

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS NOTED ON THE AGM VOTING FORMS

Question

Why when U3A is an educational charity, did head office apply the emergency ruling of limiting gatherings to 6, when that was for individuals & households? This severely impacted on the safe meetings of groups of 7 or 8 small groups meeting in sheltered garden over the period of lockdown & appeared to defeat the purpose of U3A as set out in its constitution etc. (No computer on holiday, phone only, so sorry for failure to check constitution on charities commission website etc)

Answer

As a u3a we took advice from our National Office who were following government guidance which was updated very regularly. During the height of lockdown all educational establishments were closed and operating remotely, therefore the u3a followed suit.

Comment

I would like to propose a vote of thanks for the Chairman for all his efforts during the last 18 months or so. He has done a sterling job providing interesting talks and maintaining contact with the membership.

Response

Thank you. It has been a team effort.

Comment

Pernickety observation - Please check final date on page 8 of report (31st July 202?)

Response

We will proof-read more efficiently next time.

Comment

None. You all do a great job.

Response

Thank you.

Question

Why was I required to answer Question 12 when I use the internet and received this communication by email??!!

Answer

This was a generic form that went out on email to online members and by Royal Mail to members not online.

Question

I would like to know when there was a consultation with members regarding the changes made to pick up points for members outings. I am unaware of any consultation regarding this decision of only two inconvenient places to join the coach. Did the committee take it upon themselves to make this unpopular decision?

Answer

We conducted a survey in June of this year and a section of the survey related to travel and days out including pick up points for outings. All members were invited either online or by Royal Mail to participate and the full results of the survey have been published on the website under the heading Survey 2021. The travel team did a lot of research to establish where our members lived and the safest pick-up points taking into account road conditions, parking availability and in particular in Ewell where we have moved the pick-up point from Spring Street to Ewell West Station.

Question

Will you be publishing an up-to-date list of members and the groups that are available?

Answer

The website is the most up to date place to find details of groups as the group coordinators notify our website admin as soon as changes happen. We will investigate the possibility of a paper list but as mentioned it is a constantly changing picture.

Comment

Thank you to all the committee members.... You are doing a great job

Response

Thank you.

Comment

I have no questions or issues and am most grateful to the committee for all their hard work.

Response

Thank you

Question

My only comment is whether the appointment of Treasurer who is also married to the Chairman was strictly correct, I know in other Charitable organisations this would be avoided, but I am aware the post has to be filled as a necessity, this is no way a criticism of Sue.

Answer

This issue will be resolved as soon as the bank authorise new signatories. As chairman I will relinquish my role as signatory. This may take a few weeks as last year the bank did take quite a time but changes will be made as soon as possible.

Comment

"The Trust has developed this wording with the solicitors so that we know it is legal and appropriate and covers all the various nuances which may arise." in (f) is explanatory and not part of the Constitution.

Response

The wording in question is an explanatory note, not part of the constitution.

Comment.

Well done to the Committee for keeping us going

Response

Thank you

Comment

As I am not on-line, I really need to be kept informed of what's going on, having been a member for the last 20 years

Response

We believe we have come up with a solution to keep non internet members updated. Full details were on the voting form section 10. We have offered non internet members an option to provide and affix stamps to self-addressed envelopes that we will provide and we will mail out the newsletter each month, that way the cost is shared.

Comment

Like the mid-month zoom videos. New way of "signing in" at Bourne Hall is a vast improvement on old outdated method.

Response

We intend to continue the mid-month talks all the time members are interested. The new booking in method at Bourne hall is dependent on members registering to attend the meeting in order that we can print a list from our database.

Comment

apologies for absence: I will be with the U3A in Liverpool that week

I don't know where else to enter this info/apology

Response

Apology will be noted in the minutes.

Comment

I prefer face to face meetings

Response

We all prefer face to face meetings and we are trying to find safe ways for members to meet. This will be an ongoing problem for a while yet.

Question

Q3, did you mean adopt? In which case yes. If you did mean receive then no, I don't want a copy

Response

Yes, the question was to adopt the clause which will be added to our constitution and available for members to read at their leisure on the legal stuff page of our website.