

BRANSTON & DISTRICT u3a
COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 21ST MARCH 2023
BRANSTON SPORTS PAVILION 2PM

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

Garry welcomed Diane to the Meeting, to observe, with a view to joining the Committee.

- 1. Apologies:** None.
- 2. Minutes for Approval:** The February Minutes were approved, having been previously sent to all Committee members for comments and amendments. All agreed.
- 3. Chair's Report:** As it was his last Committee Meeting Garry said he wanted to thank everyone personally for their assistance over the past 3 years. It had been a challenging time with Lockdown, Zoom Committee and Monthly Meetings, and finally opening up Face to Face. He was pleased to say that Branston u3a is a success, with new members joining and excellent attendance at Monthly Meetings, and new Committee members. Some Groups had finished, but others had started, and they would continue to grow due to the work of the Convenors. He was sure that this success would continue, but there would also be future challenges to overcome.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Janet reported it had been a very quiet month. The balance of the Main account was £5867.00, and the Social Account balance was £818.52. Rick proposed, and Anne seconded that the Badminton Club balance of £53.11 should be transferred to the Main Account, as the club had joined with Lincoln Badminton Club. It was also agreed that the same should happen to the Music Club balance of £27.08. Janet said she would raise the cheques for this. **Action JF.**

Garry proposed that the Badminton Club equipment should be offered to the Lincoln Group. All agreed.

- 5. Secretary's Report:** Anne reported that no motions had been received for the AGM, and the only Committee nomination was for Diane Prettie. She advised that the membership should be formally asked by Garry to approve Jane Haresign as Chair. Rick would amend Garry's report on the screen. **Action GS, RS**

Anne said she would pass to Garry and Jane the Standing Orders. At the AGM Garry would hand over to Jane, who would then introduce the ukelele band, and thank them at the end. Anne will send Eileen the list of Apologies, to include in the Minutes. Rick said the Groups Display board would not be set up for the AGM.

Action AP, GS, JHi, EM

- 6. Membership Secretary's Report:** Robert reported that there were 252 members, including 7 new members since the last Monthly Meeting. There was one prospective new member, and there had been 19 resignations since renewal and final renewal letter had been sent out. There was one lapsed member.

- 7. Welfare Officer's Report:** Marjorie had nothing to report.

- 8. Group Coordinator's and Website Report:** Rick reported that he had drafted a letter for outstanding renewals which would be sent to the convenors to whose groups those individuals belonged, immediately after the Committee Meeting. **Action RS.**
- Rick reported that we had been informed that our web pages would soon be transferred to Word Press from Site Builder. This would allow better and easier command structure. Those u3a's not constructed by Site Builder were already built and using Word Press. He said he and James had registered with the Word Press site and Forum.
- Rick had received an email from a member informing him that that the telescopic pole used with the Sahara pull up screen was unserviceable. On inspection Rick found that it was just the button return spring which was either broken or worn out. The pole could still be used by pushing in the red button to extend and then pushing the slide at the rear to lock in

Garry reported that we had been donated an artificial Christmas tree for use by the u3a. Jackie Brammer has the decorations when they are required.

At Janet's suggestion, it was agreed to buy flowers for Anne Kennedy and Lucille Auckland, to thank them for organising the refreshments at the Monthly Meetings. Janet will organise them. **Action JF**

Garry said he would hand over details of the quiz kept in reserve in the event of the Meeting Speaker failing to turn up to Jane, also the fobs for the barriers and Village Hall door. **Action GS**

James reminded us of the email sent from Sylvia Minshull about the sponsored walk on Thursday 13th April, to raise funds for the Food Voucher Scheme. Garry will include it in his announcements at the AGM and Rick will include it in Garry's speech. **Action GS, RS**

Janet said no suitable date had yet been found for a New Members' Coffee Morning, so she was leaving that to Rick and Jane to decide on a date. **Action RS, JHi.**

There was some discussion about the format of the August Social on Tuesday 22nd August, after Janet reminded the Committee that a decision should be made soon, so that it could be publicised and monies collected in time. Chris said she had in mind either the National Arboretum or Hardwick Hall, the former being the preferred option, although its success was dependent on good weather. Jane said she would find out the cost of a coach. Entrance and parking charges would be nil. A volunteer to organise the Social would be requested from the membership. Anne will include in the next newsletter. **Action AP.**

Anne said she would be sending an email to all Group Convenors, asking them to update their events calendar, so that she could produce a calendar including all group meetings. **Action AP**

James, after 7 years in various Committee roles, including Chair, said he wanted to say thank you to everyone, as this was his last Committee

position. There were no spares on sale on the website when Rick checked. Rick stressed that this underlined the need for an Equipment Officer to deal with these problems. Garry said he would contact Bill Green about the possibility of him organising the u3a PAT testing.

Action GS.

James commented that the IT Group had now closed down, and it had been taken off the website already.

- 9. Programme Secretary's Report:** Chris reported that speakers for all months up to and including October had been provisionally or definitely booked, with the exception of August, which would be the Summer Social, in format to be decided. The Ukelele band would play at the AGM. Chris reported that she had been able to keep within the guideline she was given for fees, but there was no definite budget. Diane Prettie is going to meet with Chris to discuss the Programme Secretary role, with a view to possibly taking it on after the AGM, when Chris leaves the Committee. Garry will ask for a volunteer for this role if Diane decides against it, also for the role of Equipment Officer, and explain the consequences if no one comes forward. **Action CH, DP, GS.**
- It was agreed that the Committee would accept, with thanks, the offer from Sue Morris and the Croquet Group to host an event on Monday 8th May at Branston Pavilion, to celebrate the Coronation. Details would be sent to members of the plan for a picnic, members bringing their own food, drinks and seating, but the Pavilion would be open. Janet suggested the Committee pay for tea, coffee and biscuits. All agreed. Janet will email Sue with the information. **Action JF.**

- 10. Updates: Banner for Ukelele and Singing Groups:** There was some discussion about the banner designed by James. It was decided that the only amendment required was to delete the word 'Retired'. James said he would send the amended version to the Committee. **Action JHe.**

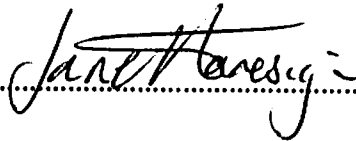
- 11. AOB:** Anne had received an email from Baumber Walled Garden asking us to participate in their Health and Well Being Week in April. It was decided that this was too far out of our area to be relevant to us, so Anne would reply, declining the invitation. **Action AP**

Meeting. Anne proposed a vote of thanks for James for the massive support, and huge amount of time, he has given to the u3a. All agreed.

Date of Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 18th April 2023, Moor Lane Pavilion, Branston, 2pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.15pm.

Signed by the Chair as a true record


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Date

18-04-2023

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