

## MINUTES OF

**ERU3A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**AT 1:30PM BY ZOOM**

Present:

Marbe McNeil (Chair), Margaret Baird (Vice Chair), Ann Scott (Treasurer}, June Weston (Business Secretary), Allen Walker, Rosalind Holmes, Allison Kershaw (minutes), Liliias Dunlop, Roy Bryce, Robert Humphrey

		Action
1	<b>WELCOME</b>	
	MM welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	
	IM, TM	
3	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	
	Accepted.	
4	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>	
	None.	
5	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
5.1	<p><b>u3a Mailing 10 September 2021</b></p> <p><b>Grants Advice</b> – JW advised that there are many u3a grants which are available for various purposes e.g. Workshops, Exhibitions, Open Day and Relaunch and it is worth investigating these further.</p> <p>LD highlighted that the grants may come with time constraints and deadlines.</p> <p>AW said that a list of non u3a grants had been prepared several years ago and may still be relevant.</p> <p><b>u3a Vision for the Future</b> – JW forwarded this mailing to the membership for their perusal.</p>	JW
6	<b>BEACON and WEBSITE UPDATE</b>	
	<p><b>Web Site:</b> The home page has been updated to Rouken Glen – ‘close up’ with photos taken by the Photography Group at their August meeting.</p> <p>Changes and additions to groups as detailed below with regard to groups meeting and new venues.</p> <p><b>Beacon:</b> Updates will take place for about 15 minutes on the first Tuesday of each month – we are advised not to use at those times.</p>	
7	<b>GROUP COORDINATORS REPORT</b>	
	<p><b>RHo Report:</b></p> <p>1. Groups starting to meet again in September are:</p> <p>The paid tutor groups - Keep Moving 1, Scottish Country Dancing and Yoga – Newton Mearns Parish Church.</p> <p>Keep Moving – probably too big and might need to think having two groups, but need to make sure that the tutor fee is covered by the two groups and possibly some surplus to help with the room hire of £20/hour.</p> <p>Yoga – enough members attended to cover the tutor fee.</p> <p>SCD – only 7 attended – ran at a loss – will need to monitor the next few meetings to decide if it is to continue and the use of an accordionist.</p> <p>FB ‘advert’ to be drafted and uploaded onto community pages</p>	RHo

		Action
	<p>French Groups 1 and 2, Mearns Reading Group 3 and Discussion Group in Newton Mearns Parish Church – new venue for them as their groups are too big now for the library rooms. Discussion may not start in October as facilitator may not be willing to participate.</p> <p>Spanish Beginners 1 and 2 - Newton Mearns Parish Church from Tesco.</p> <p>Film Appreciation – Newton Mearns Parish Church for the rest of this year starting in October – from Asda -see below.</p> <p>Social Bridge – in Bourock Church in Barrhead.</p> <p>Quiz – one off - until VA opens - in Bourock Church in Barrhead.</p> <p>All the paperwork for these has been completed and information packs given to the facilitators.</p> <p>RHo and TM have been to the first meetings of each of these groups to welcome the group members and to discuss the information packs.</p> <p>These groups will now become the responsibility of TM– Groups Coordinator 2.</p> <p>Eastwood Health Centre – no sign of the room becoming available – Knitting Group now meeting in Pro-Soccer at Rouken Glen.</p> <p>Walkie Talkies Group will have its first meeting in September.</p> <p>Enjoy the Arts, Out and About and all the Dining Groups have had their first outings.</p> <p>The Ukulele Group are meeting temporarily in the Men’s Shed in Barrhead.</p> <p>Lunch Bunch – facilitator is not likely to be back for some months. Will try again to get someone to help from the group. JW volunteered to attend the September lunch and LD will attend the October lunch.</p> <p>2. Overall summary at 13 September 2021: we have 61 groups (not including Computer Help)</p> <p>50 groups are meeting in September - actual or virtual</p> <p>11 groups not meeting – 6 use VA (2 are meeting in September in another venue) = 4 + Mahjong = 5</p> <p>ER Library rooms – 11 use them – 3 are not meeting</p> <p>Jazz and Blues, Swimming &amp; Theatre are not meeting = 3</p> <p>3. East Renfrewshire are still not taking any new bookings. They are planning to re-open their library rooms in late October. All our previous bookings have been submitted to begin in November.</p> <p>Other VA groups – see below</p> <p>4. The church venues require us to sanitise tables, chairs handles and switches. A ‘sanitising bag’ for each group – anti-bacteria/viruses spray, kitchen towel and black bags for disposal have been set up in the u3a tote bags and will be given to the facilitators as their groups start - cost = Approx £26 and the supplies should last until the end of the year.</p> <p>5. Three second-hand Mahjong sets have been bought for the Mahjong Group at a cost of £50 and are now with the Group Facilitator.</p> <p>RHu to add the three sets to the Asset Register</p> <p>12 tile racks are being made by the Men’s Shed for us as the ones online were out of stock.</p> <p>6. With many of the groups which were meeting on Zoom now actually meeting – we only need one Zoom licence. The 4 others have been cancelled and some refunds received. All the facilitators who need to use the licence have been added</p>	<p>JW LD</p> <p>RHu</p>

		Action
	<p>to the licence and June has a Zoom grid showing the usage (there are no clashes) if anyone else want to schedule a meeting.</p> <p><b>7. TM Report:</b></p> <p>a) Tesco – Due to ongoing refurbishment work in store, the meeting room is being used for storage purposes and is not available at present.</p> <p>b) Asda Newton Mearns – the store manager is concerned for members’ safety and therefore declined to allow the continued use of the Foundation Room</p> <p>c) VA in Barrhead – Awaiting redecoration following their flood and also needs to signed off by their insurers before the rooms may be used again.</p> <p>RHo will contact St Andrew’s Church to see if they can accommodate most of the affected groups. Note, this venue is not suitable for the Genealogy group who require computer access.</p> <p>d) Science &amp; Technology Group wish to meet online for the rest of the year.</p> <p>e) Film Appreciation to meet in Upper Hall, Newton Mearns Parish Church.</p> <p>Facilitator’s Meeting Monday 15th November</p> <p>RHo will check out possible locations for a meeting for approximately 65 people but a decision will be taken nearer the date as to whether this will be a virtual or face to face meeting.</p> <p>New Members at Monthly Meetings</p> <p>New members should be warmly welcomed at their first monthly meeting.</p> <p>RHo discussed the possibility of having a meet and greet gathering.</p>	<p>RHo</p> <p>RHo</p>
7.1	<p><b>ICE Cards</b> – when the walking group first started meeting again after lockdown, they stated the ICE Cards must be carried – sort of made sense at that time. They have continued with this and the Out and About group also made this statement. Previously the committee had decided that we would not routinely do this. A member has now challenged this. RHo proposes that we advise our members that we would like them to carry details about a contact in case of emergency and whatever other medical information they want to include. However, in an emergency u3a facilitators would not be searching for this information, but rather it would be available for the emergency services to find and would make it easier for their contact to be informed of the emergency.</p> <p>Facilitators will be asked as part of their information pack to ‘encourage’ their members to carry this information and an email will be sent out to the members.</p>	
8	<b>TREASURER’S REPORT</b>	
8.1	<p>The report had been provided to the committee prior to the meeting. AS stated that due to an internet connection problem there was a small amount still to be reconciled. A cash flow was also provided.</p> <p>£12.27 was received from Amazon Smile.</p> <p>AS reported that the bank has now authorised the continued use of the existing account.</p> <p>MM has not yet been connected to internet banking but thinks that this will be resolved soon.</p>	AS
8.2	<p>JW reported that there had been an issue with the £50 donation to Erskine in lieu of their Speaker Fee but that this matter has now been resolved.</p>	

		Action
9	<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT</b>	
	<p>RB reported that there are currently 445 members compared with 475 at the end of March. There have been 29 new members since June and 3 application forms have been sent out recently.</p> <p>RB also mentioned that although two people have said that they are unable to get through on his mobile phone number or to leave a message, he was unable to find a fault with the phone and he can leave a voicemail on this number.</p> <p>MM said that whilst at the Boules meeting at Crookfur Park, she had been approached by passing people and gave them u3a information leaflets.</p>	
10	<b>MONTHLY MEETINGS</b>	
10.1	<p><b><u>Membership Survey on in Person Meetings.</u></b></p> <p>MM reported the 169 people out of 445 had replied to the survey. The results are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I would like to return to monthly meetings in a hall - 99</li> <li>2. I would prefer to continue the monthly meetings on Zoom - 33</li> <li>3. I don't 'do' Zoom, nor am I ready to return to meetings in the hall. - 16</li> <li>4. I'm not interested in attending the monthly meetings - 21</li> </ol> <p>It was therefore suggested that monthly meetings would resume on the 20th October in the Community Hall St Andrew's Church Barrhead and alternate monthly between there and the Newton Mearns Parish Church Hall.</p>	
10.2	<p><b><u>Community Hall St Andrew's Church Barrhead</u></b></p> <p>LD, RHo, TM, MM, JW all visited the new community hall at their Open Day on 4 September and were impressed by the facilities and equipment available there. RHu was not able to attend the Open Day and JW will arrange a separate visit with him to see the Audio-Visual equipment.</p> <p>A detailed note with information about the hall, its availability, facilities and costs had been circulated to the full Committee prior to the meeting. Although more expensive than NMPC Memorial Hall, it was unanimously agreed that it would be very suitable and we should now proceed to arrange meetings month about between Barrhead and Newton Mearns. This would hopefully attract new members from Barrhead.</p> <p>It was proposed that the October meeting could take the form of a hybrid meeting with the speaker on Zoom and up to 60 members in the hall (including any Committee Members in attendance). This is the current maximum capacity but in future the capacity could be up to 100.</p> <p>JW to arrange to a rehearsal of a hybrid meeting before advising the membership of the new venue for the October meeting.</p>	JW
11	<b>u3a Diaries</b>	
	JW advised re the costs of purchasing u3a diaries. However, as only 15 diaries were sold last year, it was agreed not to offer any diaries for sale this year.	
12	<b>CHIT-CHAT FORMAT</b>	
	<p>MM said that she found the current two column style difficult to read and would prefer a one column format for future editions of Chit-Chat.</p> <p>JW to contact the Editor and request this change from October as most people now read Chit-Chat on mobile devices.</p>	JW

		Action
13	<b>AOCB</b>	
13.1	MM requested that AK draft an article about Dumfries House for the u3a Scotland newsletter.	AK
13.2	RHo raised the question of non-members joining the Scottish Country Dance group but it was decided that everyone must be u3a members in order to participate.	
13.3	AS suggested a buddy system for new members.	
13.4	MB described her experience at the committee gathering and agreed with the buddy system.	
13.5	LD requested details of the Tea Rota Team. JW to send contact details for this group. RHo said that the group had disappeared from Beacon and she would reinstate this.	RHo
13.6	AK received an email from Ian Keable the July speaker advising that his new book has now been published. Details to be forwarded to the Chit-Chat Editor.	AK

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.00pm. The next Committee meeting will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 1.30pm at the Chair's home.

Signed ..... Date .....14/09/21.....