

Moseley Kings Heath & District U3A Executive Committee

On-line virtual meeting July 28, 2020

Chair: Sara Meyer

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

Minutes: Jill Spearman.

1. Apologies: there were none.
2. Corrections and approval of previous minutes:

Item 4d: JA said that Carey Baff had spoken of Zoom meetings in groups of 8, not 12, and that AW had been left off the action note, though she had attended and contributed to the meeting.

Item 9: JS considered that the minute did not accurately reflect her point. She provided an amendment, which was accepted by the committee, and the minutes were amended accordingly.
The committee **agreed** by a show of hands that the newsletter should be password protected;
MC to liaise with Frank Gresham to that effect. MC

With these corrections, the minutes were approved and signed by SM.

3. Action points and matters arising, not covered elsewhere on the agenda: there were none.
4. Subcommittee reports:
 - a) Social activities: JA reported that BB had done a good job of distributing Zoom information and links to Interest Group Leaders. Info to be included in newsletter. **KF** Because of the closure of the Midland Arts Centre there is no point in having a cinema group leader; it may be necessary to recruit a new person when cinemas open again.
 - b) Interest Groups: BB has circulated information about walking groups. Some groups have started walking again informally - national U3A guidance is that no more than 6 people, or two households, are allowed to walk together, that activities should be risk assessed in advance. AW said that group activities not compliant with National guidance will not be covered by U3A insurance. SM asked AW to liaise with National U3A to clarify guidelines. **AW**
SM said that a letter has been sent to all venues to say that MKHD cannot commit to further use of venues. All IGLs need to be aware. RS to send message to IGLs. **RS** RS has done a count of respondents to the Interest Group survey: 15 groups are using Zoom, 2 Skype, 1 Jitsi, 1 WhatsApp.
 - c) Financial: TB had nothing to report.
 - d) Membership: JS reported 516 current members (including 1 new member) and 92 lapsed, compared with July 2019 figures of 556 members and 80 lapsed.
5. AGM update:
 - MC has circulated a draft of the minutes of the on-line AGM. The committee reviewed the results of the AGM, and the AGM was deemed to have concluded.
 - The MKHD U3A constitution says that an AGM must be held within 15 months of the last one; we have done that.
 - 231 members voted, against a quorum of 100, so this AGM has been as democratic as possible.
 - We now have an official new committee, and the important constitutional amendment has been approved.

- Helena Mandelberg can now inspect the accounts for the 20/21 financial year.
- We now need to contact National U3A and the Charities Commission, and to begin work on the new constitution. MC will help the new committee with that.

There had been no questions, but many positive comments from members, thanking the Executive Committee for their work. MC suggested that at future AGMs we might offer members the chance to ask questions or comment.

SM and the committee offered MC and JA thanks for an efficient and well organized piece of work that has produced a resounding response.

6. Talks for members:

SB said that 30/40 minute talks on a variety of subjects were available on line. Individuals can access these without charge, but groups must pay £50 per talk. After discussion it was **agreed** that the organizational and time cost involved would provide little added value for members, and that information could be provided in the newsletter to encourage those members interested to pursue.

KF

7. Beacon administration:

SM reported that Frank Gresham has volunteered to take on Beacon administration, with mentoring from BB, when BB steps down. **Agreed.**

8. Website update:

RS said that it was now a year since the committee had decided that the website needed updating. That work is still going on - RS will bring it back to the September meeting, and will circulate information beforehand. He will welcome observations and comments from colleagues, particularly if they have looked at other U3A websites.

RS

9. Any other business:

- BB said she would give AW access to IGLs, and thanked the committee for her gift of a book token. RS gave his personal thanks to BB for her knowledge and helpfulness.
- JA said that though there are no social activities planned going forward, she will make herself available to help whichever committee member takes on this role in the future. She also thanked the committee for the gift of a book token.
- KF said that there won't be an interim newsletter in August. He will include in the next newsletter the items raised today and the AGM report, and asked that committee members who had raised items send him a paragraph. He had had some good photographs and letters. Buddies have welcomed the newsletter, which is more important now in the absence of meetings and social activities. He had been on a U3A Zoom tutorial which he had found useful, especially on the breakout facility.
- SM said that JES (minute taker) would be away during September and October; SM had arranged for Anne James to cover for 2 months. There will not be an executive committee meeting in August.
- SM welcomed new committee members Ann Walsh and Alan Fair. There will be an official induction for them in September. She thanked outgoing committee members, Julie Alder, Brenda Bingham and Mike Clark, who have contributed so much, for their collegiality and hard work, and expressed the committee's good wishes. MC in return gave good wishes to the new committee.

Date of next meeting: September 29, 2020.