

NOTES ON THE SCN CHAIRPERSON'S MEETING HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2019 IN THE FOSTER ROOM, GOSPORT ROAD, STUBBINGTON

U3A'S PRESENT

Chris Adams	Chairperson Stubbington U3A
Alan Hathaway	Vice Chairperson Stubbington U3A
Pat Humphris	Chairperson Gosport U3A
John West	Chairperson Havant U3A
Anne Hollis	Co-Chairperson Hayling Island U3A
Julie Taylor	Co-Chairperson Hayling Island U3A
Bob Beveridge	Chairperson Horndean U3A
Les Hill	Treasurer Locks Heath U3A
Linda Hugo-Vieten	Chairperson Portsdown U3A
Hilary Nicklin	Chairperson Portsmouth U3A
Richard Handy	Chairperson Solent U3A
Chris Williams	Vice Chairperson Solent U3A
Mark Dancey	Chairperson Waterlooville U3A
Sally Ingledew	SCN Manager Stubbington U3A
Kevin Stock	SCN Administrator Waterlooville U3A
Sue Young	SCN Report Taker Stubbington U3A
Barbara Spiegelhalter	SCN External Liaison Portsmouth U3A

WELCOME

The meeting is being hosted by Stubbington U3A and its Chairperson Chris Adams welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that the Foster Room was an annex to Holy Rood Church and then went on to detail the location of the toilet.

REGISTRATION AND CONTACT SHEET

Kevin Stock the SCN Administrator requested that everyone present complete the signing in sheet and check that their email address is correct so that those present together with their SCN Contact would receive a copy of the notes produced at this meeting.

INTRODUCTION

Sally Ingledew then asked all members present to introduce themselves and tell those present what their roles were within their U3A.

SECRETARIES & SCN CONTACTS

Are they the same person in your U3A? Who actions SCN items?

Kevin Stock is raising this as he is concerned that he is not getting responses back from U3A contacts to emails he is sending out about SCN matters. At present he sends SCN information to the U3A Chairperson and SCN Contact. It could be that responses back to Kevin are not forthcoming because each addressee may think the other will action his E Mail.

Therefore, to avoid confusion, Kevin Stock has decided to amend the wording in his emails. In future the wording will show that it is sent to the SCN contact person for action, and to the Chairperson for information. That way it is hoped that the SCN contact will:

- act on the SCN information received,
- pass it on to the relevant people within U3A for their response,
- reply back to Kevin Stock with the information obtained. E.g. members attending meetings/or workshops etc.

PUBLICITY & LIAISON REPORT

Site Builder Workshop. Barbara Spiegelhalter said that she is in the process of arranging a Site Builder Workshop which will be open to any U3A within the SCN. She is hoping that it will be held in Titchfield Community Centre from 10.30pm to 3.30pm, will include lunch and the cost likely to be £7.00. The date is still to be finalised but hopefully be during the 2nd half of January 2020. Barbara would like a U3A to provide someone who is an expert in using the site builder to demonstrate at the presentation.

The possibility of site builder providing a presentation pack was raised. Barbara will investigate this.

Hayling Island U3A asked if this was anything to do with Beacon. No, this workshop would be only on how to build a website using Sitebuilder.

Locks Heath U3A was under the impression that site builder was being replaced. Not for the foreseeable future.

Regional Trust. Barbara Spiegelhalter said that grants up to £250 are available from the Regional Trust, so that U3As can host an Open Day. Have to complete a form to apply for it prior to the event and now have to justify it, as the Regional Trust does not get sufficient monies from the Third Age Trust so every request is now being scrutinised quite thoroughly.

Portsmouth U3A have applied for one and they said that they found the form quite complex.

There seemed to be some confusion because Locks Heath U3A had received a grant from the Third Age Trust to help set up Beacon.

Who to apply to for grants – National or Regional. Sally Ingledew said she will clarify this.

National U3A Day. This to be held on 3 June 2020. Gives an opportunity for individual U3As to raise their profile. It is being run during Volunteers Week.

Stubbington U3A said that each U3A can showcase their groups e.g. in Public Libraries.

Research Projects. Aware that Portsdown and Hayling Island have already done a shared learning project, but National Office are encouraging more U3As to get involved. An example of a U3A getting involved by doing a case study on their local High Street was given. It is hoped that a National Database where U3As can enter information could be created.

ITEMS ARISING FROM CONFERENCE, SE SUPPORT GROUP and SERN

Conference – Third Age Matters. Joanne Smith is due to take over as editor of the Third Age Trust and she wants to make changes. Ideas from U3A members are requested – what do they want to see in the magazine? Articles on financial or medical matters, letters page, opinion etc. The hope to do this as a shared learning project organised by Marilyn Kinnon the Regional Advisor for SLPs and send it out to U3As.

SE Forum. At present includes U3As from Kent, Surrey, Sussex that runs the Chichester Summer Schools and the East Grinstead Conference. This is due to change to the “South East Events Network”. A new Constitution to be written, funds to be transferred and more U3As will be included in the network. These changes are to be discussed at their AGM being held on 30 October 2019 and once all ideas have been discussed, Sam Mauger will check them, and an EGM will be held to agree this. This new network will be responsible for doing the Chichester Summer Schools, the East Grinstead Conference and the Autumn Gathering. As it will cover Events over the whole region members can come from any network in the region.

Kevin Stock said he will forward to U3As details of the SE Forum AGM being held on 30 October 2019.

SE Region Support Group. Being created to help and take over some of the roles of the existing trustee. It is hoped to have 2 additional U3A members in each county to assist the Trustee to become “county representatives”. The aim being if any U3A has a problem or query it could go to their county representative to get the matter resolved instead of going to the Third Age Trust. However, if U3As do not feel comfortable with this, they can still go to the Third Age Trust for advice.

South East Regional Network (SERN). This is a network for the regional networks. South Central Network is a member of this. Networks will be sent a list of all Trust Volunteers so that it is easier for the Volunteers to be contacted if needed.

The Third Age Trust is taking these networks very seriously. Our South Central Network has come to the attention of Hillary Jones Chairperson of the Third Age Trust and she is looking closely at how our network is run. Some other Networks are larger, but they do not have as many meetings as we do. Sally Ingledew said that Arun East U3A are looking at the possibility to join our SCN.

CONVERT TO A CIO OR NOT

CIO is Charitable Incorporated Organisation

This has been raised by Havant U3A as they are seriously considering becoming a CIO because they are concerned that at present all Trustees of a U3A would be jointly liable to pay any costs - for example any insurance claims, if the insurance companies decided not to pay out on a claim. Two examples of incidents suffered by other U3As were given; lady line dancing broke her hip, six weeks in hospital; expensive bottle of wine smashed at a wine appreciation night caused a lady to slip causing damage to face and arm; both incidences caused an insurance claim to be raised.

Why would an existing trustee be liable as surely the insurance cover provided by the U3A would cover any eventualities of any incident happening?

John West Havant U3A went on to say that CIOs came into being in 2011 and the first CIO was set up in 2013. He pointed out that The Third Age Trust is a CIO and that Buckingham

U3A has also become one. A CIO is a separate legal entity, in its own right, the advantage being that Trustees are not personally liable.

To become a CIO the existing U3A would have to be wound up, create a new constitution, get it approved by the Third Age Trust and go through the Charities Commission to approved for Charity status and Gift Aid etc. A fresh set of Trustee Declaration Forms would also have to be raised.

Locks Heath U3A said that surely the decision for a U3A to change from an existing U3A to a CIO should be generated by the Third Age Trust and not be up to individual U3As to take this step.

Sally Ingledew will forward our concerns about this to the Third Age Trust, she will ask.

- Any examples of any Insurance Claims not being paid
- As affiliated with the Third Age Trust is the insurance that they provide to us sufficient
- Are our Trustees at risk
- Does it put volunteers off becoming trustees
- Where do we stand – existing U3A or become a CIO

Havant U3A intend to pursue becoming a CIO but will run as they are until approved by the Charities Commission.

CHAIRPERSON'S BEACON ACCESS

What access if any do you have?

Mark Dancey, Chairperson of Waterloooville U3A, (he was previously the Treasurer) finds he does not see anything on Beacon anymore, when as treasurer he did. Do other U3A Chairpersons have access?

General opinion is that your U3A decides who has what access to Beacon. At present all run the Membership, some the Group section and fewer the Finance package.

Some U3As are waiting for Beacon 2 (due April 2020) to be up and running to see if any applications have been radically changed before they grant further access.

Chairperson Locks Heath U3A says that he has access to view everything on Beacon but cannot do anything.

Portsmouth U3A said that in the past they had not been involved with Beacon because "it needed an administrator" but they had now resolved that problem and are on the way to starting.

MEETING VENUES FOR 2020

Kevin Stock asked for volunteers for U3As to host the eight SCN Meetings due to be held in 2020. These are listed below.

SCN Meetings 2020	Date/Time	Host
Membership Secretary	February	Portsdown
Chairperson	March	Waterlooville
Treasurer	April	Portsdown
Publicity/External Liaison	September	Solent
Groups	May	Locks Heath
Webmaster	June	Hayling Island
Secretary	July	Portsmouth
Chairperson	October	Horndean

AOB

Gosport U3A reminded everyone about the SCN Quiz that they are hosting on Friday 11 October 2019 from 7pm and hope to see many of you there.

Hayling Island U3A informed that during 2 – 16 November 2019 that they will be publishing their 2nd Book which will be focusing on Civilians. Being held in the Royal British Legion. They will forward a copy of a flyer on the event with some information via E Mail.

Meeting Closed 15.30