

BRANSTON & DISTRICT u3a

Committee Meeting Tuesday 18th October 2022

Branston Sports Pavilion 2pm

Present: Garry Snelson (GS, Chair), Janet Foster (JF), Anne Pickersgill (AP), Rick Smok (RS), James Hewson (JH), Marjorie Barr (MB), Eileen McKelvey (EM), Diane Prettie (DP, Observer).

Before starting the meeting Garry welcomed Diane Prettie as an observer.

- 1. Apologies:** Christine Hodson, Robert Waltz, Jane Haresign.
- 2. Minutes of September Meeting for Approval:** The Minutes, having been circulated and read, all were happy with the content. Minutes duly approved.
- 3. Chair's Report:** Garry reminded us that an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) would be held immediately before the General Meeting on Tuesday 25th October.

Garry said he had already forwarded the Third Age Trust (TAT) AGM response email to the Committee, concerning the vote on proposed increases to the annual subscription, which stated that no proposal had been successful. Anne had requested that the Minutes of the AGM be sent out, but had been told they were not yet ready, but would be sent out shortly.

Of the two members who had shown an interest in the Chair and Vice Chair vacancies, Garry said one was away on holiday and they would discuss the situation on their return. The other member had withdrawn their offer to stand.

- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Janet reported that the balance of the Main Account on 30th September was £3359.22. She said it had been a fairly quiet month, and there had been no activity in the Social Account, the balance remaining at £817.12. The Treasurer's Report, which is attached, was approved by all.

Garry reported that he had just received a cheque for £572.06 from the Coop, in respect of our award as a Community Champion. Rick will put a picture of Garry with the cheque on the website. **Action RS**

Anne asked what would happen to the funds in the accounts, and equipment, if the u3a had to fold if no one came forward as Chair or Vice Chair. Janet said she thought the equipment would be offered to local u3a's and the funds would go to Head Office.

Janet then requested that we discuss next year's membership fee. She presented a very detailed report to the Committee, based on which she proposed that the fees for 2023 should remain at the current level of £10 single and £18.50 joint membership, and it should be emphasised to the membership that fees would not be returning to pre Covid levels. All agreed with Janet's proposal, and Anne thanked her for her excellent analysis of the financial situation.

- 5. Secretary's Report: Update on Proxy Voting:** Anne said she had received a number of requests to vote at the EGM by Proxy Vote. There was some discussion about this but all were in agreement that members would have to be present to vote as this was laid down in the Constitution. Anne said she would send out an EGM reminder to members, advising them that proxy voting was not possible, and encouraging them to attend as at least quarter of the membership would be required to attend for the EGM to go ahead. She said she had already received quite a few apologies. **Action AP**

Rick said he had produced slides about the voting procedure, to be shown after Housekeeping at the meeting. Garry will propose the motion and Eileen will provide the details of the number of members present. **Action RS, GS, EM**

- 6. Membership Secretary's Report:** In Robert's absence Garry reported that there were currently 245 members, and 2 new members had joined since the last meeting.

Robert said he had been issuing copies of the u3a Vision, Mission and Principles to prospective new members. It was decided that this topic should be added to the November agenda as it needs to be personalised to Branston.

Action GS

7. Welfare Officer's Report: James reported on the actions he had taken to contact, or find out about, those members who had been taken ill or whose condition had deteriorated.

8. Group Coordinator's and Website Manager's Report: Rick reported that he had emailed all members with an invitation to join the proposed Gaming group, but, so far, had received no positive replies.

He said he had been asked by a group coordinator if we still had a Zoom licence, but this had not been renewed. He will advise. **Action RS**

He also reported that a number of people had shown interest in joining the Luncheon club, but as it is full he is going to suggest starting another one. He said he would be happy to be convenor but the members would have to run it. He will prepare a slide for the October Monthly Meeting. **Action RS**

There was nothing to report in respect of the Website.

9. Programme Secretary's Report: In Chris's absence Garry reported that she would also be unable to attend the Monthly Meeting. However, everything was organised, then there was some discussion about the technicalities of delivering the talk, and Anne would look after the speaker. Janet would issue the cheque for the charity donation requested by the speaker. **Action AP, JF.**

10. Heighington Christmas Stall Update: Garry had already circulated to the Committee the information he had received. James said he should have a suitable gazebo, Rick could provide a table and Anne could provide chairs. Garry said there were 3 definite volunteers from the membership to man the stall, as well as some Committee members. Agreement was reached on the publicity material required and items of interest to display. A £10 Amazon voucher was agreed as the prize for the quiz. **Action All**

11. Christmas Function Update: James explained the situation, as far as he knew, concerning the sale of Mark's Plaice, who should be catering at the Christmas Function. He said he was being kept informed and was hopeful that the event would go ahead as planned, but, contingency plans were discussed

if that was not possible. Janet said there had been 36 booking forms returned to date. James said he would email the membership informing them of the sale.

Action JH

There had been 3 complaints about the date of the Christmas Function, which, for a number of years had been the 1st Tuesday in December, as it clashed with some group meetings. Garry said he would email those members who had complained.

Action GS

- 12. Branston Church Christmas Tree:** There was some discussion about participating again in the Christmas Tree event from 27th November – 3rd December. Ideally we would decorate a donated tree, otherwise it was agreed there could be a spending limit of £50 on a new artificial tree, which could be reused in future. It was agreed that James would email the membership to ask if anyone had a tree they could donate, also, if anyone knew of the whereabouts of the laminated decorations previously used, and asking for volunteers to decorate the tree.

Action JH

- 13. Volunteering Requests from other Organisations:** There had been a request from a member to ask for volunteers for a particular organisation. There was some discussion about whether, and how, this could be implemented. The view was that each case could be considered on merit and be mentioned at the Monthly Meeting, or in a newsletter, if someone was prepared to take it on.

- 14. Any Other Business:** Garry said he would write a letter of thanks to the Coop for the Community Champions cheque, and ask if they would like to present the cheque at a Monthly Meeting. He would also enquire if they would be prepared to provide raffle prizes for Branston u3a events.

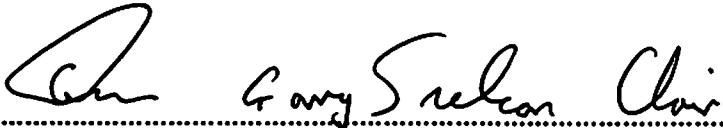
Action GS

Rick reported back about the problems experienced at the September Monthly Meeting with the PA system. The Village Hall Booking Secretary had now confirmed that the system had been repaired but Rick emphasised that we must be ready to resurrect our PA system if there was another problem with the hall's. However, this would take 30 minutes for at least 2 people to complete.

15. Date of Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 15th November 2022, Moor Lane Pavilion, Branston, 2pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.50pm.

Signed by the Chair as a True Record.


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Date

15/11 / 2022

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| TREASURERS REPORT October 2022 | |
| RECONCILIATION OF ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD 1 September to 30 September | |
| | |
| OPENING BALANCE AS AT 1.9.22 | 3513.52 |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS/INCOME | 98.00 |
| SUB TOTAL | 3611.52 |
| LESS EXPENDITURE | 252.30 |
| BALANCE AS AT 30 September 2022 | 3359.22 |
| | |
| represented by | |
| Santander Bank Balance 30 September 2022 | 3514.22 |
| Add cheques banked but not credited as at 30 September | 0.00 |
| less cheque not presented £155 | 155.00 |
| Reconciled Balance. | 3359.22 |
| awaiting payment/paid out | |
| reimburse J Hewson re 1000 u3a leaflets £120 | |
| speaker fee October ? | |
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| U3A SOCIAL ACCOUNT reconciliation for period 1 September to 30 September 2022 | |
| OPENING BALANCE 1.9.22 | 817.12 |
| croquet £201.82 , Heritage £400, , Social Fund £98.81, Art Appreciation £36.30, 33s Music £27.08 Badminton £53.11 | |
| income | 0.00 |
| sub total | 817.12 |
| | |
| Expenditure | 0.00 |
| | |
| BALANCE AS AT 30 September 2022 | 817.12 |
| croquet £201.82 , Heritage £400, , Social Fund £98.81, Art Appreciation £36.30, 33s Music £27.08 Badminton £53.11 | |
| | |
| REPRESENTED BY BARCLAYS BANK BALANCE 30 September 2022 | 817.12 |
| | |
| reconciled Balance | 817.12 |
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