

MINUTES OF THE BEESTON U3A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
9TH JANUARY 2017 AT BMC

1 Apologies: none. Present: Sue Blackley, Janis Patterson, Breda Cooper, Lucy Beardsley, Chris Chater, Steve Austin, Margot Gale, Malcolm Brookbanks, Jo Muxlow, Richard Eddleston, Marie Potts, Celia Billau and Elizabeth LeMB.

2 Minutes of the December Meeting: Agreed and signed.

3 Matters Arising: Membership Cards were not required by Sandi Banks to decorate the U3A tree in St John's Church. Richard will send the information about the copyright license to the committee. Screen and White Board: it was decided that Marie would order the white board and Chris will talk to Mike Allery about the screen. Sue will contact Karen about storage for the white board and it was decided that the groups can pay for their own marker pens out of their group funds but it must be impressed on them that they must use the correct marker pens. When the white board arrives we will ask Mike Allery to mark it as U3A property. Steve Austin asked for clarification on the speaker for the 2017 AGM who is Alison Smith and she will talk about her experiences at the London and Rio Olympics. The survey for the Accessibility Report will be sent out to all members and those who do not have email will receive it with the letter about Email Buddies in a special posting. Piers has volunteered to repeat the very successful wine tasting evening and it was decided to hold it in the last 2 weeks of November subject to the Resources Centre being available. A sum to be determined will be set aside for the Accessibility Budget. The committee took a vote about keeping the East Midlands Regional Committee – To disband the committee 11 – abstentions 2.

CC/MP/SB/RE/MG

4 Reports:

Chairman: Thanks was given to Margot for hosting the committees December meeting and fuddle. Thanks was also given to the committee members who attended the New Members Coffee Morning which appears to be very successful. The Development plan has been updated. Celia was officially welcomed to the committee and the handover of the Communication Officers responsibilities from Marie to Celia has already started and will be completed by this year's AGM. Marie will remain the Newsletter Editor and this will be fully explained at the Group Leaders meeting later this month. The programme for the Group Leaders Meeting was finalised and it was agreed that Sue would confirm the catering with Local Not Global, purchase the napkins, water and orange juice, tablecloths and paper cups. Marie will print off the sheets for issues raised

and the same template as last year to be used. Sue will also finalise the programme and send it by email to Chris who will forward it to the group leaders. In the same email Chris will remind the group leaders that they can use the tram and bus to get to the Resources Centre as there isn't a large capacity car park at the centre.

SB/MP/CC

Treasurer: Malcolm updated us on the finances of the group and the amended budget for 2017/18.

Membership Secretary: The Beeston U3A now has 710 members – we had 20 new members this month, 8 visitors came to the open meeting and the total attendance was 214. Membership renewal will start at the open meeting in February.

Business Secretary: HMRC has sent the Gift Aid repayment for 2015. We have received our copyright licence for the year and Richard had also received a number of advice sheets etc. from National HQ. The Beacon Project is to receive support from the NEC. The national AGM will be held at EMCC in Nottingham from August 29th-31st. The PPL licence has been renewed. The cost of the direct mailing of Third Age Matters has still to be announced. A website produced by the Senior Fraud Prevention Officer of the City of London Police could be of interest – go to the website <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk> – it is a national campaign full of information to educate everyone on how best to protect themselves against financial fraud.

Group Co-Ordinator: German Conversation Group for Beginners will meet on Tuesday 10th at 10.30am at the White Lion in Beeston. 4th Book Group will have its first meeting on Monday 16th January at the White Lion at 1.30pm. Ivor Case has taken over the facilitator's role for the Short Walk Group. Dana Bielec has said she will learn how to use PowerPoint with the help of members from her Beginners Polish Group. It is hoped that it will be held twice a month. 6 members have shown an interest in the Real Ale Group – Chris will arrange a meeting with them. A retired IT professional has expressed an interest in running a group to introduce programming. Chris awaits further information. The Writing for Pleasure group wants to run a short-story writing competition amongst the members of Beeston U3A. The committee expressed their full approval and support and have agreed to give a book token as the prize. Writing for Pleasure has changed their meeting place and have moved to the Pearson Centre and this information needs to be changed on the flyers, newsletter and website. Chris will produce a list of other venues in the area for the group leaders meeting. It must be impressed on the group leaders at their

meeting the importance of keeping the Group Co-ordinator up-to-date with their details. **SA/CC/MP**

Publicity: Computing – Central College – the college sent out a press release and this led to an interview of 2 of our members, Hazel Brooke and Stella Taylor by BBC Radio Nottingham along with a student of the college. We don't know yet whether it has been broadcast. Steve will contact the college to get the list for the one to one tutoring. Business Plan – University Involvement to be put on the agenda for group leaders meeting. Article on wine tasting evening has been sent to Third Age Matters. Cost of new membership cards is £100. **SB/SA**

Speaker Seeker and Outings: The Hodsock visit is still waiting for some members to get back to Lucy – Lichfield numbers going well – Blenheim numbers growing more slowly and a few members have shown an interest in the overnight Thursford trip.

Communications Officer: Maria and Celia have already started the transition of responsibilities – it was agreed that Celia would have a communications email address and Marie would keep her editor address. Celia is to be added to the members detail round robin and she will need a bulk email account from google. Sue Wild may have to be contacted. **MP/CB**

Social Events: All the tickets have been sold for the Burns Night and Janis explained how the serving of the food and the clearing and moving of the tables would be handled. She asked for 2 of the committee who would be attending the event to go early to help collect the coats etc. from those attending. Also Jo will take the required cheques. The Quiz Night has been booked but only 1 ticket sold so far. **JM**

5 Requirements for February Open Meeting: Both Lucy and Breda will not be there so there will not be an outings table - Margot has agreed to put out the parking bollard for the speaker and give the thanks at the end of the talk on Heraldry and Sue will introduce him and Hazel Brooke will also be helping. **MG/SB**

6 Group Leaders Meeting: already discussed.

7 Development Plan – already discussed.

8 Priorities for the Future of Beeston U3A: Committee to put forward suggestions.

9 Cluster Development: Stapleford is now officially part of the cluster group.

10 Group Fair: We now have 1 room less so the plan of the tables will have to be re-gigged and we will not use the far side of the church but we should try and keep to as much of last year's plan as possible- also Chris will need a table for new group suggestions. A sub-committee was formed of Sue, Marie, Margot and Chris to finalise the arrangements.

SB/CC/MP/MG

11 AOB: Postcards – Janet Johnson will round up the sum collected for the sale of her postcards to £100 which will be sent to an as yet undetermined charity.

12 Agreed Future Meetings: Monday 6th February @ 1.30pm, Monday 6th March @ 1.30pm – these meetings will be held in the Wesley Room.
Monday April 10th @ 1.30pm – this meeting will be held in The Lounge at Christ Church.

Suggested date for May – Monday 8th @ 1.30pm – this was agreed and is now booked in the Wesley Room.

Signed..... Date.....