

## Summary Minutes SWN Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2023 at 6.00 pm on Zoom

### Reports from u3as

- List of recommended speakers are on the SWN website under SWN Sharing Activities. Please let me have any that I can add to the list. **Please use the list – it contains a lot of very good speakers.**
- Possible Grants: Dwr Cymru (Welsh Water) Community Fund but only for registered Charities for Health or Well Being. See end of minutes.
- According to the internet, Gift Aid can be claimed by unregistered Charities who do not have a charity number. This mirrors the experience of Gilwern.
- How often do you need to do PAT testing of small equipment belonging to the u3a? What if Groups use their own personal equipment - do they need PAT testing?
- Do u3as need a Health and Safety policy? Only if they employ people? See end of minutes.
- U3as could struggle to have single sex groups such as a Men's Shed or a Women's Group because we are not set up as a single sex Charity like the WI.
- Usual lack of Committee and other volunteers in some u3as. (Reflected in the Chair's Forum apparently). Suggested possibility of importing volunteers from other adjacent u3as. Not thought viable.
- Discussion on possible ways of helping by sharing roles, bringing members on slowly with 'easier' roles, reducing complexity of job description etc.

### Other Reports

- Agreed to accept Cardiff's offer to possibly host a stand at Eisteddfod 2024 but need more details and talk to the Wales Trustee regarding possible grants. These stands are very expensive.
- Wales Trustee visit in first week of October to SWN u3as with TAT Chair Liz Thackray. Still some 'slots' available particularly on Tuesday and all evenings. **Last date for everything must be 29<sup>th</sup> September.**
- Brief discussion on two TAT AGM Resolutions. Each u3a will vote on these. Note that Networks do not have any voting rights at the TAT AGM.
- Discussion of the Chairs Forum. Favourable reports from those who have attended.

## **Links and Downloads on the Main SWN Website**

- Network Link agenda and booking in details on Thursday October 12th
- York Festival in July 2024. Not much information yet.

## **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> at 6.00 pm on Zoom
  - Topic: Welcome and Induction of New members
  - Pilot Council – details from the Wales Trustee
  - Cardiff u3a – Eisteddfod 2024
  - Stand at Royal Welsh Show 2024? – Dai Davies

## **Information received after the meeting**

From Susan Lieven Porthcawl

Targeted Grants from the Raymond Williams Foundation of upto £1000

<https://www.raymondwilliamsfoundation.org.uk/grants>

From Ken Symes, Forest of Dean

Regarding the commentary in last night's meeting in respect of the u3a and health and safety, the links below provide illustrations of why u3a is not exempt from health and safety:

Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 – legislation explained (hse.gov.uk)

Voluntary work - Village and community halls: Legal responsibilities - HSE

charities health and safety requirements - Search (bing.com)

Sample Charity Policies Required By UK Law – Free Templates  
(charityexcellence.co.uk)