

## **Minutes of the executive committee meeting July 10, 2017**

Present: Liz Day (LD, chair) Roman Bednarz (RB) Neil Abrahams (NA) Rona Black (RoB) Helen Graham (HG) Lore Arthur (LA) Caroline Knapp (CK) Diana McInnes (DM) Chris Henry (CH)

Apologies: Susan Elias (SE) Mary Fyfe (MF) Di Deudney (DD) Pamela Ruben (PR)

**1. Agenda Review.** No change. The committee welcomed Diana McInnes as a newly elected member to the committee and Chris Henry as a co-opted member.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising.** The amended Minutes to be circulated and signed off by the chair, so that they can be posted on the website (Action: LA, LD, RB)

It was agreed that AGM minutes on the website are DRAFT minutes only –until approved at next year’s AGM. To be amended accordingly on the website (Action: RB)

Matters arising: CK to send to all committee members updated contact list (Action: CK)

**3. Reporting back** Open Meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, “Challenges and Changes in Brockwell Park” was considered to have been successful despite relatively low turnout. There was positive feedback about the speaker and the topic. It was agreed that future Open Meetings should have a ‘welcome new members’ corner at the end of the meeting with some committee members and convenors present (Action: all)

New Members Tea (not party!) 5<sup>th</sup> of July, 10-12 attended. The organisation went well. DM reported that there had been security issues at the Rosebery Lodge and that in future only a few designated persons would have keys and code to the Lodge. (Action: DM to deal with and to inform interest group convenors about access to the Lodge).

London Regional Meeting, July 7<sup>th</sup>. This was fairly well attended. It was noted that Ian McCannah is stepping down, to be succeeded by John Bent (Barnet U3A). Planning for the London Summer School and the National Conference are proceeding. LD and RoB may attend one or two days of the National conference in Nottingham in August.

**4. Finance and Membership** (noted here). MF reported that Charity Commission website had been updated to take account of changes on the committee. The current bank balance was £18, 021.59. Not clear at the moment if fees for U3A head office had been paid already (Action: MF).

CK reported that we now have 461 members, with 4 new ones, 3 renewals, 83 withdrawals though more were re-joining

**5. Open Meeting** The meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup> at the Dulwich Gallery has now been publicised. The publicity leaflet was designed by DD. It will be widely distributed. It is expected that the event will be popular and some concern was raised that the Linbury Room might not be able to accommodate all members and guests. CK and DM will take care of registration outside the Linbury Room. Cold drinks, strawberries, cream and scones to be served (Action: Jenny Thomas, LD)

**6. Executive Committee roles with changed responsibilities.** It was reported that LD, NA, HG, SE had met on June 26 to discuss new roles following the resignation of Angela Brown from the Committee. Minutes of that meeting had been circulated in advance. It was noted that Angela would continue to help with New Members Tea until Christmas. The dates are 4th September and 7th November. Dates for the New Year will need to be set in due course (Action: DM)

The next Group Convenors' meeting will be on September 8 (Action: NA, HG, SE). The agenda for that meeting was agreed.

Convenors are to be encouraged to consider meetings at weekends and during August.

**7. Welcome Leaflet for New Members.** It was agreed that the leaflet drafted by MF and NA would be part of the welcome pack to new members. There was some discussion about the current membership publicity leaflet. It might be best to change colours slightly to avoid confusion between them. The general tone of the New Members Welcome leaflet, including the guidelines, were thought to be appropriate though the text could be reduced in length. Group convenors should be consulted at their next meeting (Action: NA)

**8. Website:** Minutes and other documents have been uploaded

**9. Newsletter:** The next one will be in August to report on July Activities. There will not be one in September. The design will be done by SE and/or DD (Action: SE and RoB)

**10. South East Research Conference** July 5, 17 at the Royal Holloway University in Egham. LD and LA attended. Several excellent research and shared learning projects from a number of U3As were presented at the conference to about 80 participants. LA also reported that she was now a Research Project Advisor.

Three SLPS had recently been circulated to D&D members, and information was placed on the website. LA had received several enquiries which she was able to forward.

**11. Hearing Loss Workshop.** A planning meeting was held on July 6<sup>th</sup>, which was attended by eight members. The purpose was to consider possible further activities such as lip reading classes, or how to cope with hearing aids inside the home. The group would also investigate help with tinnitus. Further plans to be discussed at next committee meeting. (Action: NA and RoB).

One or two Financial Planning Workshops are also planned which will look at Financial Planning, Powers of Attorneys among other matters (Action: LD and NA)

**12. Monthly Open Meeting:**

September 15,. Roman Bednarz on Polish Migration. Possibly Venue St Barnabas, Village Hall. Issues of Sound systems to be addressed. (LD, RB)

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October: Ian Haywood, Roehampton University on Caricatures and Cartoons. Herne Hill Baptist Church.

The 13<sup>th</sup> of November Policing in London to be confirmed (Action RoB/LD).