



**SOUTH CENTRAL NETWORK**  
**Treasurers Zoom Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Attendees

Sally Ingledew	SCN Manager
Kevin Stock	SCN Admin
Antony Waller	Chichester
Ken Laing	Emsworth
Margaret Stanger	Havant
Bob Hornby	Hayling Island
Tricia Norman	Horndean & District
Sue Dobson	Horndean & District
Les Hill	Locks Heath
Tony Paul	Portsdown
Jean Morgan	Portsmouth
Sandra Hodgetts	Rowlands Castle
David Smith	Solent
John Ponting	Stubbington
Nick Hammond	Warsash
Chris Cant	Waterlooville
Barbara Legg	Waterlooville
Peter Langford	Guernsey
Juliette White	Jersey
Pam Davidoff	Arun East (Guest U3A)

SI welcomed everyone

**Compensation for lockdown**

There was much discussion about whether members of U3As should be compensated for the lockdown period

Ways suggested.

To give a discount next year on membership fees for either all, or just renewing members, although this might encourage new members to offer it to them as well.

To extend the period of membership.

Both of these would be proportional to the time lost.

There was a concern about how these relate to Beacon. The Beacon team have sent out a document on the pros and cons of different approaches. Sent to Administrators.

## **Capitation**

SI said that capitation must be paid this year as it is retrospective. the question was raised if the trust would be offering any sort of discount next year.

SI thought this very unlikely, and said that actually a rise is being discussed, and that the National Office and Trust have been working very hard during this time to support all U3As. Some U3As said they have not received Annual returns from the Trust. This should have gone to the secretary.

Similarly, some had had a request for payment of Beacon fees, whereas others had not. U3As need to check if these have been received, and if not should contact the Trust.

## **Submission of Annual Accounts**

To the Charities Commission before members approval at AGM. There is information on this on the CC website, see doc sent by email. They must be submitted to the Charity Commission on time but we can get approval from the committee first, and circulate to the members afterwards. Or approve at a virtual AGM.

## **Numbers of members**

There was concern about a possible fall in numbers either people not renewing, or no new members, or both. Unfortunately, this cannot be predicted.

Waterlooville have 100 members not yet renewed out of a membership of 880, but this is due to reduce as it is still in the 1 month grace period for renewing.

Portsmouth are very concerned as all of their groups are in an expensive venue.

SI said that an exit strategy was being considered at Regional level, and one suggestion was for U3As to run local "roadshows" or information stalls.

## **Which bank?**

There were many examples both good and bad, often for the same bank! The result seems to be it depends on the branch/personnel concerned. One suggestion was to put have those with a new mandate should be put on before the old ones were taken of. Another suggestion was the CAF bank although they charge.

## **Accounting systems**

Chichester asked if anyone could recommend an accounting system as they were finding Beacon insufficient

NH explained that as part of the Beacon upgrade the system would be much improved with a better financial package which is due to be trialled shortly.

## **Allowances**

To reward and thank group leaders with a lunch it needs to have a reason, eg speaker, and will be called a Workshop, meeting with a lunch. Simply a lunch is not ok.

## **Supporting venues who are losing money**

Locks Heath want to help support the church where they meet, as they (the U3A ) are saving money, and the venue is losing money. One problem is that of giving to another charity, as this should be one with the same aims as the U3A, and the related problem is how this would be shown in the U3A accounts.

Warsash have been asked by the venue for a donation and will discuss this at their next committee meeting.

It was discussed whether the venue could be paid a retainer rather than a donation.

### **Discounts through the Trust**

SI said that there were discounts available for computer software through the Trust.

KS said that Office 2016 or 2019 could be bought, but after that it has to be Office 365.

Zoom can also be bought for a 50% discount if a U3A needs more than the free version, and also all Adobe software.

These can be bought through the Charity Digital Exchange, but the U3A needs to be a registered charity.

There was not enough time for role descriptions

Meeting closed at 12.00