

BURNLEY AND DISTRICT U3A

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE UNITY CENTRE, PADIHAM, 7 MARCH 2016

Present - A.Wiseman (Chair), M.Bushby, F.Whittle, B.Hayman, J.Green, J.Bridge, M.Philp, M.Hartley, M.Jackson

Guest - S. Limmer

1. Apologies for absence - Apologies received from P.Ferguson, G.Markin
2. Minutes of previous meeting - Accepted as correct and signed by A.Wiseman.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

MJ expressed interest in attending a "Planning Ahead" workshop in Manchester, and is to obtain further information about this from the regional U3A website.

4. Correspondence received and Secretary's Report -

Correspondence - None received:

Received from the Trust:

The Charity Commission has set up a scheme for U3As registered with the Commission to change their charitable objects clause in their existing constitutions but as we are not registered we are not affected. The PPL Licence for 2016.

Our insurance cover note for 2016.

A notice of the 2016 AGM to be held in Nottingham on 25th August.

An information sheet on Direct Mail. The new subscription rate is £2.25, an increase of 5p. Information on Film Licences - as we do not have a Film Group we are not affected. If one is formed in the future it may be necessary to pay £60 pa to use Filmbankmedia.

A second newsletter from Lesley O'Malley, subject advisor for craft.

Jane Bellworthy, a chartered occupational psychologist and teacher is the new subject advisor. She would like to know of any psychology groups - please contact her at jane.bideford@internet.com: telephone 07974 406959.

National Summer Schools update. Some places are still available.

Annual Science Seminar: 8th-11th August at Harper Adams University, Telford. Details on www.u3ascienceseминаr.org.uk

N.W. Regional Summer School: 30th August-2nd September, Newton Rigg, Penrith. Further details are on the regional website.

A Direct Mail statement showing a credit of £38.72.

The Annual Return to be completed by 30th April.

It was agreed that the Return should be completed after the AGM

A questionnaire on strategies to assist members as they get old and face more challenges. This has been completed and returned.

A Loop system for those with hearing difficulties is available in the Unitarian Chapel Hall, and members will be reminded of this in a future newsletter.

5. Treasurer's Report

1. There were 260 members enrolled by the end of February, which will be the total number for the enrolment year 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016.

2. Enrolments for the new year have already made a good start, with 113 already received.

3. At the end of February the Main account balance was £8313, £1300 of which was subscriptions received. The Social account balance was £637.

4. The end-of-year accounts are still in draft as a new independent examiner has been found. Stephen Hughes of Burnley will shortly be undertaking the task.

5. A survey of the U3A's assets will shortly be undertaken. Those who hold them, please contact the Treasurer.

6. Many thanks to all the Group Leaders for doing their July to December group accounts. All have been received.

A copy of the final balance sheet for the year 2015 was distributed to the committee. The balance carried forward at year end was £7428.68.

It was queried whether the balances of the income and expenditure accounts for each individual group should be included in the main U3A final accounts balance. Queries were also raised whether items held by individual groups, such as books, should be classed as U3A assets and included in the Assets Register. MJ to investigate further

6. Groups Co-ordinator's Report -

The Indoor Bowls is now up and running again.

The My Story group had its final meeting in January

The Group Leaders annual meeting was held on the 9th February. The minutes of the meeting were produced by MB and are included with this report for completeness.

The meeting raised the need for Group Labels for tables at the monthly meeting. Labels have been produced for each group which were made available at the February meeting.

During the treasurer's talk on Handling Money the recommended group register was discussed and if used will give consistency across all groups. A supply of blank copies of the recommended register has been produced and will be available for group leaders to pick up at future monthly meetings or from the Groups' Coordinator.

The minutes of the group leaders meeting on the 9th February were distributed to all group leaders with a request from JG to email him if there was anything that didn't give a fair summary of the proceedings. There has been no feedback so it is assumed that everyone was happy with the minutes.

This will be the final time JG will attend the committee meeting and he thanked therefore all committee members for the help, support and friendship they had given him during his time in office.

7. Group Leaders Lunch - Report

The meeting was acknowledged as a good idea, and was enjoyed by those participating. This is expected to be a regular event in the future.

8. Format of Newsletter

There was general agreement that the format should remain as it is.

MH suggested that a few details of the content of each monthly talk be publicised as well as the title and speaker. It was suggested that a full 12-month list of speakers be put on the notice board.

9. Publicity Officer's Report - Nothing to report

10 Web Editor's Report

Web Site and updates- The website has been updated with amended information obtained from the monthly newsletters. No copy has been received from group leaders.

Social Media - The possibility of creating a Facebook page for Burnley and District U3A to enable members to post items, photos and other content that does not generally fit in with the content of the website was briefly discussed at the last committee meeting.

JB pointed to an example of a Facebook page by Todmorden U3A which can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/u3atod>.

JB is prepared to set up a Facebook page for items from members, and the committee approved this. The use of computers, technology, etc. by the U3A was discussed - ongoing.

New Technology - Just for interest and information following the Group Leaders Lunch and Meeting held recently, JB produced a letter, written by Pat Ryan of Sheffield U3A, which appeared in the most recent issue of "Third Age Matters". It sums what up he believed and what he was attempting to argue at that meeting.

11. Speakers' Secretary Report - Nothing to report.

12. Arrangements for AGM

This is to be held on Thursday April 28th.

PF, and BH have volunteered to stand again for election.

A nomination for the Chairperson has been received. At the date of this meeting a Vice-Chair and a Groups' Co-ordinator are still required.

13. Committee meal - Provisionally arranged for the evening of March 29th at the Hapton Inn.

14. A.O.B. -

MP requested clarification regarding subscriptions to be charged to members who are joining during the year. This will be an item for the next Committee meeting.

The next Joint Meeting will take place at Longridge on the 21st of March.

It was agreed that a second lapel microphone should be purchased.

15. Next meeting - Monday 9th May 2016 at 10 a.m., at the Unity Centre, Padiham