



## Moseley Kings Heath and District U3A Executive Committee

On-line virtual meeting, 26 May 2020

Chair: Sara Meyer

Present: Mike Clark, Roy Stove, Julie Alder, Brenda Bingham, Tessa Bidgood, Brenda Bingham, Sylvia Butler, Ken Fisher, Anne Crerar, Jackie Spearpoint, Alan Fair, Ann Walsh, Liz Cregan.

Minutes: Jill Spearman

SM welcomed everyone, and observed that the co opted members of the committee are now committee members who can participate fully in the meetings.

1. Apologies: there were none.

2. Corrections and approval of previous minutes:

The heading should be 'Moseley Kings Heath and District U3A'. No other corrections.

The minutes were approved and signed by SM.

3. Matters arising:

6. TB said she and Val Baxter had discussed the proposal for a virtual coffee morning, and decided not to go ahead: the Zoom format wouldn't work for a meeting where people liked to sit in small groups to chat together. They will re institute real coffee mornings when it is possible.

4. Sub committee reports:

a) **Finance:** TB had nothing to add to her report (prepared for the AGM) last month.

b) **Interest Groups:** RS had circulated a document about the review he and BB had carried out of interest group activities. There had been a good response (42/67, and RS expects some more), and it made interesting reading - good to see how many groups had found ways of carrying on. Some IGLs had not yet renewed their memberships. General discussion.

**Agreed** RS & BB to do a piece for the newsletter, including some prompts about renewals. **RS, BB**

BB said there had been some queries about whether the executive committee would support Zoom subscriptions for Interest Groups. Such enquiries to be referred to the Committee's decision last month (agenda item 4c).

A member had asked about making an MKHD U3A cookery book during lockdown.

Agreed that if she wishes to take this forward she can do so: an item in the newsletter might be a way to start, but KF does not want to be overwhelmed with recipes.

The committee thanked BB & RS for an interesting and useful piece of work.

c) **Membership:** JS reported that we have 607 members, of whom 115 have not renewed. 5 of these are not on email. 7 are interest group leaders. RS and BB to investigate IGLs who have not renewed. **RS, BB**  
1 new member had joined last week.

d) **Social activities:** JA had submitted her report for the AGM, for which she was thanked. There were no questions.

#### 5. Arrangements for the AGM:

MC has distributed a proposal for an AGM to be carried out by email and post. In order not to send out too much information at once, he proposes a 4 stage sequence, which would take about 2 months. All stages could go out by email and post (using Abacus for members not on email).

This was agreed to be a good idea, though there was a general wish for the process to be shorter; MC agreed that it could be done in 3 stages, taking about 6 weeks. The chairs' report and minutes of last year's AGM to go out in the first mailing.

An explanation of the plan to change the whole constitution next year will be included in the chairs' report.

TB observed that at the voting stage there should be a named returning officer. MC and JA agreed to do this. **MC, JA**

Photos and pen portraits of all committee members who are standing for the committee next year need to go in a newsletter prior to the voting stage.

Agreed names to be listed in next newsletter, pen portraits in the one following. Everyone to send photo and pen portrait to KF. **ALL**

An explanation of the AGM process will be provided by MC in the next newsletter. MC has agreed to be responsible for coordinating the AGM process.

MC said that the first AGM letter would be going out in the week beginning June 8. **MC**

## 6. Newsletter:

KF asked for the committee's agreement to two items of newsletter policy:

a) that the newsletter carries no publicity or appeals from other organisations, in order to avoid being flooded with material not related to U3A matters.

b) that the newsletter will only publish contributions that are the sender's original work. **AGREED.**

JS asked about contact details in the newsletter: if committee members' postal addresses are withheld, this excludes members who are not online from contacting them. Some discussion followed.

**AGREED** that executive committee members whose postal addresses are not already in the public domain have a right to privacy; addresses should not be given out, but messages can be passed on if necessary.

JS said that she had followed the link about coronavirus given in the newsletter, but that the link was out of date. JS & KF to take this forward.

**JS, KF**

## 7. Any other business:

Buddy system: SM said that some committee members would have received a list of members to phone. The list includes some people who have not renewed so that they can follow up with them reasons for not renewing. This will be noted. Some people will welcome the contact, others not. After the initial call, it is up to committee members themselves to judge how or whether to pursue, nature of contact, frequency. JA reported that her calls had been well received. SM hoped the system would be valuable and not onerous. Co opted members had not been sent a list, but it is hoped they will take over lists when others step down.

TB asked that, as a matter of protocol, known agenda items be itemised in future rather than dealt with under AOB.

**AGREED**

Newsletter: KF reminded that the deadline for items for the next newsletter is this Friday (May 29).

Privacy: AC said that National Office have made us aware that the changes within Beacon mean that we need to amend our privacy policy to include a new organisation that members' details may be shared with. BB said that she would check this and liaise with AC.

**BB**

SM thanked committee members for their contributions.

## 8. Date of next meeting: June 30, 2020.