

Minutes of the executive committee meeting 22nd of March, 2018

Present: Liz Day (LD, chair) Roman Bednarz (RB) Neil Abrahams (NA) Rona Black (RoB) Lore Arthur (LA) Susan Elias (SE) Diana McInnes (DM): Caroline Knapp (CK) Di Deudney (DD) Helen Graham (HG)

Apologies: Chris Henry (CH); Mary Fyfe (MF) Pamela Ruben (PR)

1. Minutes of previous meeting: there were no matters arising and no amendments

2. Reports: February Open Meeting with Henry Hemmings on the Story of M was particularly well received with close to 90 members attending. The speaker sold 30 copies of his book at the end of the meeting. The presentation by the Photography group was considered to have been excellent.

3. Planning for the Open Meeting on 23rd March with Daniel Greenwood is well in hand. The Creative Writing group will give a brief presentation. RB to decide on the process re two amendments to the Constitution, depending on numbers present. One amendment concerns the wording of the Objectives clause, and the other a change to the number required for a quorum if amendments to the constitution are needed, that is a proposed 10% or 50 members present. RB to put wording of changes on power point and to explain these to members at the forthcoming Open Meeting. At present we would need 106 votes to pass the amendments outright. If there are fewer than the issues will be raised on 25th April, when there is a deferred special meeting. Here a quorum is not needed. 2/3 of those members present will suffice to pass the amendments.

4. The AGM will take place in the Herne Hill Baptist Church on May 23rd. The Interest Group Fair, which in the past coincided with the AGM, has now been deferred to September. LD to fix date. MF had submitted plans for group activities to the previous committee meeting. These were debated at great length. It was decided to accept her suggestions but that additional activities/presentations should be planned. There might be, for example, four performances by U3A groups; RB has a suitable film which could be shown. LD will flesh out questions which will be put to those present.

NA reminded the committee that members have to receive advance notice of 28 days of the AGM and the call for nominations, also asking for considerations of motions which might be

called for by members. Advance notices will have to go out immediately after Easter.
(Actions: RB)

5. New Members' Tea: Although there was a good turnout for the last meeting, it was increasingly felt that Roseberry Lodge was no longer suitable. There are only two small rooms with the kitchen at the back, which makes the meeting difficult to organise. It was proposed that the Francis Peak Centre in Dulwich Park was best suited; it has one open room and is generally more welcoming. The likely cost will be £78/£80 per session. Angela Brown and LD to take this further. The next Members' Tea will be on June 4th.

7. Future Planning: The Open Meeting on April 25th will be with Benny Dembitzer on 'Famine Next Door.' The July Open Meeting is planned to take place in Bell House. Speakers and topics have yet to be decided.

8. Conveners' Meeting. This took place on March 16th, for the first time in Bell House with 45 conveners present. Minutes of that meeting were presented to the committee. There were no pressing issues to be resolved. DD reminded the committee that she would not be here the whole of September – which means that planning for the New Booklet has to take place in July. (Action: DD).

9. South Eastern Network: RB and CK had attended a workshop on Membership systems and submitted a report to the Committee. RB outlined that the Beacon system has many advantages though it was still in the development stage. It is an area which should be investigated further.

RB and CK had also attended a workshop "Improving Health" which was organised by a number of healthcare providers in the area. RB and CK had mounted a display about our activities which was well received – many healthcare workers had never even heard about the U3A.

10. Membership secretary (CK) reported that she had not been able to find a successor yet and would continue in her role until someone could take over.

We now have 551 members.

11 AOB The May 2018 Privacy Statement was discussed. DM agreed to circulate her document on private policy for Dulwich Society to CK, RB & Groups Co-ordinators.

The membership fee remains at £25.00 per person for the coming financial period.