

## **BRANSTON & DISTRICT U3A**

**Committee Meeting Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Branston Sports Pavilion 2pm**

**Present:** Garry Snelson (GS Chair), Janet Foster (JF), Anne Pickersgill (AP), Rick Smok (RS), Christine Hodson (CH), James Hewson (JH), Robert Waltz (RW), Jane Haresign (JHi), Eileen McKelvey (EM), Marjorie Barr (MB).

Before starting the meeting Garry proposed that Marjorie Barr be formally co-opted on the Committee. Seconded by Robert, all agreed. Marjorie was duly co-opted on the Committee.

- 1. Apologies:** None.
- 2. Minutes of August meeting for Approval:** The minutes having been circulated and read, all were happy with the content. Garry proposed, and Rick seconded, that the minutes be approved. All agreed.
- 3. Chair's Report:** Garry said he would be away for the September Monthly Meeting and reported that James would lead the meeting, but Garry would make his usual preparations beforehand. He also advised the Committee of his other upcoming holiday plans.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Janet reported that the balance of the Main Account was £3513.52, and that of the Social Account was £817.12. Only an additional £9.49 had to be taken from the funds to cover the cost of the Summer BBQ. Otherwise, a fairly quiet month. All approved the report.
- 5. Secretary's Report: Verbal Report on Third Age Trust (TAT) AGM:** Further to the TAT resolution to increase TAT subscriptions, Anne reported back on the feedback on the amendments put forward to the original resolution, which had previously been circulated to the Committee. The original resolution proposed that the annual membership subscription should be increased each year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 by an amount based on the UK's State Pension increase. It was agreed that our first choice amendment would be that the subscription rate should be increased to £4.20 from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, with any further increase having to be returned to a future AGM, to which detailed accounts had been provided. If that amendment failed it was agreed that we

vote for the amendment which would cap the increase at 5% for the year commencing 1st April 2023, with no further increase without a vote of the members. Proposed by Robert, seconded by James. All agreed.

6. **Membership Secretary's Report:** Robert reported that there were 243 members on the stats but the membership total was actually 244, 2 new members having joined. James will check the stats and try to correct the anomaly. Janet also requested that the membership fee should be changed to £6 on the application forms which would be available at the September Monthly Meeting, as anyone who joined from next week would pay the reduced amount.  
**Action JH, RW**
  
7. **Welfare Officer's Report:** James reported that he had been in contact with those members who had recently had falls, one who had gone into a care home and others who were suffering serious illness.
  
8. **Group Coordinator's and Website Reports:** Rick reported that the group convenor of the Birding Group would be saying a few words at the start of this month's Monthly Meeting, after this had been agreed by Garry. He also reported that the convenor of the Armchair Travel Group had had to cancel the September meeting and would be looking to step down for personal reasons.  
  
Rick reported there had been an update to Beacon which now allowed different characters to be used in the Subject box, such as "&".
  
9. **Programme Secretary's Report:** Chris reported that everything had been finalised for the September Monthly Meeting, when Steve Lovell would give a talk on the RSPB. The speaker at the October meeting would be Jane Pickersgill who would talk about Electronic Warfare, and in November it would be Adrian Green, on the subject of Bomb Disposal. Chris also reported that the Singing Group would not be performing at the Christmas event.
  
10. **Report from Jane on Metheringham:** Jane, who had joined the meeting at 2.40, reported on the progress she had been making in finding a venue for the Games Group she is proposing to set up, potentially based in Metheringham. After some discussion, it was agreed that the best way forward was for Jane

to provide Rick with details of what the group would entail, so that he could email the membership to ascertain whether there would be any interest, before proceeding with the procurement of a venue. Janet said a grant from u3a funds could be made available towards the purchase of games, but not to subsidise the hiring of a venue. **Action JHi, RS**

**11.1 Discussion on Response from email on Chair/Vice Chair:** Garry reported that, following his email to all members, no one had come forward to become Chair, or Vice Chair, and then automatically become Chair. He had had discussions with a new member who may consider becoming Vice Chair but would not automatically want to become Chair. Another member had shown interest in coming on the Committee as a member, and they had been invited to observe at the October meeting.

**ii. Possible Changes to Constitution from Secretary:** Garry reported that he and Anne had had long discussions about possible changes to the Constitution, concerning the length of tenure of office of the Chair and Vice Chair, and dispensing with the requirement of the Vice Chair to automatically take over as Chair. After much discussion it was agreed by all the Committee that an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) would be called by the Secretary, to be held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October, at the Monthly Meeting, for which 21 days' notice would have to be given. Up for discussion would be the rewording of Item 7, Sub section 3 of the Constitution, proposing that the length of tenure of office for both Chair and Vice Chair would be reduced to one year, with the option of being re elected for further terms. It was also agreed that the title of Vice Chair would be purely nominal, but they would be expected to stand in for the Chair when required. Also agreed was that the terms of reference for the Vice Chair would have to be amended accordingly. It was also agreed that Garry would speak to those members who had expressed some interest in taking on the role of Chair and Vice Chair.

**Action GS, AP.**

**12. Christmas Function:** James reported that he had arranged with Mark's Plaice to provide the meals as he had done last Christmas. It was agreed to increase the cost to £12pp, also to include dessert, tea and coffee, crackers and a free raffle. No subsidy would be provided, but a £50 tip would be allocated from the price members pay. It was agreed a closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> October for applications, with a maximum number of 80. Rick said he had prepared a new invitation for this year, he was just awaiting details of price and the

entertainment, which would be Celia Lord giving a talk entitled "Tis the Season to be Jolly", for which she would charge a fee of £60. There would once again be 3 meal sittings, at 12.15, 12.45 and 1.15. Janet would make the arrangements with the Village Hall and draw up a to do list, and James would organise the meal sittings.

**Action RS, JF, JH.**

- 13. Heighington Christmas Stall:** It was agreed the urgent requirement was to acquire a standard size gazebo, with sides, which could securely stand on the tarmac. James thought he knew of someone who may have one, otherwise the membership would be asked if anyone could provide one. Rick said he could provide a long, solid picnic table. Garry and Marjorie agreed to take the lead on organising the Branston stall, with leaflets, application forms and visual displays to attract attention.

**Action JH, RS, GS, MB**

- 14. Any Other Business:** Janet requested that the discussion of membership fees for next year should be added to the October agenda.

**Action GS**

Rick enquired what should be done with the paper copies of the Committee Meeting Minutes. As they are held digitally in various places, it was agreed they could be shredded. Chris also said she would dispose of her older lists of potential speakers. Robert was advised that membership forms and gift aid forms should be kept for at least 7 years.

**Action RS, CH**

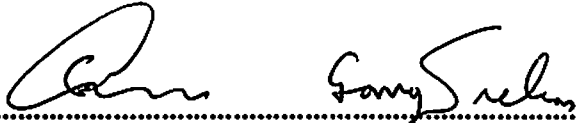
Anne commented that new members should be given a list of the principles of the u3a, explaining that everyone is expected to actively participate. She said she would send the proposed wording to the Committee for approval.

**Action AP**

- 15. Date of Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022, Moor Lane Pavilion, Branston 2pm.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.45pm.

Signed by the Chair as a true record.

  
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Date

18/10/22  
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<b>RECONCILIATION OF ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD 1 August to 31 August 22</b>	
OPENING BALANCE AS AT 1.8.22	4396.99
TOTAL RECEIPTS/INCOME	0.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>4396.99</b>
LESS EXPENDITURE	883.47
<b>BALANCE AS AT 31 August 2022</b>	<b>3513.52</b>
represented by	
Santander Bank Balance 31 August 2022	3561.52
Add cheques banked but not credited as at 31 August	0.00
less cheques not presented £48	48.00
<b>Reconciled Balance.</b>	<b>3513.52</b>
<b>awaiting payment/paid out</b>	
September Speaker Fee £95 S M Lovell	
<b>USA SOCIAL ACCOUNT reconciliation for period 1 August to 31 August 2022</b>	
<b>OPENING BALANCE 1.8.22</b>	<b>826.61</b>
croquet £201.82 , Heritage £400, , Social Fund £108.30, Art Appreciation £36.30, 33s Music £27.08 Badminton £53.11	
income Summer BBQ Payments £1040 Grant £408	1448.00
<b>sub total</b>	<b>2274.61</b>
Less expenditure Summer BBQ. Butcher of Bardney £1420, Expenses £37.49	1457.49
<b>BALANCE AS AT 31 August 2022</b>	<b>817.12</b>
croquet £201.82 , Heritage £400, , Social Fund £98.81, Art Appreciation £36.30, 33s Music £27.08 Badminton £53.11	
<b>REPRESENTED BY BARCLAYS BANK BALANCE 31 August 2022</b>	<b>2322.61</b>
chqs not presented :-£48, £1420, £37.49	1505.49
<b>reconciled Balance</b>	<b>817.12</b>