



SCN Secretaries Meeting Report

Tuesday July 13th 2021 10am – 12 Noon via Zoom.

Attendees

Sally Ingledew	SCN Manager	
Kevin Stock	SCN Admin	
John West	Chair	Havant
Geoff Southgate	Sec	Horndean & District
Dina Jung	Sec	Isle of Wight
Maureen Kirby	Sec	Locks Heath
Ann Riglin	Sec	Portsdown
Carol Powell	Sec	Portsmouth
Gilli Smith	Sec	Solent
Mary Paddey	Sec	Stubbington
Sue Young	Mins & Booking	Stubbington
Barbara Watkinson	Sec	Waterlooville
Jo Derham	Chair	Waterlooville
Hazel Solway	Sec	Guernsey

Apologies received from Emsworth, Meon Valley, Warsash

1. **Welcome by Sally Ingledew**, SCN Manager
2. **Meeting Procedures** Kevin Stock, SCN Administrator
3. **Introduction** by Sally Ingledew, SCN Manager

4. Your next AGM: Zoom, In-person, or Hybrid?

All attendees were hoping for a face to face AGM. It was felt that hybrid meetings would be too demanding both from an equipment and technical point of view. All allow postal voting.

Waterlooville are having a cheese and wine buffet, the AGM and afterwards a quiz to encourage members to attend.

5. Have you had experience in holding AGMs in person and on line simultaneously?

See answer to item 4

6. When do you plan to return to in-person Monthly Meetings? (Horndean u3a)

The general consensus was September.

The question of members having covid jabs was discussed, particularly in respect of groups meeting in houses.

The guidance from TAT is as follows

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/covid-19-advice-on-u3a-activities/897-covid-19-advice-on-u3a-activities-in-england-u3a-kms-doc-074>

This was issued in May.

If meetings are held in members houses the householder has the right to exclude any member who have not had both jabs. A current negative covid test could also be acceptable.

Several u3as are planning activities in September/October instead of u3a day, and also various activities to enable members (particularly new) to meet eg picnics

7. Communication with u3a office

In general it was felt that communication with the u3a office was ok, but they could take a long time to respond, and sometimes not at all. Sam Mauger was praised for her help with constitution problems.

SI emphasised that there are regional advisors, members of the SERST. Details can be found here <https://u3asites.org.uk/south-east/page/110238>

The most concern was about brand IQ. Several people did not realise it was a separate website, and all felt the prices for merchandise was very high, so u3as are sourcing locally. The only thing of value seems to be the downloads to send to local suppliers.

The whole system seems to be unwieldy, and question why it's been out sourced.

From the SERT meeting these are very common comments. Diaries will be on sale soon.

Comments that website is still difficult to negotiate. SI said use Google search u3a and the topic you are looking for.

Covid guidance useful and clearly written see above

Comments that up to date versions of documents should be highlighted on home page.

8. u3a Day: Did your u3a put on an event?

If so, did you attend as Secretary to talk to the public?

Did you send a report/photos to media or u3a office if not Sue Stokes still wants to hear from you. So far she has only heard from 150 u3as.

There were many activities and report in the local newspaper. Solent in the town centre, IOW walked the Island and asked various local dignitaries. Stubbington had a gazebo on Stubbington Green which was successful. Portsdown were at 3 locations and handed out leaflets and info got a good response. Havant did an interview on Angel radio, had Line Dancing, and a zoom magic performance for members and friends/families.

Solent suggested a u3a week. Flyers with list of other local u3as. Many activities were showcased on Guernsey. Also attended by local dignitaries and Health and Social Services re social prescribing. Portsmouth celebrated their 35 anniversary with a zoom and photo show. Waterlooville did an event for the public, talk on local radio, and had an article in the News.

From SERST next year there are 2 suggestions, either the week in June, or in September.

SI also asked for any pictures of u3a activities/u3a day for the S E Region website

9. Any Other Business

Comments were made about the voting forms for the AGM. These have changed, and even after an initial glitch was fixed it was hard to see what response was needed, in particular a box for delegate.

From SERST the Delegate box is just to say that this says the details refer to an official delegate from your u3a. If you have more than one vote this needs to be done for each delegate.

Suggestion from Waterlooville that there should be 2 meetings for secretaries. It was agreed that there may be extra meetings but this needs to be considered. Maybe a larger meeting with breakout rooms.

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