

## **BRANSTON & DISTRICT u3a**

**Committee Meeting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**

**Branston Sports Pavilion 2pm**

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

**Apologies:** None

Garry opened the meeting by saying there was only one subject for discussion at this specially convened Committee Meeting, namely the options open to us if still no one volunteered to take on the role of Chair after the AGM in March, when Garry would be standing down.

He thanked Anne for the research she had done into the obligations we would have to meet, and the alternatives available as a member of The Third Age Trust (TAT), and under the umbrella of the Charity Commission.

We could not continue without charitable status, and if Branston and District u3a folded all funds would go to TAT. Equipment could go to other u3a's.

Merging with another local u3a was a possibility, but there would be a lot of work involved, and no member of the Committee was prepared to take on that task. It would have to be someone from the general membership. Also, it was noted that most other u3a's were having the same problem of not being able to find volunteers to join the Committee.

Garry noted the positives that we did have more members than when he took over as Chair, and there had been volunteers to join the Committee. He said Bill Fowler was prepared to be Vice Chair, but in name only, and he would produce a regular newsletter and articles for the local magazines.

Garry also pointed out that amending the Constitution had not produced the desired effect of encouraging anyone to stand as Chair.

There then followed a general discussion about the next steps, including calling a Group Convenors meeting and asking them to encourage their members to stand as Chair. It was agreed that at least one, preferably two, new Committee

members would be required, as Garry, James, and Chris would be standing down. It was agreed that Bill Fowler, if in agreement, would be co-opted onto the Committee at the next meeting.

At this point Jane said she had been giving the matter much thought and she would be prepared to volunteer to take on the role of Chair, with the proviso that she received all the help she needed from Committee members to get up to speed. This was readily agreed to. **Action All**

Anne proposed, and Rick seconded, that Jane be invited to become Chair. This was agreed.

This having been decided, Garry asked James to send out requests for members to volunteer for the roles of Equipment Officer and Programme Secretary. Chris said the programme of speakers was largely confirmed up to September 2023, and she would pass on any information she held with regard to finding potential speakers. Rick would offer support to whoever took on the role of Equipment Officer. **Action JH, CH, RS**

If the Committee was in agreement James said he would be willing to support Rick, in an ex officio role, managing the website and Data Management. All agreed.

**Date of Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023, Moor Lane Pavilion, Branston, 2pm.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.40pm.

Signed by the Chair as a true record.



GWENSNETON

Date.

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