

## Minutes of Glossop U3A committee Meeting – 27th February 2020

1) Present – Barbara Connah, Glyn Connah, Maureen Brierley, Brigette Manchee, Barbara Craven, Jo Mortlock, and Sue Vince.

2) Apologies – Chris Blackett, Diane Butterworth, Jean Lowcock.

3) Minutes of the last meeting – Proposed B Craven seconded B Manchee that minutes be accepted.

4) Matters Arising –

i) Diane has broken her wrist so Glyn has been helping her. The new price for magazine subscriptions is £3.10 and reminders sent out to existing subscribers that payment is due. The next window for data submission is March 2<sup>nd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> so we should collect subscriptions by then. **DB/GC**

ii) Maureen has completed the induction for Jean but Sue was unwell so will be inducted at a later date. **MB**

iii) Alan Mortlock has agreed to help Chris with the PAT testing and this will be done in the near future. **CB**

iv) Additions to the Coffee Morning door rota are: 7<sup>th</sup> May – **Jo Mortlock** 4<sup>th</sup> June – **Sue Vince**  
2<sup>nd</sup> July – **Barbara Craven** 6<sup>th</sup> Aug – **Brigette Manchee**

v) The Craft Group started up successfully with 12 members attending. The £22 room rent was paid from U3A funds.

5) Correspondence

i. Third Age Trust

- a. Monthly newsletters circulated as usual.
- b. Notification of Third Age Trust AGM on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August at the East Midlands Conference centre.
- c. Coronavirus alert.
- d. Meeting with Ian McCannah – see AOB.

ii. Website Enquiries

- a. Changes to GM bus pass. Not applicable to Glossop.
- b. Tai Chi Qi Gong instructor. Clash of interests for Chair & Secretary.
- c. Reubens Retreat – will give an update at the April coffee morning and a Thursday Group meeting.
- d. Andy Smith – instrumentalist and singer/songwriter. Potential speaker but travelling costs may be prohibitive.
- e. Middleton Hall & Gardens, Warwickshire. Open for visits.

Glyn will forward all enquiries from potential speakers to Barbara Craven. **GC**

6) Treasurer's Report

- i. Maureen presented the Summary Accounts and Budget Forecast to the end of January. The total in the bank for all areas and activities of the U3A, to the end of January, is £12,939.96, with £7,784.01 in the Current Account and £5,155.95 in the Reserve Account.

- ii. The Greater Manchester U3A Network annual subscription of £20.00 has been paid for 2020-21.
- iii. Jo Mortlock is now a signatory for current account.
- iv. Maureen will be getting the half yearly accounts prepared for examination after the February figures are in. Chris Parrack has indicated that he is willing to do the examination and she will contact him once the accounts are ready.
- v. The NATWEST Bank sent out an email on February 19<sup>th</sup> 2020, to inform us that they have put into effect CoP – Confirmation of Payee - an account name checking service that will check if the payment details entered for a person or business match the details the bank holds. Most of this doesn't apply to us as we do not do Online or Bankline Banking nor do we normally do UK Faster Payment or CHAPS sterling payments, but it's important to be aware.
- vi. Maureen will ask Natwest to remove the names of Clive and Carol Littlewood from their records as Trustees of Glossop U3A.

7) GM Network Report – Maureen read out the attached report from the last meeting.

An increase in the capitation fee by £1.50 will be put to the Third Age AGM. Maureen proposed that we put forward an increase of our subscriptions to £10 for one year only to our AGM.

8) Committee Secretary's Report – nothing more to report.

9) Membership Secretary's Report – Diane, in her apology for absence, added that she wished to thank Barbara and Glyn for their help with things she couldn't do due to her injury.

10) Group and Activities Coordinator's Report – As Jean was absent, Glyn reported that 6 new temporary members and 3 full members were signed up at the last coffee morning.

11) AOB

- i) U3A Day Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Brigitte has talked to The Bureau about us putting up a display. She will investigate possibilities for posters. Could also ask at the Library. BM
- ii) The committee were against asking the Welfare Group to donate profits to the Thursday Group as we have always aimed to keep the Welfare Group separate from the U3A.
- iii) Maureen and Barbara Connah will be our delegates for the meeting with Ian McCannah on 20<sup>th</sup> March from 1.30 to 4.30. Maureen will inform Jill Russell.
- iv) Temporary membership for new members is not compulsory. Procedures should be clarified.
- v) Ask Group Leaders to check that all their group members are in the U3A. **B Con/JL**
- v) Maureen, Barbara Craven and Barbara Connah will all be stepping down at the AGM. We will ask around for new candidates at the next coffee morning.

Next Meeting Thursday 23rd April 2020 at 11.30am.

Glyn Connah

## Greater Manchester Network

Report to Glossop U3A Committee of the Meeting Held on January 14<sup>th</sup> 2020

Brigette Manchee and Maureen Brierley attended the above meeting at Cross Street Chapel Manchester.

### The Main Points

#### A

The North West Trustee ; Gill Russell reported the following:

1. The Third Age Trust are considering raising the annual capitation fee as costs has increased. The fee has been kept at £3.50 for a decade. The new fee will come into force probably in 2021 as it has to be taken to the Third Age Trust's AGM in August 2020. Views from all members are invited.
2. The North West Region Summer School will be held at Newton Rigg Agricultural College near Penrith from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August. Nine courses are on offer and booking has started. Further information in the Newsletter.
3. The Regional AGM will be held at The Exchange, Preston on June 9<sup>th</sup>.
4. Ian McCannah, Third Age Trust Chairman, would like to meet members of the Networks around Manchester to discuss the future of the U3A movement.
  - A meeting has been arranged at Cross Street Chapel, Manchester on March 20<sup>th</sup> from 1.30-4.30pm. We are asked to send a maximum of 2 to the meeting and need to register on the link on the regional website before March 5<sup>th</sup>.
5. U3A Day is envisaged to be an annual event but U3A's are not obliged to take it on.
6. She mentioned other forthcoming events – **Communication Day** (to be arranged); **Japan Day**, which she is leading, in Liverpool on July 7<sup>th</sup>; and the Big Sing (to be arranged).
7. Gillian's email address is; [gillian.russell@u3a.org.uk](mailto:gillian.russell@u3a.org.uk)

A High Lane member asked what would be the response if members didn't want the fees to increase. The answer was that some of the services provided by the Third Age Trust would not be able to continue. Examples were given of the services provided – licences, insurances, the magazine, grants for open day events, workshops, advice on Charity Law, recent GDPR queries as well as subject advice. Gill emphasised that work of the National Office staff in offering these services. The chair summarised the discussion by pointing out the movement is expected to grow.

#### B

### What does your U3A want to know?

A query about access to meetings was raised involving motorised wheelchairs and scooters – would they be a hazard? We should not deny access but the committee concerned in the query, resolved it by stating that if there was an accident, we would not be responsible. Another member said they had a wheelchair lift at their venue operated by the caretaker which folded up when not in use and didn't take up much room. A point was raised that fire marshals needed to be aware of these difficulties.

A further query was mentioned about members with disabilities going on trips. I mentioned the U3A personal emergency cards we had introduced in Glossop which group leaders distribute to members of their groups.

## C

### **Shared Learning**

Maggy Simms sent a report on shared learning – a copy was later sent out to members of the network committee.

1. She mentioned Urban Sketching in Manchester which is held every third Wednesday of the month. For further details for anyone wanting to take part to contact her on her website.
2. She has asked that ordinary members of groups and the GM Network contact her directly if they want to explore or develop ideas for shared learning projects.
3. She highlighted some National projects occurring from 2020 to 2022 – leading to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U3A. One will centre on studying local main/high streets and another will focus on theatre studies, in particular theatres linked to critic and editor Cary Ellison.
4. The Tithes transcription project has 23 members from across Lancashire and greater Manchester involved with Lancashire University. It's subject to a lottery bid so that it will be available freely online and give a lasting historic use.
5. Bolton U3A and Bolton University have formalised a partnership and are preparing a programme of activities starting with a joint exhibition at the new "Platform 5" gallery at Bolton Station.
6. The Egyptology Event in December in Wigan was such a success that another has been arranged on 30<sup>th</sup> March at Bolton Museum but is sold out.
7. Classics event has yet to be arranged.
8. Her email address is [simmsmaggy15@gmail.com](mailto:simmsmaggy15@gmail.com)

## D

### **Quiz Feedback**

The event was deemed a great success but sound quality was not good. The venue was easily accessible, cheap and refreshments were free. It had a loop for hard of hearing. One member thought there was little opportunity for people to mix other than coffee break. Another member said their U3A had organised a quiz group of their own on the back of the success of this event.

The meeting closed at 11.45am and the next meeting is Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 at 10.30am