

BRANSTON & DISTRICT U3A
Committee Meeting Tuesday 19th July 2022
Branston Sports Pavilion 2pm

Present: Garry Snelson (GS, Chair), Janet Foster (JF), Rick Smok (RS), James Hewson (JH), Robert Waltz (RW), Eileen McKelvey (EM), Bill Green (BG, Observer), Marjorie Barr (MB, Observer)

Garry welcomed Bill Green and Marjorie Barr to the meeting as observers.

1. Apologies: Christine Hodson, Anne Pickersgill, Jane Haresign.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting 21 June 2022 for approval, and Matters Arising not covered in the agenda: James reported that he had delivered u3a leaflets to the Social Prescriber enquirer. He also said that Mark at Mark's Plaice would again be willing to provide the food if it was decided to have a fish and chips lunch at Christmas. The Minutes were then accepted as a true record.

3. Chair's Report: Garry reported that he had attended the Network Zoom meeting on 22nd June. It was well attended by 114 members. He said he found it better structured and more useful than the previous one. One of the discussions was the filling of Committee positions. There was a need for succession planning for the Committee, with multi tasking and a back up person a necessity. It was reported that very few Vice Chairs automatically became Chairs, and some Vice Chairs were happy to support but had no wish to be Chair. Most positions of Chair and Vice Chair were for one year and then re elected.

He also reported that he had registered to vote at the Third Age Trust (TAT) AGM. One of the resolutions was about increasing the cost of TAT subscriptions and it had been proposed that they should be increased each year by the same percentage as the increase in the State Pension.

After some discussion it was decided that Branston u3a should vote against that proposal because of the uncertainty involved. **Action**

GS

4. Treasurer's Report: Janet reported that it had been a quiet month in both the Main and Social Account. There was a healthy balance of £4636.29 in the former, and £999.61 in the latter. The report (attached) was accepted unanimously.

5. Secretary's Report: In Anne's absence Garry reported that the only item was that he had received the email from Anne about the TAT subs increase.

6. Membership Secretary's Report: Robert reported that the membership total was now 241, an increase of 7 from the previous month. He also said that there were prospective new members, having received several enquiries, so the numbers were going in the right direction. The Sheepwash Times articles were encouraging people to make contact. Robert also advised that 97% of members had provided an email address, and it would be the responsibility of the remaining 3% to make arrangements to be kept informed of u3a news.

James reported that he had sent cards to those members who had recently suffered severe ill health or bereavement.

7. Group Coordinator's Report: Rick reported the following:

Creative Writing: The group convenor had informed him that she had two spare places due to falling membership. Rick advertised this to the membership and very quickly received four replies, which he had forwarded to her. Garry wondered it would be worth asking if anyone wanted to form a new group.

Long Walkers: Phil Applewhite had now officially taken over leadership of the group from Rick.

New Group: He had been in touch with Peter York, who is very willing to start a "Birding" group, possibly starting in October on the 3rd Friday each month. Once he receives some information on the aims of the group he will generate an interest page and an email to all the membership. No Beacon training would be required. **Action RS**

8. Website/Beacon Report: Rick reported that one of the group convenors had informed him that one of her member's emails kept bouncing back as undeliverable. On investigation he found that all of the groups they belonged to had emails bounced back but none of the convenors had informed him. He had now unblocked the email.

9. Programme Secretary's Report: In Chris's absence Garry reported that the speakers had been confirmed for September and October, and Chris was awaiting confirmation for November. The speaker for July is from the Air Ambulance, but we do not yet have the speaker's name, but they have Janet's email address to get in touch.

Rick said he was still awaiting from Garry details of the quiz, to be used at the Monthly Meeting if the speaker was unavailable, which he would put on Powerpoint. **Action GS and RS**

10. August BBQ Update: Janet reported that she has payment from 71 members and 3 guests, which would mean that a total subsidy of £426 would be required. All preparations were proceeding well, and helpers had been assigned their roles before and on the day. Janet proposed using some of the Social Fund money, which amounts to £108.30, to pay towards games and raffle prizes. All agreed. James proposed a vote of thanks to Janet for all the work she had put in to organising the BBQ. All agreed.

11. Any Other Business:

11.1 Discussion on Constitution: There was much discussion of the points raised in the Chair's Report. It is a matter of urgency as making changes to the Constitution may make it easier to attract a new Chair and Vice Chair in time for the 2023 AGM.

11.1.1 James' email regarding Chair/Vice Chair and responses.

James reported that about 1% of the membership responded to his Keeping In Touch (KIT) email. Some of those responses were quite positive, but no one said that they would definitely volunteer. Janet proposed a vote of thanks to James for all his hard work in putting together this email, as it required a lot of thought. All agreed.

11.1.2 Possible Changes to the Constitution: Some ideas were put forward, eg 1 year in the role of Chair and Vice Chair, instead of the current 2; Select Chair from the Committee without having been Vice Chair; Should there be a Committee in name only, meeting 2-3 times a year, just to fill Charity Commission obligations. No agreement could be reached on such important changes, so it was agreed to continue the discussion at the August Committee Meeting, when a decision would have to be made. Garry will add this item to the agenda. **Action GS**

Bill thanked the Committee for allowing him to attend and said how impressed he was by the discussions.

Janet said she had provisionally booked the Village Hall for Tuesday 6th December in case it was required as the venue for the Christmas Get Together. Some ideas were mooted and Garry said he would pursue a couple of the options suggested. Garry will add this item to the August agenda as it is imperative a decision is reached then. **Action GS**

James advised he could not be at the Village Hall at 1pm for the July Monthly Meeting, so his usual duties would have to be covered by others.

James also wondered if we as a Committee or sub group should suggest to Neighbourhood that we all have a meeting with as many local Social Prescribers as possible to find out their requirements. To be considered at a future Committee Meeting.

Rick reported that he had received several comments after the last Monthly meeting saying how good our PA system now is. Rick has passed our thanks to the Village Hall Secretary and her son, who did the work. He had also been in touch with the Village Hall Secretary to see if she had received her PAT certificate. She confirmed she had not yet received anything from the electrician who carried out the tests, after several emails and voice messages, but she would continue trying to contact him. The new display boards had now arrived. They would be better left built and stored intact as they would be quite difficult to dismantle and reassemble.

**12. Date of Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 16th August 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.

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16/8/22
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TREASURERS REPORT July 2022	
RECONCILIATION OF ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD 1 June to 30 June 2022	
OPENING BALANCE AS AT 1.6.22	4551.34
TOTAL RECEIPTS/INCOME	126.50
SUB TOTAL	4677.84
LESS EXPENDITURE	41.55
BALANCE AS AT 30 June 2022	4636.29
represented by	
Santander Bank Balance 30 June 2022	4676.29
Add cheques banked but not credited as at 30 June	0.00
less cheque not presented	40.00
Reconciled Balance.	4636.29
awaiting payment/paid out	
Speaker Fee July £50 donation Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance	
Branston Village Hall Room Hire July-Sep £162.50	
Third Age Trust Copyright Licence £60	
U3A SOCIAL ACCOUNT reconciliation for period 1 June to 30 June 2022	
OPENING BALANCE 1.6.22	999.61
croquet £374.82 , Heritage £400, , Social Fund £108.30, Art Appreciation £36.30, 33s Music £27.08 Badminton £53.11	
income	0.00
sub total	999.61
Less expenditure	0.00
BALANCE AS AT 30 June 2022	999.61
croquet £374.82 , Heritage £400, , Social Fund £108.30, Art Appreciation £36.30, 33s Music £27.08 Badminton £53.11	
REPRESENTED BY BARCLAYS BANK BALANCE 30 June 2022	999.61
reconciled Balance	999.61
Croquet :- £125 Branston Croquet Club	