

## MINUTES OF COORDINATORS' MEETING - 30 NOVEMBER 2022

**Present:** Janet Heckle (Whist and Group Secretary), Basil Armett (Historic Churches and Social Activities), Chrys Smedley (Beacon), Rosemary Marsden (Bowls), Barry Appleby (Luncheon Group and Cake Decorating), Joan Bullock (Craft), Dave Barker (History and representing Spanish), Peter Wildsmith (Social Cycling Group), Mary Corbett (Cribbage and Membership Secretary), Gill Jangra (Antiquarians), Bimal Jangra (Computing, Science, and Website), Sue Fraser (Wine Appreciation and Gardening), Christina Neal (Art Appreciation), Sue Prosser (Folk), Jan Dingley (Cycling), Jenny Wray (Book Club), Ruth Roots (German), Christine Davenport (Committee and Ballroom), Diane Brewster (Sunday Lunches and Social Activities), Mark Siner (Music Appreciation), Dave Sutcliffe (History Group).

**Apologies:** Mark Frost (Art), Jane German (Canasta), Margaret Clarke (Advanced French), Vic Crumley (Photo 1), Margaret Hollcoup (Singing and Social Activities), Paul Allard (Spanish), Herb Croken (Long, Challenging Walks), Mike Payne (Chairman of BoT u3a), Neil Davenport (Ballroom Dancing).

**Welcome** from Janet Heckle, Groups' Secretary. Thanks for attending.

**Groups:** Each, in turn to report on their group:

- Rosemary for Bowls reported that they have had a very good season and have now finished until March/April (depending on the weather). 3 sessions have run this year and all have a finite number of places.
- Ruth for German informed us that numbers have recovered since Covid and are now 10.
- Christina for Art Appreciation reported that her numbers are holding up since relocating from Rolleston to Anslow.
- Dave Sutcliffe for History reported that the numbers are returning. They had 49 at last meeting. Both History and Antiquarians book speakers and would not be solvent if we did not have u3a members doing talks for expenses only.
- Dave Barker for Spanish reported that numbers were only just viable at 11.
- Joan has 11 people for Craft.
- Sue reported for Folk that it is 1 year old and well attended. There is a big range of ability and the group are doing a free concert on Thursday 8 December 1:00 – 3:00pm at Priory Centre.
- Basil reported that Historic Churches numbers are improving and Social Activities regularly have 40 + attendees.
- Jenny reported that the Book Club meet at the Grove Pub and have 17 members and a waiting list. 12 members is an ideal number.
- Barry reported that the Luncheon Club is well attended. There are 42 people attending the Christmas Lunch. 8 people are attending Cake Decorating.
- Sue reported that 9 to 12 people attend her Wine Appreciation Group which is the only one to meet in the evenings. The money collected needs to cover the cost of the wines.
- Sue also reported on her Gardening Group that there are 25 to 40 attendees and trips, meals and speakers are being arranged for 2023.
- Chrys is the Committee Member to go to for help with Beacon issues.
- Mark entertains 10 members in his home. Those doing groups in their home may wish to charge for refreshments and may also wish to cancel the group if too many members send apologies.
- Diane, apart from helping with Social Activities, organises the Sunday Lunch Group. It began with 30 members but has settled to between 12 and 20. Looking for a new regular venue for 2023.
- Mary is the Committee Member for Membership and Events. She runs Cribbage twice a month at the Grove Pub which is well attended.
- Jan reported that the Social Cycling Group continued through lockdown and has 19 regular members. There is always a place to eat at the end of the ride.
- Peter is the Meeter and Greeter at the Coffee Mornings held twice a month in BoT Centre. He also runs the Social Cycling Group with Jan.
- Bimal is the Newsletter Editor and runs the Computers and Science Groups. The Science Group will probably end this year, but the Computer Group will become a 'Come and get your machine fixed' event.
- Gill reported that Antiquarians used to have between 50 and 60+ attendees before Covid, but now has a steady 40 to 50 people attending. We are solvent by using u3a speakers as well as those who charge £70 or £80.

### **Coordinators' Questions/Comments:**

- Discussion about number only to add new member to our lists. To prevent abuse. It was also suggested that we encourage our members to fill in emergency numbers on the back of their membership card.
- We were requested to carry incident forms to meetings and events in case required.
- Our reciprocal members (from other u3as): Our Beacon/Membership/Group Secretaries have the ability to add them to our lists.
- People joining from now until March need to pay for this year's card.
- There are 43 non-email members for whom we need to do our best to keep them informed.
- Be aware of copyright laws when photocopying.
- The 'Thank You Meal' free for coordinators is for 1 person. You may nominate yourself or another helper for this.
- At end of March, financial year, group coordinators to be advised how much surplus they have.
- Coordinators are allowed to charge 10p per sheet to members for photocopying.
- At quiet times of year e.g., summer holidays or dark nights you may suspend your meetings as they may become financially unviable. However, you MUST let the venue know in good time or we will be charged!

### **Points referred to Committee:**

- It is policy that you may remove members who have not attended or been in touch with reason for 3 months' meetings. The Committee fully support this BUT this is totally the coordinators decision to choose a policy that suits their group.
- Committee will discuss and enlighten us about how much money groups may retain before forwarding to Treasurer. After discussion, the Committee confirmed that ALL money collected at meetings MUST be sent to Treasurer BUT it will remain your group's money.

### **Group Secretary's Report**

Burton u3a is continuing to expand with membership growing every month. As always, we have had groups change coordinators and venues and sadly, 4 groups no longer meet. These are Reading Shakespeare, Poetry, Discussion and Drama.

On a positive note, all other groups seem to be going from strength to strength. I'm sure the 42 groups you help to run are giving members an excellent choice of activities.

- 1 Chrys and Bimal successfully ran a Beacon and Website training session since we last met. Thank you to them both. If you still need help, please speak to them to arrange the help you need.
- 2 Beacon info is now available to you as requested at last meeting. A reminder that adding members to your group is now by *membership number* only.
- 3 A reciprocal members group has now been informed and can be added to individual groups. This has been welcomed. Members from Leek are no longer eligible to become reciprocal members of Burton u3a.
- 4 A polite reminder that any cancellation of meetings must be relayed to venues in good time, otherwise we will be charged.
- 5 Please remember to use our Newsletter to get info to our 43 non-email members.

### **Finally:**

As our thank you for your continuing time, I invite you to your Coordinators' Meal this year organised for **1st March 2023**. More details in the New Year. The Committee look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Many thanks to our brilliant coordinators. Have a very Happy Christmas.

*Meeting closed 11:50am*

Minutes taken by *Gill Jangra*