

Warwick District U3A Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th April 2023

Present: Clare Johnson (Chair), Ann Bailey, Sam Sexton, Jen Hemming, Mike Cronin, Richard Piggott, Sue Roy

1. **Apologies for absence** : Sharon Hancock
2. **Minutes** of the January meeting were approved
3. **Matters arising** from the minutes: none
4. **Reports**

4.1 Chairman's report

- Minutes of AGM CJ to issue final version by the end of the week (16/04). **Action CJ**
- Date and venue for 2024 AGM – yet to be discussed and agreed
- TAT Council proposals - **CJ to write to TAT West Mids Trustee** (Jean Jackson) to express our agreement with Ku3a's comments. **Action CJ**
- CJ to write to Susan Meeks inviting her to attend an MC following up on her interest in joining MC. **Action CJ**
- AB to respond to another member who also expressed an interest (though longer timeframe). **Action AB**
- CJ met with Ku3a chair (Nick Booker) meeting agreed that CJ contact Nick to arrange a joint informal meeting of the two MCs. **Action CJ**
- **CJ to circulate Ku3a marketing info for information. Action CJ**
- SS to contact Ku3a's IT contact to exchange information/ideas. **Action SS**
- Agreed to discuss William Clemmey's points raised in his independent review at the June MC meeting. **Action MC**

4.2 Treasurer's report

Current Financial Position – as at 09 Apr 2023

Activities Account	£6,362.25 (Feb meeting £5,730.18)
General Account:	£14,250.88 (Feb meeting £16,369.17)
Deposit Account	£ 7,506.38 (Feb meeting £7,485.80)
Total	£28,119.51 (Feb meeting £29,585.15)

a. **Activities Account – see Annex 1**

Transactions since last meeting:

- Natural History Group (Receipts £788, Payments £368-hall hire/speaker fees)
- Railway Group (Receipts £156, Payments £150-event costs)
- Folk Dancing Group (Receipts £200, Payments £396-hall hire)
- Dressmaking & Sewing Group (Receipts £307.50, Payments £176-hall hire)
- Badminton (Receipts £284, Payments £348- court fees)
- Bridge (Receipts £401.27)
- Mousetrap (Receipts £34.30, Payments £197.80-reimbursement restaurant costs)
- Wallace(Receipts £750, Payments £765-coach hire)
- Winterbourne (Receipts £190, Payments £60-booking deposit)

- Bank Charges £18

Group Funds held in Activities A/c (£2,595.63):

- Bridge - £380.04
- Badminton - £279.70
- Architecture - £27.39
- Ramblers - £382.75
- Nat History - £1,133.89
- History - £50.00
- Folk Dancing - £4.00
- Railway - £138.86
- Dressmaking & Sewing - £199.00

b. General Account – see Annex 1

Receipts since last meeting:

- Membership subscription income £336
- Donations £2
- Contribution to bank charges £3.50
- Banked petty cash £20
- Less tfr to Act Act £9.30

Costs since last meeting:

- AGM Speaker fee £120
- Donation to Zoe's Place (in lieu of speaker fee £75)
- AGM Hall hire £1,044.58
- AGM presentations & certificate costs £52.90
- Feb MC refreshments £22.77
- OM Hall hire £270 (Dec, Jan & Mar)
- Apr/May Info printing & mailing £832.40
- Third Age Trust £34.84 TAM mailing costs prior year adjustment
- Bank Charges £18

c. Membership income 2022/23

Membership receipts to date £12,942 (925 paying members) slightly below the same point last year £13,226 (945 paying members).

4.3 Groups information

JH informed the meeting that initial enquiries regarding formation of a tap-dancing group were encouraging. **Action JH to monitor**

CAMEO initiative due to commence with first meeting Wed 19th no firm indications yet as to level of interest. Agreed to communicate details of meeting info to GLs to help promote. **Action AB/JH**

4.4 I.T.

a. Website

Steps are being taken regarding the migration from the current SiteBuilder system to the new WordPress site, known as SiteWorks. We have registered for this process, and await news on migration. You can see the latest news at <https://siteworks.u3a.org.uk/>.

From there: *“Whether or not u3a SiteWorks will be free to u3as as SiteBuilder currently is, has yet to be decided. At some point in the future there may be a need for a small charge to user u3as.”* Also: *“The u3a theme and plugins can be made available to u3as who wish to [set up their own sites] although only limited support will be available as our focus will be on those who want to migrate from SiteBuilder to the new u3a SiteWorks system.”* Using these would be an option, although with our limited resources, I wouldn’t want to take this route unless suitably qualified volunteers materialised!

Therefore, we’ll leave the provisional WordPress site in limbo until we’ve migrated.

b. MS 365

After successfully applying for a Microsoft non-profit account, it turned out to be extremely complicated to administer, not helped by web pages not responding. As it would only save us £80 per year, it’s not worth pursuing the problems – there’s meant to be free support, but the people I contacted to see if they could investigate would charge £50+VAT. Meeting agreed not to pursue.

4.5 Membership

AB reported current member numbers of 912 (18 additional/renewals since Feb meeting).

As at 31 March figure was 909 which AB will provide to TAT on annual return **Action AB**

5. Calendar/Open Meetings/Venues

April 12th OM at St Mark’s, MC to attend Dormer Place to advise possible arrivals there of venue change. **Action MC**

Agreed to the Leamington Baptist Church to be the venue for May & June OMs. Consideration for further venues to be done following our experience there. **Action AB to book May & June.**

OM speakers have been arranged for remaining 2023 OMs (i.e. up to and incl. Nov 23). **Action SR to continue to monitor and suggest possibilities for 2024.**

Agreed to hold another new members meeting in Sept, W/c 18 Sept suggested. **Action: All to confirm date.**

2023 GLs Forum to be held in October Tues 17 October suggested. **Action: All to confirm date.**

Quizzes – general support to progress this. **Action SS to contact CJF to confirm his interest and possible date of 12 July.**

6. Content for May MC

Main discussion point to be around communication.

7. AOB none

8. Date for next meeting — 2.15 pm on 9th May 2023 at The Fat Pug