

Exeter U3A Committee  
15 July 2019  
Mint Methodist Church

Present: Kay Matthews, Phil Slater, Jan Rolfe, Keith Shaw, Anne Staley, Steph Ward, Amanda James

Apologies: Diana Randle, Ann Mitchell

1. Items requiring urgent attention

None

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed

3. Matters arising

None

4. Treasurer's report - Keith

Keith reported that we are on plan and drew attention to the cost of the Beacon licence which has doubled in cost. He said it wasn't a problem as we have funds to cover it.

Keith informed the committee that several people haven't paid their room costs from the last financial year and said he will notify those concerned.

Financial Report

Expense	To end June	To end Sep.
- Admin	£0.00	
- Speakers	£75.00	
- Printing	£94.01	
- Rooms	£472.50	
Gen.		
- Rooms	£1,933.86	
PFV		
- National	£673.00	
- Other	£0.00	
Total Exp.	£3,248.37	£0.00

Income	To end June	To end Sep.
-		
Subscripts.	£950.00	
- Donations	£2.00	
- PFV Subs	£1,446.00	
- Tea/Coff.	£27.35	
- Other	£19.50	
Total	£2,444.85	£0.00
Income		

Bank		
Balances	1-Apr-19	30-Jun-19

No 1 Account	£14,195.25	£12,643.11
No 2 Account	£1,882.36	£1,902.36

## 5. Group Coordinator's update - Daphne

### Report from Daphne – Groups Coordinator

We have 63 groups listed in the Newsletter and we are still getting new groups starting. A third Philosophy group has started, a third Craft group is starting in the near future, an Italian Group is going on to Improver status which leaves vacancies in a Beginners group and I understand another Mah Jong group started a couple of months ago.

I have written to all convenors introducing myself and that generated some good feedback. I attended the Convenors Café, which again gave some food for thought. And in general I am just trying to put myself about!!

I would like to ask the committee for permission to start a regular New Members session perhaps every two or three months depending on how many new members we get over the period. I would like to send personal invitations so we can explain how U3A works, answer any questions and in general help them to feel welcome and part of U3A. Unless it was a large number it would not entail hiring a room, I think we could manage by meeting in the Library café or similar. I have had an informal email chat with Anne and she feels it would be very useful information to be able to offer when she writes to a potential new member.

Do we still have the New Members Welcome Table at the monthly meeting? The table(s) always seemed very full and it appeared to be an extremely useful activity. But of course that only helped those who came to the MM.

### Some Thoughts

One of the questions being asked is why are committee members not more conspicuously visible at Monthly Meetings? From this question came the information that it seems more and more members are using their mobile phones to access the Newsletter – and as it is NOT easy to read the Newsletter on a mobile phone they are not getting information. Is this the reason why so many people are asking for a paper Newsletter again? Is this something that could be researched? Would putting more info on the Web make it more accessible to members?

Daphne  
July 2019

Points discussed by the committee in response to issues raised:

It was agreed that it was a good idea to have a new members meeting.

She also wanted a new members table but this wasn't felt necessary and should share the Members table.

It was agreed people should wear their badges in order to be more prominent at monthly meetings. She also wondered if the reason more people wanted a printed copy is because they are trying to access the Newsletter on their phones, which alters the format, It is possible there may be a piece of software which will convert it. Phil will contact Dave Parsons for advice on the matter.

## 6. Speakers secretary update – Jan

Jan informed the meeting she had speakers booked for the year

September - Osteopathy

October- Brunel South West legacy

November - Charles Dickens' Christmas present to Devon

### AOB

#### a) Change to the constitution

Anne informed to meeting that this will not get on the agenda for voting until the AGM next year. Alternatively there could be an extraordinary general meeting before then for a vote. Phil to contact Frances Berry, SW Regional representative for advice.

#### b) 25th Anniversary – Monthly Meeting 25 July

Tea and coffee will be free and there will be cake made by committee members. The choir will sing followed by the cutting of a ceremonial cake before the Monthly Meeting speaker.

#### c) Car parking at the Mint

Concern had been expressed in writing about car parking space now the layout has changed and we had been told verbally that there are no spaces for U3A. Phil has received a written reply to his letter from the Property Committee Secretary informing U3A saying that there is no provision for a U3A space and in fact never had one. Although this is untrue, and in the circumstances, it was decided to take no further action.

#### d) Ukulele group

Following a request, the ukulele group will perform at the Monthly Meeting in September

#### e) U3A Insurance

Phil raised the issue of U3A insurance which was required by a group involved in a community event recently. The certificate was not on the secretary's file. Phil obtained a copy from Gallagher insurers. He pointed out it was not public liability insurance but only covers members.

#### f) Bird watching group

A new member fell over recently, but he accepts responsibility and won't be claiming.

Next committee meeting; Phil will be on holiday so the meeting date is changed to the week before.

Date of next meeting: Monday 9th Sept 2019 2.00 pm

