

SCN Chairman's Meeting Report

Tuesday March 9th 2021 10am – 12 Noon via Zoom.

Attendees

Sally Ingledew	SCN Manager
Kevin Stock	SCN Admin
Susie Berry	Regional Trustee
Anne Powell	Chairman Ems Valley
Mike Polgreen	Chairman Emsworth
Pat Humphris	Chairman Gosport
John West	Chairman Havant
Anne Hollis	Co-Chairman Hayling Island
Bob Beveridge	Chairman Horndean & District
Carol Bradshaw	Chairman Isle of Wight
Stephen Kirby	Chairman Locks Heath
Linda Hugo-Vieten	Chairman Portsdown
Patricia Coussens	Vice-Chairman Portsdown
Richard Handy	Chairman Solent
Chris Williams	Vice-Chairman Solent
Chris Adams	Chairman Stubbington
Alan Hathaway	Vice-Chairman Stubbington
Jo Derham	Chairman Waterlooville
Ian Daish	Chairman Guernsey

Apologies received from: Meon Valley, Portsmouth

Welcome by SI

Introductions

Everyone present introduced themselves.

Affiliation with the Third Age Trust

SI confirmed that all present had read the documents.

The name of the network is Hampshire South Central with the addition of also known as the South Central (SCN)

It was agreed that the area will be south area of Hampshire and surrounding area.

SI queried the word minutes item 8 on the responsibility of the network. It was agreed with SB that this could be replaced by report.

All present agreed that the agreement should be signed and returned to the Third Age Trust

U3A or u3a?

There was some discussion, but u3as are using the lowercase brand version.

SCN meetings after lockdown.

It was agreed that meetings should continue on zoom.

SI suggested a more social event which is not a meeting to enable face to face interaction.

This will be explored further.

Zoom licence. The suggestion was that members of the SCN could contribute to a pro zoom licence. It was decided to revisit this situation in a couple of months. Several u3as offered to allow the use of their zoom licence for SCN meetings. In the future it is likely that some u3as will be renewing their licence. An add-on to allow up to 500 participants can be bought for £48 each month.

Member link

Several u3as have already looked at this.

Member link is a result of survey sent out December 2020.

SB Some u3as have gone into hibernation or have lost committee members. Members link is designed to help u3as that need help/ideas for coping in the current situation and the future.

SI Emphasised that this is only ideas, not a must do at all.

SB Members link is meant to be inspirational.

JD expressed concern for members not on internet, and Waterlooville is taking measures to counter this.

PH Gosport has created a Support Hub which is confidential there has been some takeup. There is also a welfare officer on the committee. This will also be relevant in the transition to "normal".

BB wine group still meeting, organiser makes up sterile packs including wine !

AH sending out monthly updates after committee meetings, and many groups still running.

SI and SB congratulated u3as on their initiatives and that most have actually recruited during lockdown.

Toolkit is in resources, but still needs work.

Beacon 2 update

SI Beacon 2 is being developed and will have an associated website which site builder pages can be migrated to. All u3as using Beacon 1 will be migrated to 2 first, so there is no reason not to join. The timescale is 2 to 3 years.

SB delay is because one of the technical suppliers had to be replaced. An upgrade is planned around next October.

ID Guernsey use Beacon 1 and utilise all the features and use PayPal.

BB Transition to Beacon last year very smooth and membership payments went well.

SI National website is improving and becoming easier to negotiate.

MP agreed the website looks better but suggests using google search which is very effective.

SB website will be eventually migrated to a new site.

Responding to Covid

This has already been covered.

Hybrid meetings SI explained that Liz Thackray is talking to SERN on all methods of communication . SB suggested opening this to the whole region. SI is trying to arrange for Liz to talk to Networks Together.

u3a day

IoW are going to walk the coast of the island, and then a marquee for a group displays as long as the council gives permission.

Other suggestions are to ask all members to wear blue and yellow with posters to say this is u3a, put adverts on buses or bus stops but may be expensive, open air meeting with ukulele group and dance demo. Publicise in local papers and possibly local radio.

AP many groups are using zoom, 15 page newsletter goes out, articles jokes etc also have done a Would I Lie to You. Both were very successful.

SI asked if the u3as would like SCN involved it was decided not at this time. Leaflets published by the brand centre can be personalised for each u3a.

SB suggested a poster with lots of bits of paper to tear off with phone number or website address for people to take away

CA Stubbington will be discussing what is possible given the government guidelines.

SB could scale down activities in line with government guidelines

CB Local co op has donated 100 cupcakes which u3a will decorate in u3a colour.

AP intends to flood Emsworth with u3a members who could wear sashes, rosettes or pompoms to identify them.

SCN could contact Radio Solent.

MP focussing online, ask members to ask a friend to the zoom monthly meeting.

SB emphasised that if all u3as do something, then this could be a great opportunity to get media attention and publicity for the u3a movement as a whole.

Return to using Hired Halls and Rooms

Will we need certificates from venues etc ?

SB we will not know until government guidelines are issued.

CA concerned that some groups that meet in homes may want to meet in venues instead.

Also that venues will increase fees to cover the extra cleaning needed because of covid.

SK said that all village halls come under "Action Hampshire", which is the trading name of 'Community Action Hampshire'. which will mean that they should be fit for meetings.

'Action Portsmouth' is also a part of the same organisation.

PH used a different venue, which was very successful with the u3a taking all precautions, handwashes, risk assessment etc.

SB consider other venues, eg super markets and pubs which will be very clean.

KS will there be some sort of vaccination certificate needed

SB this is currently being discussed by the government.

AOB

ID Showed a leaflet which has been circulated by the Southampton network. Attached. MK explained that he had approached David Hockney for permission to use one of his pictures and the reply was a contract at zero cost !

SB TVN run regular events and get 400 attendees and very successful quizzes etc.

KS ICE cards should these be continued ? SB there is an ICE app for members to download.

AH website has emergency contacts on it for group leaders.

SI thanked SB for attending, and for her input.

Meeting closed at 11.50

SCN **Website:** <https://u3asites.org.uk/hants-sc-network/home>