

Minutes of Committee Meeting
21st March 2024
9 Lloyd Taylor Close, Little Hadham, SG11 2NB

Present	<p>Nigel Varnam / Chair - NV Linda Ketteridge / Vice Chair - LK Ken Blethyn / Treasurer – KB John Bailey / Asst. Treasurer – JB Pam Archer / Secretary - PA Annie Compton / AC Anne Willett / Events Co-ordinator – AW Dave Willett / Minutes & Comms – DW Tom McNeeney / EDI Officer - TM Linda Maxwell / Speaker Co-ordinator LM</p>	Action
Apologies	None	
Minutes of PM	Accepted and signed	LK
Matters arising	On agenda	
Agenda		
Committee issues	On agenda	
Membership	Currently 623 with 3 more forms to process. Number will soon be 626. This is 68 new members since September 2023, and 14 since the last Ctte meeting.	AW
Finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank mandate still in progress. • Joy Lee – unidentified payment has been solved. She is a member of BS u3a and is in the Choir. • Table Tennis Group 2 – is overdrawn by £225. TM to resolve. 	TM
Secretary's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA now has all insurance forms back except Astelle/Yoga. If this is not resolved by the next Ctte meeting, this group will be removed from our list. NV will also ask if anybody goes to this group at the next Monthly meeting on 8th April to help resolve this if necessary. • Constitution – Still awaiting a response from the Charity Commission. 	PA
Meetings and Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 is now all booked. Details of every speaker in on our website. • We agreed to make it clear in the Monthly email that the Charis Centre meetings will start at <u>2.10 pm.</u> 	LM DW

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LM is planning 2025 already, local speakers for Jan/Feb are preferred to avoid speakers travelling in winter conditions. • We reiterated the idea of spending more money on quality speakers a few times each year as our budget is healthy. 	LM LM
Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair Shop suggestion from a new member. There is one in Sawbridgeworth and similar in Bishops Stortford called Men's Shed. This needs to be a u3a group for it to operate. AC to investigate further with organizer. • Afternoon Tea Group to be set up in a member's house for up to 10 people. • Craft Group 3 – a new group for later in the year. AC and AW to investigate and report back. • Lip Reading – a qualified teacher could do this @ £25-£30 per hour. This can take up to 2/3 years of training. We agreed not to pursue this at present but consider this again in the future. • Life Writing Workshop – Jools Abrams has offered a 60-90 minute workshop to help people write about their lives. Venue may well be South Mill Arts @ hire of £30 per hour. AC will get more details and liaise with Family History Group. • Seated Exercise – more spaces are available. DW to keep article in monthly email • Beacon training – some Group Leaders have shown an interest. • Ctte thanked Annie for her enthusiasm in promoting existing groups and new groups. 	AC AC & AW AC DW
EDI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 4 people were interested in TM's trip so this was cancelled. How do we / do we promote equality more than we do was discussed. We are all aware of u3a values and concerns over diversity and inclusion. This is something we will discuss further. TM proposed the idea of a series of conversations for members to participate in. Working title might be 'Inclusion – do we need it?' Other u3a's have lectures and workshops on serious topics and the national u3a has Zoom talks as well. TM to carry out more research. 	TM
Events & Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood U3a get together. It is our turn to host. Usual group is – Thorley/Bishops Stortford/Dunmow/Buntingford/Stansted. Suggested date Sept/Oct. Decision to be made at next meeting with organization/invitations to be discussed. • We agreed that all planned events MUST go to Terry Rhoda first as she controls the calendar. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ KB to email her and confirm that we currently have 9 events on the calendar ○ DW to email all Group Leaders via Beacon and remind them of the above. 	Ctte KB DW

Calendar Check	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everything is up to date. 	
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Items for next monthly email agreed. NV to write a few words from the Chair. 	
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DW will take on responsibility to put the Monthly email and Newsletter on Drive. As PA has a scanner she will receive final version of minutes from DW, scan them and put on Drive. KB informed Ctte that all of the above, some 12 years of records will be available to all of us to read. KB gave a demonstration of the new look u3a website which is being rolled out towards the end of the year. He and David Aitken have attended a 2 hour Zoom meeting on this. We all agreed that it is more user friendly, and will help members to access information about our u3a, and every group. 	DW & PA
Meeting closed	<p>12.30 pm</p> <p><u>DONM - Thursday 18th April 2024 10am</u></p> <p>This meeting will be held at Ken's house until future venues are decided. Address is – 38 Parsonage Lane, Bishops Stortford, CM23 5BG</p>	

Neil Mann
21/3/24