



Moseley and King's Heath and District U3A

Executive Committee Minutes

On-line virtual meeting, 31 March, 2020

Chair: Sara Meyer

Present: Mike Clark, Ken Fisher, Roy Stove, Jackie Spearpoint, Tessa Bidgood (part), Brenda Bingham, Sylvia Butler, Julie Alder (part)

Apologies: Anne Crerar,

Minutes: Jill Spearman

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AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. Corrections and approval of previous minutes.
3. Action points and matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.
4. AGM delay, succession planning, constitutional matters.
5. Sub-committee reports.
6. Communication with members, including newsletter and phone calls to those not on the internet; establishing a 'buddy' system.
7. Any other business.
8. Date of next meeting.

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1. Apologies - see above.
2. Corrections and approval of minutes of last meeting:
3. JS pointed out that the minute should read 'head microphone', not 'over-head microphone'.
- 5d. Delete 'JS will need small room for next two months'.
- 7b. Proposers' and seconders' names should be sent to SM & AC, not MC.
- 7e. JS pointed out need to differentiate between two JS's. Minute taker will be

recorded as JES in future.

Minutes approved, signed SM.

3. Action points and matters arising:

There were none.

4. AGM delay, succession planning, constitutional matters.

a) MC summarised the advice sent out by national U3A with regard to the holding of AGMs in the next few months:

- U3As should take note of the national health advice at the time of the AGM;
- Under the constitution successive AGMs should be no more than 15 months apart, but in the current conditions the national U3A does not think the Charity Commission would take action if that did not happen

After discussion it was agreed not to plan for a specific date for the AGM at the moment, but to await developments

b) SM proposed that existing committee members who had been due to step down should continue on the Executive Committee, to provide experience and continuity.

Newly nominated members should be co opted - this would enable them to gain knowledge and experience, while reducing the workload on those who had been expecting to step down.

Agreed.

SM and AC will invite nominated members to the next Executive Committee meeting. SM, AC

SM reminded existing members who are standing again to send the names and membership numbers of their proposers and seconders to her and to AC.

c) Based on his discussion with U3A CEO Sam Mauger, MC understands that we have now taken the necessary steps to ensure our members are fully covered in terms of insurance until we amend the 'object' clause at the AGM.

TB left the meeting.

5. Sub-committee reports:

a) Finance: in TB's absence, SM reported that TB has received membership figures from JS. TB is finalising the accounts, will present them to the Com-

mittee in April. Costs are down from last year, and some large deficits have been reduced by interest groups. Finances are healthy and in good order. Arrangements for inspection of accounts will need to be made at the appropriate time before the AGM. Otherwise, everything is ready for the year end.

b) Membership: JS has written her report for the AGM, will distribute to Exec Committee members after the meeting. 365 members have yet to renew, 263 have renewed, and 10 have resigned. JS sent out an invitation to renew some weeks ago, will repeat that exercise this week. She sees no merit in extending the deadline, as those members who lapse can renew as and when they choose.

This will be JS's last year as Membership Secretary, a replacement needs to be recruited to support her early next year and to take over after next year's AGM.

6. Communication with members, including newsletter, and phone calls to members not online; and setting up a 'buddy' system.

a) SM said that KF's interim newsletter had been a good addition. A lot of work for KF, so not to become a regular feature, but a valuable occasional feature under exceptional circumstances. An interim newsletter doesn't need to be long, but can include useful links, advice, positive thoughts, some humour.

Agreed to do at least one more interim newsletter. KF

b). SM raised the matter of those members who are not online, and who tend to be older. SM had phoned them all, been moved to find how important her calls had been to the recipients. Could we set up a 'buddy' system, ask for volunteers to buddy up with members who are not on line (Exec committee members could also volunteer).

Agreed.

KF to do a call for volunteers in the newsletter; Exec committee members who wish to volunteer to email SM and AC.

KF, all

c) MC suggested contacting all Interest Group Leaders to find out how different groups are managing in the crisis. RS and BB to contact IGLs to ask them to send details to KF of what their groups are doing under the lockdown, and how they are doing it.

RS, BB

d) JS suggested an item in the newsletter about different ways of using internet apps, including simple instruction and encouragement. Important not to appear to be endorsing any particular platform.

Agreed. KF

TB rejoined the meeting.

SM invited her to add to the finance report already given (item 5(a)). TB said that there are still some groups with large deficits, but the position is still much better than last year. Once finalised she will send her report to the finance sub-committee, and then to the exec committee. She may not be able to get the accounts fully inspected physically this year, but will endeavour to do so prior to the AGM.

7. Any other business:

a) RS suggested KF take a screen shot of the committee during the virtual meeting for the newsletter; this was done.

b) KF reminded everyone that the deadline for the newsletter is this Friday. Is more wanted about coronavirus? SM said that there is a great deal of information available on radio, television, etc., and that links would suffice. Agreed. KF said there was currently a shortage of material - no social activities currently. SM suggested an account of how the exec committee is continuing to work to keep things going, and a reminder about membership renewals.

c) SM expressed her thanks and thoughts to all, and her wishes for all to keep safe and stay well.

8. Date of next meeting: April 28, 2020 at 2:00 pm.