Dulwich & District U3A: Minutes of the Trustees' Executive Committee Meeting Thursday 11 May 2023, 10.15am, at Rosebery Lodge

1 Present & Apologies Present: David Beamish (DB, Chair), Richard Elliott (RE, Secretary), Ruth Colvin (RC, Treasurer). Karen Chessell (KC), Keith Ball (KB), Christine Hensby (CH) Apologies: Tim Pagan (TP, Vice Chair), Jane Coupe (JC) Caroline Knapp (CK), Helen Robertson (HR). Anne Sharpley (AS), Julia Bairstow (JB). 2 Approval of Minutes of TEC meetings on 13 April 2022 It was noted that Environmental Policy was discussed but this is not in minutes (see item 14). Minutes were approved 3 Matters Arising (not on the agenda) None 4 Membership Report JC had submitted a written report as follows: Current members at today's date: 723 New since last meeting: 13 New since 1st April: 17 Deceased since 1st April: 0 Resigned since 1st April: 0 Resigned since 1st April: 0 (no members have yet been lapsed, to give them time to renew. Those who have not done so will be lapsed shortly by Ruth or Anne). Non-renewals to date: 206 Renewals since 1st April: 500 (Individual members 94%, Concessions: 3%, Associate members 3%). New Members' Tea on 22nd May: so far 23 have signed up. A reminder has been sent to those who have not replied. A reminder will be sent to those who have said they are coming, on or around 19th May. 5 Treasurer's update to Trustees 12/05/23 RC submitted a written report: Bank balances: Barclays current a/c £ 440.00 deposit a/c £ 10,176.43 deposit a/c £ 10,176.40 depo			Actions
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		Actions
	The final accounts for 2022/23 were delivered to the auditor and he has signed them off. Sadly, he has said that he will no longer be able to do this chore for us as the health of both him and his wife has become uncertain. Keith and Tim have put out feelers for a replacement.	
	RC has doing a lot of data entry – processing the renewals in the month.	
	RC sent out the reminders for this year's subscription on Tuesday 9 May.	
	It was noted that Mailchimp was still being paid by Roman Bednarz and this would only change when the new debit card was operating. Roman had been reimbursed up to the end of the 2022/23 year.	
6	Permitted methods of paying subscriptions It was agreed that we should allow for members to renew through non- electronic means where members are unable to access online banking. Members could print-off and complete a Standing Order form and submit to their bank in person or by post or write a letter to their bank with the necessary. Guidance to be issued to members	RC
7	Secretary's Report RE reported on Mailchimp figures and AGM mailings/reminders. There will be a reconciliation of the Mailchimp database once the renewal process has completed in June.	
8	AGM Planning	
	Reminders – to be sent out via Mailchimp Finance and Renewals It was noted that there was a small error in the Statement of Accounts. It was agreed RC would correct, supply a revised copy to the Chair and Secretary. New version to put on website with a small number of paper copies to be available at the AGM Agreed that members could renew their membership at the AGM via payment card and payment machine (through RC) – final mailchimp	RE RC
	reminder to note this Membership List and Quorum It was agreed that it would be useful to have a membership list for the AGM so that members attendance could be ticked and the quorum calculated. Quorum required is 50 by 15 minutes after the official start (by 2.30pm). AS, RC and JC to liaise Nominations	AS, JC, RC
	Sheila Northover is a late TEC nominee. This nomination can be handled from at the floor at the AGM. DB to contact Sheila.	DB
	Officer Handover Retiring and new officers to undertake handover discussion/notes between the AGM and June TEC	RE, DB
	Independent Examiner (IE) DB to ask AGM for permission for the TEC to appoint an IE in due course Stalls and Presentations DB updated the TEC on the latest position regarding Interest Group stalls and short presentations. The running order for the latter was agreed with DB to contact presenters: 1. New culture and diversity visits interest group - Julia Bairstow	DB DB
	 New culture and diversity visits interest group - Julia Bairstow Singing group - Caroline Knapp New wine-tasting interest group - Sandra Newnham Ukuleles - Neil Abrahams 	

		Actions
	DB will handle any adjustments and additions prior to the AGM	
9	Newsletter Report CH submitted a written and verbal report:	
	 The list of areas covered by the D&D u3a agreed at the last meeting was incorporated into the masthead of the May newsletter and will also be incorporated into the Mid-month update masthead this month. The article seeking a graphic designer will not be re-run this month due to space constraints. The intention is to include it in the June newsletter if an alternative resource has not been identified before publication. Copy and images for the April update have been shared with DB so that he can trial creating 'back-up' artwork on his software. A reminder about paying membership subs before the AGM and the availability of payment facilities at the AGM will be included in the May Mid-month update. 	
10	Diversity and Inclusion including SCID Report SCID minutes for April have been circulated by JB. TP was also present.	
	JB added: There is not a great deal to report from SCID, in addition to what is included in the April minutes, as we are not due to have another meeting until 22nd May.	
	Re: the setting up of an interest group for Culture and Diversity visits etc:- due to commitments on my part and the other potential coconvenor, we have not had a meeting to discuss further developments but intend to do so very soon, so hopefully I'll have more to report back on in the June TEC meeting. I have also been in contact with the Interest group co-ordinators re the procedure for the setting up of a new interest group.	
	 Re:- Anwar Akhtar, a Brixton based film and theatre producer, who saw the article in the Brixton Bugle and contacted Pam Cohen - Maggie Smith has written to him asking him to speak to the U3A monthly meeting in January 2024. 	
	 The flyer is currently advertised in the reception area at the Copleston Community Centre in Peckham and has been sent out to their mailing list. The programme and volunteer co-ordinator has expressed her willingness to help us further if required. 	
11	Report back on events	
	Report from DB	
	Thursday 27 April Nearly 50 members attended a talk by local ornithologist Dave Clark at the Francis Peek Centre on local migratory birds. It seemed to be much appreciated.	
	The room was filled to capacity, and so we need to use other venues if numbers attending continue to rise.	

Actions **Events team update for TEC meeting on 11 May 2023** 12 DB and Report from DB team Tuesday 16 May 2023 AGM at Herne Hill Baptist Church plus stalls/presentations by interest groups. Please can trustees arrive early to help put out chairs? The following presentations are planned: Ukuleles (Neil Abrahams) Singing (Caroline Knapp) New wine tasting group (Sandra Newnham) The following interest group stalls are planned: Chess (Martin Dale) Creative writing (Maggie Smith) She would like a flip chart – do we have one? Debating (Francis Hughes) Genealogy (Tim Pagan) Maths for Fun (John Leigh Davies) Photography (Trevor Roberts) Walks (David Beamish) June (date & venue to be confirmed) Sam Taylor of the London Wildlife Trust has agreed to speak but he has yet to confirm a date. Friday 14 July Garden party at Bell House. It has been agreed that Dulwich & District u3a will meet the cost, including a donation to Bell House, with no charge to members attending. It is hoped to provide musical entertainment and garden tours.

August

No meeting

Wednesday 27 September 2023

Jo Livingston of Bexley u3a will speak on "Changing London" at Herne Hill Baptist Church.

Wednesday 18 October 2023

Naomi Clifford will speak on "The Prisoners' Friend": the life of Susanna Meredith, a 19th-century pioneer in the aftercare of women prisoners in south London, at Herne Hill Baptist Church. Her fee will be £100.

November

When approached previously, our member Annie McGeoch was in principle willing to speak on beekeeping. This needs to be followed up.

December (date & venue to be confirmed)

Annual festive quiz

		Actions
	January 2024	
	As a result of an article about Dulwich & District u3a in the <i>Brixton Bugle</i> , Pam Cohen was approached by Anwar Akhtar, and we have asked whether he could speak to us in January.	
	Maggie Smith has written to invite him to speak in January.	
	Future of the events team	
	The team now comprises Maggie Smith, Sheila Northover and me. I am willing to continue provided that there is also a trustee on the team. Sheila has indicated willingness to serve as a trustee in order to provide that link.	
13	Interest Group matters DB updated the meeting regarding the Interest Group Directory. He is setting up a template that can be used for future editions (probably to be published via a physical copy annually – to be decided).	DB
	Potential new groups were noted.	
	Diana McInnes is working on a voluntary cleaning rota for Rosebery Lodge.	
14	Guidance on Environmental Policy TP had submitted a draft Environmental Policy. AS had raised several substantive points via email. As neither AS or TP were present it was decided to defer this item to the next TEC.	AS, TP
15	Policies AS had circulated two draft policies An updated Privacy Policy – agreed An ew Legitimate Interest Assessment (LIA) – deferred, not agreed as drafted On LIA some concern was expressed regarding the role of convenors and emergency information. It was suggested that convenors and the group coordinators (not present at this meeting) are consulted on the best way forward and they are offered guidance/options. To be discussed by new TEC.	AS, HR, CK
16	DB and RE were thanked by the meeting for their work as Chair and Secretary. DB can continue as Webmaster and RE as Mailchimp Lead – to be confirmed by new TEC. DB and RE to consult with new postholders re transfer.	DB RE
17	Date of next meeting June 8 2023	
	The meeting closed at 11.45 am	