

South West Hampshire u3a network 15th April 2024 Meeting Notes

1. Welcome, Attendance

Attendees

Joy Lyon – Joint Network Coordinator (Chair), Lyndhurst, Botley & Hedge End, Monks Brook, New Milton, Romsey & District, Southampton, Totton South, Winchester.

2. Apologies

Ann Beeching – Joint Network Coordinator, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Fordingbridge, Lymington, Romsey Archway,

3. **The notes of the previous meeting** were accepted as accurate. Phil Waterton had been unable to join the Zoom meeting due to use of the Waiting Room option, suggesting this be removed when Zoom is used in future.

4. Board and SERN reports

Members reported difficulty in opening the Reports attached to the Agenda. These are available on Trust website and links to reports will be used in future.

ACTION: Links to be added as appendices.

- a. The Board report was briefly reported – Susie Berry was not present, it was agreed to send questions to her following the meeting.
- b. SERN meeting had presentation by SiteWorks Project Manager who outlined timeline and available support. T&Cs for Networks may result in the Website only being available to ‘formal’ Networks. This is being pursued by Susie Berry

Some discussion on how individual u3as are progressing with the migration; progress seems to be dependent on the abilities of their Webmaster, although generally positive.

5. **Fit for the Future** was not discussed as Susie Berry’s input was considered to be essential.

Following discussion it was agreed, in recognition of her busy diary, to offer her the option of attending on Zoom for future meetings.

6. ‘Your Spot’

- a. Vernon Tottle raised concerns about TAM submission which now has to be submitted in CSV format. This is possible using Microsoft programmes, but may not be so when using alternatives such as Open office. Following discussion all u3as had been able to ensure members received the magazine from the new distributors.
- b. Winchester would like to set up a singing group and will liaise with Southampton on ways to proceed.
- c. Vernon Tottle acknowledged the value of Network participation following support from members in sharing bunting and banner for a recent recruitment stall.

Christine Rowland reported Southampton had benefited through Network members

sharing details of using BarCode Scanner at monthly meetings which has streamlined registration at monthly meetings.

Phil Waterton welcomes members from members of all u3as within the network to attend Monks Brook's Technology group.

Joy Lyon suggested collaboration across member u3as might contribute to the viability of specialist groups. The success of this approach has varied in the past.

- d. Barbara Walder-Davis asked for views regarding a potential new member with several disability needs, and her caring friend, whose disability had resulted in her disrupting the meeting for other members. Aspects of being inclusive while respecting needs of other members was a dilemma. Following some discussion the suggestion was to contact both Susie Berry and the National Office for advice.

7. Joint Network Activities

As only two u3as had expressed interest in a Table Tennis event, it was suggested that Eastleigh and Totton South liaise if they wish to meet. This item will remain on the Agenda for potential future joint activities.

8. Peer group support sessions.

Generally found to be useful for range of committee members. Preference was expressed for Face to Face rather than Zoom which might enhance exchange of ideas and increase participation.

9. SWHants Beacon and GMail contact lists

The network contact list is currently kept on both Beacon and Gmail with each having advantages and disadvantages. Following discussion and to enable maintenance of an up to date record, it was agreed that Beacon would be a list of participating u3as with a single contact person who will preferably use a generic address. That member will be responsible for circulating SWHants information to the relevant people within their u3a, as well as enabled to maintain their record and make any necessary changes.

The Gmail account will be used to facilitate discussion between members of the Network.

ACTION: ALL to provide Joy with a contact email for their u3a: Joy will then update Beacon.

10. SW Hants Web Site Development.

Discussion on migration of u3a sites using SiteBuilder which seems to be progressing smoothly, often depending on having one person dedicated to the process. The possibility of Networks being able to use SiteWorks remains uncertain. Confirmation will be requested from Susie Berry. **ACTION: Joy**

11. Meeting dates/hosts

Next meeting will be held on Monday July 29th 2-4pm at Crosfield Hall, Romsey. Romsey & District agreed to host; Fordingbridge will be asked to assist.

12. Succession Planning

a. All will look at SWHants Network page and consider possibility of maintaining this.

Action ALL; Joy to ask Joan Miller for number of views.

No-one volunteered to contact non-participating u3as.

13. **AOB** – nothing raised. Meeting closed at 4pm.

Appendix 1

Fit for the Future - this link takes you to the Trust Website which has the most recent update and other related documents.

[https://mailchi.mp/u3a/update-fit-for-the-future-march-24?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/u3a/update-fit-for-the-future-march-24?e=[UNIQID])

Board Reports – this link takes you to the Trust Log in Page where you can access Board Summary Reports.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/members-area/trust-and-board-updates/board-reports>

Appendix 2

Potential Meeting Hosts and Scribes

Red indicates not yet confirmed

2024 Potential u3a pairs

Jan 29th (5) Z Chandlers Ford Eastleigh

April 15th (3) F2F Totton South Lyndhurst

July 29th (5) F2F Romsey Fordingbridge

Sept 30th (5) F2F Totton Anton

January 13th 2025 (2) Z Test Villages Eastleigh