

Eastwood District U3A Executive Committee

Monday, 3rd April 2023 at 1.30 pm at Greasley Community Centre

Minutes

Present: Barry Doran, Keith Sherwood, Janet Lander, Linda Rothwell, Doris Fellowes, Chrys Millington, Madeleine Fletcher

Apologies: Linda Rothwell, Marianne Sparrow

Minutes of Meeting held on 06/03/2023: were approved, with the amendment that Chrys was not at the last meeting, so had not informed the committee then that she was standing down in June

Matters Arising: A projector has now been purchased and it is being stored at Keith's house –to be mentioned in the newsletter

Treasurer's Report: There is £11,469 in the account, but this includes £3,944 for next year's subscriptions. The projector has already been paid for.

Website: This is going well and all the links work correctly. There is to be a meeting between the five people involved, including Margaret, with the intention of gradually moving jobs over.

MembershipReport: There are 306 members currently, with another 105 yet to renew. Barry reported that he would probably be taking membership renewals over the next few months. Since September, we have acquired 43 new members, 50 of them since January. He wondered about keeping all the past forms, since the details are now digitised and stored on Beacon. Janet is to contact the U3A to find out if there are any useful guidelines. Barry also stated that he would like to move on next year, but is willing to support the new membership secretary. This post will need to be advertised during the year, in order to ascertain any interest.

Groups: Marianne had sent a query from someone from Ripley U3A, who was interested in visiting Psychology, to see if they might like to

join the group / U3A. Since they were not a member of our U3A and also this group has a waiting list, she declined. The committee were asked to agree on a policy about visitors and waiting lists generally. After a long discussion, the following points were made:

Visitors can attend two monthly meetings, before joining formally, but not group meetings until they are a U3A member.

Any group that has reached its capacity, either in terms of size of the room, or the logistics of the activity (e.g. theatre group, which involves a massive amount of paperwork / limits on number of tickets booked), should have a formal waiting list.

Group co-ordinators should have a level of flexibility in inviting members from the waiting list to attend an event or meeting / take up tickets, if they find that they have extra capacity.

The launch event has seen many groups swell in size. Large groups could be encouraged to form second branches, possibly with the initial support and expertise of the group contact. A reminder is to go into the newsletter to remind members to send their apologies to group co-ordinators. This will then help the Group Contact to manage their numbers, and to plan when to invite members from the waiting list.

Volunteers: This is going smoothly. Two new members have offered to take up a more active role – and members of the committee will discuss this with them at the next monthly meeting. We do need volunteers for the committee and also in forming new groups or additional branches of existing ones.

Newsletter: Sandra has offered to do the June edition, but there has been no other response so far. Anne mentioned that another U3A's system was for the chairman to send out a general monthly email, summarising events and issues. It was felt that our Newsletter is a real feature of our group, and if we can keep it going, that will be

better. Another plea will be made at the meeting. On the plus side, more people are sending more items to Margaret for inclusion in the newsletter.

AGM: The date was publicised in the last newsletter, and details of the new committee and possible roles were given. This is to be repeated in the next newsletter. The deadline for nominations is 10th May, 2023. Forms will be put up on Wednesday, and Keith will ask members to consider standing for the committee, and / or to propose and second volunteers. It is important that there is a selection of members who are doing this. Keith will ask Tom Higginbottom if he will preside over the AGM again. There is a speaker booked to talk about the history of Ilkeston.

Chrys wishes to stand down this year, and we appreciate the work that she has put in during the year.

AOB: The reserved signs have now been created and will be put out on Wednesday. Keith will explain their use in the meeting.

Anne suggested that we put a one-off advert into the Community News, which serves the Underwood area, costing £50 and this was agreed. She will prepare this, using resources from Barry

Keith has purchased the lanyard, and Janet is to buy the plastic pouches so that we can use them at the next monthly meeting.

Date of next meeting: Monday, 15th May at 1.30 at Greasley Community Centre