

NOTES ON THE ZOOM SCN CHAIRPERSON'S MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2020

Meeting opened 14.00

U3As PRESENT

Anne Powell	Chairperson Ems Valley U3A
Jane Yoward	Vice Chairperson Ems Valley U3A
Mike Polgreen	Chairperson Emsworth & District U3A
Ian Daish	Chairperson Guernsey U3A
Elizabeth Joyce	Vice Chairperson Havant U3A
Bob Beveridge	Chairperson Horndean & District U3A
Stephen Kirby	Chairperson Locks Heath U3A
Hilary Nicklin	Chairperson Portsmouth U3A
Kevin Connell	Chairperson Rowlands Castle U3A
Richard Handy	Chairperson Solent U3A
Chris Williams	Vice Chairperson Solent U3A
Chris Adams	Chairperson Stubbington U3A
Alan Hathaway	Vice Chairperson Stubbington U3A
Mike Young	Webmaster Stubbington U3
Jo Derham	Chairperson Waterlooville U3A
Sally Ingledew	SCN Manager Stubbington U3A
Kevin Stock	SCN Administrator Waterlooville U3A
Sue Young	SCN Report Taker Stubbington U3A
Susie Berry	SE Trustee

Apologies have been received from Chichester U3A, Gosport U3A, Isle of Wight U3A

WELCOME

Sally Ingledew the SCN Manager welcomed everyone to this Chairperson's meeting held on zoom.

MEETING PROCEDURES

Kevin Stock the SCN Administrator, asked, for ease of identification, if everyone could ensure that they had their U3A detailed after their name and went through the zoom procedures for those who needed help in achieving this.

INTRODUCTION

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

TRUSTEES REPORT - What form do you use – is there a standard for the contents. This item had been requested by Chichester U3A as their Committee members are fairly new and they wanted some form of clarification of what forms they needed to use. It is unfortunate that they were unable to attend this meeting due to this day being the only available day for them to hold their own Committee Meeting.

However, it was assumed that this is the report that has to be completed by U3As who have achieved Charity Status by Trustees to the Charities Commission. Usually completed

by either the Secretary or Treasurer of the U3A. There is a form that the Charity Commission provide for U3As that are registered as a charity.

IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT ON ZOOM – singalong, entertainment with a Christmas flavour – raised by Chichester U3A.

Havant U3A. Arranging a Christmas Party with a singer over zoom, a quiz and a members singsong.

Rowlands Castle U3A. Hiring a professional singer.

Portsmouth U3A. Speaker booked followed by a quiz.

Stubbington U3A. Les French does a quiz every fortnight on “MyQuiz.org”. Will ask Les to create a seasonal one and to include this in the Stubbington U3A Newsletter.

This created interest – could singles be included – yes they could.
Participants could be in different areas within zoom – in break out rooms.

Portsmouth U3A. They have set up and paid for on a 3 monthly basis “4 Hosts” to use zoom to enable them to carry out their activities.

REBRANDING - NEW LOGO etc – the new look u3a was launched at the AGM on 29 September 2020.

Since seeing the logo used on the agenda for this meeting, Mike Young Stubbington U3A has been trying to get onto the National Website to download the new logo for the Stubbington U3A website and he has had difficulty in re-registering and logging into the new National website to do so. Go to National website, click on u3a Brand Centre and you need to register again, as this is a different website. It was also pointed out that it is sometimes easier to search using google.

Susie Berry SE Trustee pointed out that the new website has only been up and running for a fortnight and they are experiencing difficulties. The Trust are trying to sort things out for U3A day and therefore it may not be until the new year before things settle down. She will ask if there are any plans for changing the page top in sitebuilder. Sitebuilder will ultimately be replaced by the new website which is linked to Beacon. This will be available as a standalone without needing to join Beacon. Susie also said there is a 70 page booklet available re rebranding.

The point was made that U3As can choose which logo they want to use. This cannot be altered by the sitebuilder team. U3As are also free to choose other ways to create a website.

There was discussion about the font preferred by the Trust. Susie Berry said Ariel is acceptable.

Concern was raised that where we are trying NOT to use “University” in our name anymore when putting U3A in search engines “University” is still being shown all over the place and so these search engines need to be approached to get “University” removed from their websites.

COMBINED ZOOM MEETING WITH NEW FOREST AND SOUTHAMPTON NETWORKS

Would like to try this out so that different ideas could be generated. Suggested that the initial meeting would be open to Committee Officers – Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and

Secretary from each U3A. 4 December 2020 was agreed as a possible date. Following timetable was suggested:-

- 11.30 Welcome by SE Trustee and Introductions
- 11.45 Talk
- 12.15 Break
- 12.45 Discussions in Zoom Breakout Rooms
- 13.30 Conclusions and Finish

Various suggestions were put forward for a speaker for the talk – someone from National Office for example, but as many U3As will be concentrating on how to promote their U3A after COVID on U3A day it was suggested that Jackie Ralph who advises U3A on PR should be contacted. It was decided that the theme would be publicity to prepare for U3A open day. It was also suggested that each breakout room could be set a question to address.

Agreed the initial talk should be 30 mins.

Focus then turned onto what should be discussed in the Breakout Rooms.

Suggest white board facility / way of anonymously making comments. Can the chat be used?

How to appeal to younger age group just retiring. Need to find out what they are interested in or what could they offer U3A.

Contact with HR departments of big firms, road shows etc

Timing will be crucial after lockdown.

Portsmouth U3A said trying to attract different ethnic groups into U3As should be explored. Hilary will give feedback on this initiative.

We can be too set in our ways and younger members need to be catered for. Portsmouth U3A is too dependent on their Community Centre as holding meetings in members homes is intractable. Will spend next year trying to see if they could try something new.

Havant U3A said that efforts should be concentrated on recruiting younger members into the U3A – but what have we got to offer them?

Stubbington U3A said these younger members would be able to offer us new ideas for groups and perhaps become new group leaders.

Guernsey U3A said that they recently did a campaign where they went to all their local companies to publicise their U3A especially to those who were due to retire.

Sally Ingledew will contact the New Forest and Southampton Networks to see if they are amenable to this meeting. If successful other groups could be tried later – Membership. Webmaster etc.

SE REGION WEBSITE – still under redevelopment but any ideas welcome - to include u3a of the month initiative.

Susie Berry is the new SE Trustee and is trying to generate more awareness of the SE Region website. Asks if u3a's have a link from their websites into the SE Region Website. Many u3a's do.

Stubbington U3A. Suggested that a small advert publicising the SE Region could be placed periodically in U3A Newsletters.

It was also suggested that she could be invited to attend Committee Meetings. **Susie pointed out that she could not just turn up she had to be invited by the U3A Committee to attend.**

PATHFINDERS AND TRAILBLAZERS – If any u3a in the region is involved, how is it going? Similarly for the High Street Project.

It was decided it was too soon to discuss this and that it would be brought up at the next Chairperson's meeting in the New Year.

MEETING DAYS FOR 2021 – as future meetings for all roles will be via zoom can we fix a set day to have them. Suggested choices are 2nd or 4th Tuesday am or 2nd and 4th Thursday am.

After discussion, it was decided that zoom meetings would be held on the 2nd Tuesday AM from 10am.

Kevin Stock will forward the 2021 meeting dates when compiled.

AOB

Portsmouth are looking for ideas to use other venues, and to become more like other U3As. Using retirement complexes, church halls, university may have rooms available if teaching online. Discussed high subs, versus pay for venue

Autumn Gathering. Susie Berry reminded members that the Autumn Gathering will take place on 4 November 2020 and details for attending would be available on the S E Region website.

Meeting Closed 15.31