the Third Age Trust (TAT) insurance document. It is viewable on the website but Garry asked that it also be displayed on the noticeboard at General Meetings. **Action RS**

3.5 Garry reported that there was still £20 credit on the u3a phone. As it was unlikely we could obtain a refund it was decided that we should continue to use the phone intermittently in case it was needed in the future.

4. Treasurer's Report:

4.1 Accounts: Janet reported that it had been a quiet month in December for the main account. There had been no transactions and the balance stood at £4357.74. She said the Social Fund balance now stood at £796.50, after payment for the Christmas Fish and Chip Lunch.

4.2 u3aNeighbourhood Meeting: Janet reported that she had attended the u3a Lincoln Neighbourhood meeting on 18th November 2021 and it would be worthwhile to meet with the other u3a's periodically, even though John was stepping down as the Branston representative. She had already shared the minutes from the meeting and she said it was interesting to see how the other branches had been getting back up running after Covid. She said she was willing to take over from John for the time being, but she also asked if anyone else would be willing to take over longer term. Date of next meeting 17th March2022.

5. Secretary's Report:

5.1 AGM Preparation Anne reported that she had drawn up an AGM Schedule, which she had already circulated to the Committee, and that she had redesigned the Committee Member nomination forms. There was then much discussion about how best to encourage members to agree to be nominated, as, ideally, at least 2 new members would be required from the AGM, in addition to an urgently needed Vice Chair. It was agreed members needed to know which roles needed to be filled, including Equipment Officer and Social Secretary, which are not Committee roles, so that members could be asked to indicate which role/roles they would be interested in. It was decided, after some discussion, that Anne would redraft the nomination forms. Rick proposed, and Chris seconded that the schedule be accepted. All agreed. Garry said he would remind members of the upcoming AGM. **Action AP and GS**

5.2 Sheepwash Times Anne said she had missed the deadline for submitting an article for the January issue, but that all the information would be in the February issue to highlight the group activities.

6. Membership Secretary's Report:

6.1 Mary reported that the total membership figure was still 232, the same as at the last Committee Meeting. She showed the Committee the draft membership renewal letter she had drawn up, which she intended emailing to members the following day. Garry said he would include details of membership renewal requirements in his email about the AGM. Rick asked Mary to give him a cut off date by which he would request that group convenors ask their members if they intended renewing. It was agreed that Mary would take on the responsibility of producing badges for new members and James would order more badge holders. **Action MC, GS and JH**

7. Group Coordinator's Report:

Long Walk Group: Rick said Jim O'Hara had handed over to him and James to lead the group for the foreseeable future. He said no one had yet come forward to take permanent control of the group, but there had been a positive response from members to lead walks.

AA&M Group: Sue Morris had decided that the first three meetings of the new year would be held over Zoom. Then there would be a further review.

Badminton: Due to the unavailability of the Ruston Sports Club facility the group was now using the Riseholme College Sports Centre, Lincolnshire Showground, in association with Lincoln u3a. Rick said he had had a discussion with Janet Wood, (Group Convenor), who said that only two or three members out of a possible twelve were turning up. She said the Lincoln group were a younger demographic and played with different rules, and she really didn't want to lead this group but felt it would close if she stepped down. Rick said he would discuss the way forward with Mick Wood at the Monthly Meeting. **Action RS**

Singing: Rick said the group would now commence meeting on 1st February, a month later than originally planned. Rick has amended the website accordingly.

Security Fobs: All Group Convenors who use the Pavilion had now been issued with a fob and the signed forms had been returned to the Parish Clerk.

Third Age Matters (TAM): Rick said he had agreed to take over the task of reporting TAM addresses to the u3a and Janet would notify him when the next report was due. **Action RS and JF**

Swimming: Rick reported that the pool at Nocton appeared to be more or less fully booked up all the time, so it looked as though the formation of a new swimming group would not be possible.

AOB: Rick said there had been no responses to the request for an Equipment Officer. Although this is not a Committee role, the position does need to be filled urgently as the PAT testing will need to be done before the certificate runs out on 18th May. Rick said he was happy to arrange the testing but hoped the position would be filled by then. Garry said he knew of a member who does PAT testing so Rick said he would ask him if he could help. **Action RS**

John asked Rick to send out an email reminding members to send apologies every time they were unable to attend a meeting. John said that would mean a venue like the Pavilion, which costs £16 for two hours to hire, could be cancelled if only very few members were going to attend a meeting. **Action RS**

Anne reported that the Bridge Group Convenor had received an email from the Library advising that the group could use the Library from 18th February as an experiment. She said she would email members to see if they wanted to go ahead.

8. Programme Secretary's Report:

8.1 January and February 2022 Speakers: Chris reported that she was hopeful that the January speaker would turn up as arranged. There had apparently been some doubt as the speaker's line manager was concerned about Covid complications.

Chris said the February speaker, Sheridan Minshull, would be talking about mental health issues and the social implications.

8.2 AGM Entertainment: It was hoped that Marcus Stead's singing group would perform. If not, Chris said she had another possible option in mind.

9. Website/Data Manager's Report: James said he would stay on for another year but that he would be handing over the roles to Rick but they would both be liaising with each other.

James said that on Beacon he advised that you don't include apostrophes and ampersands in the subject field, but always include Branston District. He said it is also helpful if you include as the first line who the email is going to.

James also commented that all protocols and policies would need to be reviewed at some time in the future.

10. Future items to discuss:

10.1 u3a's 40th Birthday Party: After some discussion it was decided that it was doubtful that celebrating this event would generate much interest.

10.2 Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2-5 June It was felt that this should be celebrated, but in a low key way. It was agreed that Janet would find out the cost of a cake large enough for the number of people we would normally expect to attend a General Meeting or an AGM, which could then be served with Prosecco or orange juice. The comment was made that it really should be the members organising such an event, with the Committee supporting. **Action JF**

10.3 Possible new members' meeting: It was noted that the previous one had been very successful. Janet said she would be happy to host it at her home, with some other members of the Committee attending. It was decided to wait to see how many new members there were, but for the meeting potentially to be held at the beginning of March.

11. Any Other Business:

Garry reported that he had been contacted by the Network Link Team about a Zoom meeting on 16th February at 10am, and he said he would email the details to the Committee, so that anyone interested could log in to it. **Action GS**

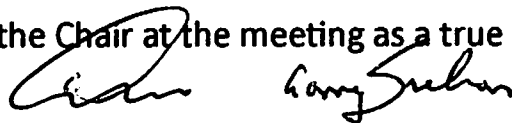
Anne said a member had advised her that a neighbouring district had asked if we could give them support in setting up their branch of the u3a later in the year. It was agreed that it would be a good idea as we could potentially get some publicity from it.

James commented that our leaflets need updating as the logo is incorrect and the groups list is out of date. James said he has all the graphics and John agreed to put it all together. **Action JH**

12. Date of next Committee Meeting – Tuesday 15th February 2022, Moor Lane Pavilion, 2pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.20pm.

Signed by the Chair at the meeting as a true record.



Date15/2/22.....