

SUDBURY GROUP OF THE THIRD AGE TRUST
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
Via Video Conference
Monday, 11th May 2020

Present:	Anita Floodgate, Chairman	Brian Orton, Vice- Chairman
	Tony Lee, Treasurer	Janet Cruttenden, Secretary
	Jennie Leech, Groups Co-Ordinator	Colette Bentley
	Sue Campbell	John Freeborn
	Nicola Godwin	Brian Hemmings
	Dee Hoile	Richard Thomas

1) **Apologies for Absence**

2) An extra meeting was called to discuss the next steps for our U3A; we initially cancelled all activities until the end of May, and it was hoped that following the planned government lockdown update on 9th May a clearer picture would have been forthcoming of how lockdown may or may not be eased over the next months.

3) Anita opened the meeting by saying that it was disappointing that the government's statement yesterday did not send a definite message on next steps. She had been in touch with Jeff Carter, our Regional Trustee, who did not respond to her specific questions – some U3As had cancelled monthly meetings for the remainder of 2020 others were using Zoom. Anita had also been in touch with National, who had not issued any specific directives to U3As but were due to hold a Board meeting this week. Anita could not delay her message in this month's Su3an until after the Board meeting in the hope that a decisive directive was issued.

4) Anita had two specific questions for the committee:-

(1) How to proceed on the monthly meeting front

i) Monthly meetings had been cancelled through to May, should we now cancel a further 2 months or 3? Colette said she had already spoken to the June and July speakers and agreed with them to move their talk to the same months in 2021. It is known some social distancing will be in force until July. Following discussion, the committee **agreed that June, July and August monthly meetings should be cancelled**. Colette will contact the speaker for August to reschedule for August 2021 and Brian H will amend the website to reflect this decision. **ACTION: CB/BH ACTIONED: CB**

ii) Anita had looked at other U3A sites and Charnwood were holding virtual monthly meetings. Was this something we could do? Tony confirmed that our Zoom licence allowed 100 participants. Sue said Anne Grimshaw had given a splendid presentation for a local history group. Anne was due to present at our AGM. Colette had spoken to May's speaker who felt his presentation could not be done virtually. Our June speaker was local and could be approached. **It was agreed** that Anne should be contacted immediately and asked if she could present virtually for a June meeting in order details could be published in May's edition of Su3an. **ACTIONED: CB**

iii) **It was agreed** that in her Su3an message Anita will set out the date, time and reply deadline for a Zoom June monthly meeting, and with Tony's agreement, his e-mail address will be given for members replies so a limit of 100 invitations can be issued. Tony will work on the logistics of such a large meeting – who may be familiar with the Zoom product and ensuring it is secure. Anita to also send an update to all members which John will email ASAP. **ACTION: AF/TL/JF**

(2) Group Activity

i) All Group meetings, except those using Zoom have been cancelled to the end of June. It was noted that from 13th May, Golf and possibly open-air Tennis clubs could reopen providing participants were from the same household with one other and social distancing was adhered to. Brian O was not convinced that when Stage 3 became operable on 4th July that walking and cycling could not restart providing all rules were followed. National need to advise on what was and was not covered by U3A insurance. Depending on what was issued by National following the Board meeting **it was agreed** that Anita should make contact if there was no clear information forthcoming.

ACTION: AF

ii) Anita drew to the committee's attention that National were running Tuesday and Thursday tutorials on using virtual meetings. Notice of these tutorials to be sent as an e-mail - to include details in Su3an would be too late for members to access.

ACTION: AF

iii) Anita had also noticed that some virtual Group Leader workshops had taken place. This was something we could try to keep momentum going. Jennie had already mailed GL's with information regarding Zoom. Richard felt this was a good platform for GL's to discuss their experiences and ideas and **it was agreed** that Jennie will look at the possibility of a Zoom meeting for Group Leaders.

ACTION: JL

5) Membership

John said 865 names are on the current membership list which includes 294 members who have not renewed. He generally removes all non-renewals at the end of June. In view of the current situation should these members be removed next month? Dee raised the question of what happens if an unpaid person joins a virtual meeting? At a monthly meeting they would be asked to pay the membership fee, as they would to join a group. After discussion **it was agreed that an extra month to July** will be given only for this year.

Anita informed the committee that Indigo Ross had provided an excellent price for complete fulfilment of May's Su3an. PPI postage cost less than a 2nd class stamp at 60p.

6) Anita would ask Indigo Ross if they had, or they knew of, any storage space where the Table Tennis Groups could store their tables. **ACTION: AF**

7) It had been noted that Wallasey and Newquay had set up a VirtualU3A on their site. Jennie was asked to look at the sites with a view to us setting up such a site. Initial text was required for the main pages for Brian H to set up the structure, with individual groups providing input. **ACTION: JL**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.01 a.m.

Date and time of next meeting

9th June 2020 at 10 am

Signed Date

Anita Floodgate, Chairman