



Group Leaders Meeting

Friday 9 September 2023
Commencing at 10.00-11.10am

DRAFT

Mansfield Bowling Club on Chesterfield Road

MINUTES

ATTENDEES	Title	26.04.19	1.11.19	24.11.20	6.10.2021	21.10.2022	8.9.2023												
Mick Kennison	Groups Co-ordinator (Chair)				√	√	√												
Carole Harrison	Business/Minutes Secretary	√	√	√	√	√	√												
Elaine Huckerby	Committee Member						√												
Elizabeth Ellis	Music Popular Appreciation	√	√	A	√	√	A												
Gordan Howlett	Photoshop Group					√	A												
Graham Allin	Wine Appreciation 3	A	A	A	A	A	A												
Graham Headworth	Current Affairs					√	√												
Hilary Miller/Sue Ford	Writing for Pleasure	√	A	√	A	√	√												
						√	√												
Jacqueline Hampshire	Mini Breaks	√	√	√	√	√	A												
Janet Whitlam/ Marilyn Dibble	Gardening Group	A	A	√	A	√	√												
Jill West	Card Crafting					A	A												
Joan Hufton	Reading 2	A	A	A	A	A	A												
Joy Crowe	Film Studies/Walkers	A	√		A	√	A												
Julia Hyde	Theatre Group						√												
Ken Gilbert/Valerie Wood	Family History				A	√	√												
Ken White	Birdwatching/Pathfinders			√	A	A	A												
Lorna Pye	Tai Chi			√	√	√	√												
Lynne Payne	Scrabble	√	√	√	A	A	A												
Marilyn Jones	Beadwork and Calligraphy	-	√	√	A	√	√												
Mike Allen	Music Classical 2/Wine Apprec 2	√	√	√	A	√	A												
Pat Blackwell	Antiques/Collectibles	√	A	√	√	√	A												
Paul Sanderson	Bowling					A	√												

Peter Dawson	Reading 1	A	A	√	A	A	A												
Philip Tucker	History	√	√	√	√	√	√												
Sheila Pegg	Solo Dining/Bridge	A	A	√	√	√	√												
Sheila Whalley	Afternoon Teas	√	√	A	√	A	A												
Stella and Steve Hall	Crafty Chat						√												
Sue Howlett	Reading a little aloud/Strollers	√	√	√	√	√	√												
Sylvia Newlyn/Ian Lakin	Shufflers				√	√	A												
Trevor Kirby	Classic Cars						√												
Val Hart	Pathfinders	√	√	√	√	√	√												
Yvonne Kennison	Soft Tennis/Curling/Indoor bowling	√	√	√	√	√	√												

*A denotes apologies and D Deputy in attendance

Number	Item	Action
1/09/23	<p>The Minutes of the Mansfield & District u3a Group Leaders Meeting held on Friday 21 October 2022</p> <p>Mick Kennison welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Stella Hall, who was taking over from him as Groups Co-ordinator.</p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting were AGREED to be an accurate record.</p> <p><i>Proposed by Marilyn Jones and seconded by Val Hart</i></p>	
2/09/23	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies for Absence were noted as above.</p>	
3/09/23	<p>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting:</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	
4/09/23	<p>Group Co-ordinators Report</p> <p>Mick Kennison thanked all the Group Leaders for doing such a fantastic job and causing him no problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since last year the Crafty Chat Group had started and was very successful. • Trevor Kirkby had set up the Classical Cars Group • Julia Hyde, a new member, was in the process of starting a Theatre Group for the Palace Theatre in Mansfield • Sheila Pegg who runs the Bridge and Solo Dining Groups was also setting up a Board Games Group • Unfortunately, the Photo-shot Group was having problems with falling attendee numbers 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We do not have a Group Leader for the Indoor Curling Group. We have got the equipment which cost over £300, thanks to a generous donation from Councillor Stephen Garner. It would be good to get the group going again A report had been received from Jacqui Hampshire to say that she was hoping to book Thursford for 2024 but was just awaiting confirmation of hotel prices. She had hoped to take a trip to the Edinburgh Tattoo, but it was too expensive Jill West, currently off sick, reported that the Card Crafting Group were making some stunning cards. Unfortunately, numbers were lower than normal due to illness and family commitments so was able to take on two more members. The next meetings were taking place on 26 September, 31 October and 28 November. Jill had been able to arrange a lift as she was unable to drive at the moment. Christmas cards would be made at the last two meetings. Jill would provide an item to go on the Christmas tree if the Museum was holding the event this year Bob Longden, the Web Editor, had been due to attend the meeting but unfortunately had to send his apologies. The Third Age Trust were in the process of making changes to the website. This will impact on Group Leaders when updating their pages, but training will be provided. Once Bob has received more information, he will let you know more. 	
5/09/23	<p>Group Leader updates</p> <p>Tai Chi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lorna Pye said that the group was going well, with a good number of members, currently at 28 although some had started mid-term Lorna had to keep an eye on the numbers to ensure that they could pay for the venue and instructor They could at the most have 30 members The group was very successful with a brilliant Instructor who had kept going even through Covid using Zoom <p>Solo Dining, Bridge and Board Games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheila Pegg reported that Solo Dining for Sunday lunch and evenings was going well At Bridge there had only been four people, as two had stopped coming. Sheila had met some people from Ashfield u3a when she went for training at Bellamy Road and was hoping they would come to the group The first meeting of the Board Games group had 18 people, 10 from Mansfield, 7 Ashfield and 1 from Forest Town The second meeting only had 10 people, as 5 were unable to attend but new members did come. Will send a reminder before the next meeting <p>Theatre Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julia Hyde was trying to set up this new group and would like a maximum of 12 attendees 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not sure if it would be once a month or bi monthly, dependent on what was available • The issue was not knowing what people would like to see • Julia had received a copy of Mansfield Palace's programme so would send an article to the Newsletter and have a table at the September meeting to promote the group <p>Family History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Val Wood said there were 9 members currently in the group as 2 had dropped out • Members helped one another seek out their family histories, and all have interesting stories to tell, although no links with royalty as yet! <p>Reading Aloud</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Howlett said the group was meeting later that day • The Group was going well and everyone enjoyed it <p>Strollers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Howlett said that they were averaging 20 members, sometimes 23. • They had been lucky with the weather, although last year when it had been very hot, only 4 members had attended <p>Writing for Pleasure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hilary Miller reported that the group were still meeting regularly and writing about a variety of subjects • The group meets at the same place and time and has 2 vacancies • Sue Ford explained that things were going along nicely • Both Hilary and herself attended Workshops, sometimes in person and others on Zoom • The Group had been going for 11.5 years, with Mike Allen the only original member apart from themselves <p>Pathfinders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Group had been doing well, but unfortunately Ken was quite poorly and would not be back for a while • Val Hart had moved house, so things had been put on hold • However, the group will start again next month, with assistance from other members <p>Crafty Chat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Hall had set up this group in January and there are currently 15 members, although members drift in and out • Some members stitch, others knit and others just like to chat • We had one member who had a fantastic time handstitching puppets • Members Day, when the group held a stall, had generated quite a bit of interest 	Julia Hyde
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	<p>Beadwork Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marilyn Jones reported that the group was running successfully from her home • She had 6 members around her table • Would be making things for Christmas <p>Calligraphy Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marilyn Jones said that some members were on holiday or ill and so there had not been many at the last meeting • She could take another two members • Marilyn would speak at the Members Meeting to see if anyone was interested in joining <p>Gardening Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marilyn Dibble reported that the group was going well with 50 members and membership was increasing year on year • The group had a very enjoyable visit in July to Highgrove House • At meetings there is a speaker for an hour, refreshments and a chat • The group was in a good financial position • There had been a fabulous Speaker at this month's meeting • Marilyn spends hours on line looking for speakers for the following year, many having stopped giving talks following Covid • Costs were increasing with higher payments for mileage • Members can pre-pay for four meetings twice a year and this guarantees that there are sufficient funds to pay for the venue and speakers • Guests can attend and pay when they attend <p>Bowls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Sanderson reported that Indoor Bowling starts in October and a couple of members had shown an interest in coming • Mick Kennison noted that Paul had joined Mansfield u3a and then joined the Bowls group. He was now on the Board at the Bowling Club and this had all come following joining the u3a <p>Current Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graham Headworth reported that the group never runs out of steam • The Mansfield Mayor and our MP had both attended different meetings to provide an update. These meeting had been opened up to all members and there had been 26 present • Normally there are 14 members • At the last meeting the debate had been around if 'Britain is a Christian country' • The ethos of the group is to be kind to one another • Spirited discussions always take place • There is room for another 2/3 members <p>Classic Cars</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trevor Kirby said the group had gone to Birmingham NEC and enjoyed a good day out 	Marilyn Jones
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another visit had been to the Great British Car Museum at Ambergate • The monthly meetings had fizzled out, even though Trevor would like them to continue, so he might need to adapt the format • Trevor to be sent details of who to contact to advertise in Newsbites to extend an invitation to other u3as <p>History Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philip Tucker reported that the group was going well and had been running for many years • The Group continued to meet at the Bowling Club <p>Soft Tennis/Indoor Curling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yvonne Kennison updated that two courts are booked at Oak Tree Lane Leisure Centre, for an hour • There had not been a meeting in August as the courts were not available due to children's school holiday events • The Group were meeting next week and everyone had a very enjoyable time with plenty of laughs • It was difficult to take on any more members as we could only have the two courts • They had purchased new red balls for next time 	Carole Harrison
6/09/23	<p>Induction</p> <p>Elaine Huckerby attended to explain about the new Induction for Group Leaders which she had produced.</p> <p>The lack of such a document had come about when the Committee had been reviewing new policies.</p> <p>A meeting had been arranged between Elaine, Kathryn Henshaw, who was taking over as Business Secretary, and Carole Harrison to agree the format.</p> <p>Although many Group Leaders were very experienced, it might prove a useful reference document when new groups were being set up.</p> <p>You have all received a copy with the papers, and it might have been useful to have included a few pictures. Hopefully you will never need to use it.</p> <p>Included are summaries of the policies, full copies of which can be found on the Website.</p> <p>With Safeguarding, Groups Leaders really need to be aware of anyone who is vulnerable and keep an eye and ear on the situation.</p> <p>Depending on the venue there might be an accessibility issue. Also need to keep an eye on anyone with hearing or visual impairment issues.</p>	

7/09/23	<p>Risk Assessments</p> <p>Elaine Huckerby said she had recently attended some training and it had come to light that all u3as needed to complete Risk Assessments or our Insurance, which is provided by the Third Age Trust, might be invalidated.</p> <p>We have tried to make the process as simple as possible. The Third Age Trust have produced templates which include checklists.</p> <p>There different types are Home based, Venue based and Walking Groups.</p> <p>Sue Howlett said she always went the week before to have a practice run of the walk and Val Hart did the same. They always reminded members to wear the correct footwear and clothing and bring their 'In case of Emergency ' cards.</p> <p>Elaine explained that you do not need to do a risk Assessment for each walk, just one that covers everything. The Risk Assessments for all groups would be reviewed yearly and amended if anything changed.</p> <p>Venues should have their own insurances, and the Risk Assessments would be in addition to this.</p> <p>Jill West, from Card Crafting, worked for the Police previously and completed numerous Risk Assessments. She was happy to check the forms once completed.</p> <p>Risk Assessments were tabled, many Group Leaders filled them in and then they would be typed up. If anyone needs any assistance, then please ask.</p> <p>Jill West has completed her Venue Based Risk Assessment and this would be circulated with the Minutes if anyone might find them helpful.</p>	Carole Harrison
8/09/23	<p>Nottinghamshire Network of u3as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday 19 July 2023 had been circulated for information 	
9/09/23	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Yvonne Kennison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yvonne said it had been a huge privilege to be a member of the Committee for the last eight years She thanked all Group Leaders for making her job easy and causing no problems. Yvonne had made many friends and really enjoyed it <p>U3a Week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yvonne had booked the space outside of the old Debenhams in the Four Seasons for Thursday 21 September from 10.30-2.00 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If anyone can come down and talk to anyone who might be interested in joining our u3a, then it would be very much appreciated <p>Graham Headworth thanked Yvonne and said that she had been really great and nobody could have served us better.</p> <p>Newsletter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mick and Yvonne would be taking on the role of Newsletter Editor and undertaking all the printing • Yvonne said it would be a hard act to follow, as Bill Harrison had done an amazing job • She would be reliant on Group Leaders submitting their contribution and she was eager to receive their input • Yvonne was happy to hand over the mantle to the new Committee • She thanked Elaine, Hilary, Sue and Stella for agreeing to join the Committee • Mick and Yvonne were looking forward to just sitting and enjoying the Members Meetings • Group Leaders could send their contributions on the normal email address, as Bill would be handing over the laptop to them • A photo of all Group Leaders was taken for the October Newsletter 	
10/09/23	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting will take place at Mansfield Bowling Club commencing at 10.00am, date to be arranged sometime during February.</p>	Stella Hall