

POCKLINGTON & DISTRICT U3A

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

held on Tuesday 20th September 2016 at 10.15 a.m.
at The Station Hotel, Pocklington

PRESENT:

President:	Apologies from Freda Snelson
Chair:	Kay Stephenson (elected as Chair for September & October '16 meeting)
Past Chair:	Pauline Carter
Treasurer:	Apologies from Paul Giles
Vice-Chair:	Apologies Graham Ball
Secretary:	Graham Gillyon
Committee members:	Eileen Ducker, David Bragg, Frank Challoner, Val Wosket & Ian Smith

1. Welcome:

The 'Acting Chair' (elected for September & October 2016) Kay Stephenson welcomed members to the Committee Meeting.

- Though Elizabeth Walker could not make the meeting it was commented that she was very supportive at the recent New Members meeting and would provide valued support as a Co-opted Committee Member going forward.
- Guests:
 - Yashpal Anand attended the meeting as an 'observer' to the Committee Meeting

2. Apologies for absence:

- August: These were noted for Freda Snelson, Steve Fraser, Paul Giles, Graham Ball, Brian James and Elizabeth Walker

3. Approval of the Minutes of meeting : 16th August 2016

- Proposed: David Bragg
- Seconded: Frank Challoner
- Approved Minutes to be posted to website at close of the Committee Meeting.

4. Matters Arising:

- **Group Leader event:**

- The Secretary confirmed that the event of Tuesday 29th November is booked (Group Leaders had been sent a 'save the date' email and the venue was booked).
- SF, PC, GB & GG had agreed to meet on 30th September to scope the meeting format – committee members were invited to join this organising group / contribute their suggestions re the event meeting content.
- Specific Group Leader event content for consideration to include the following:

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| • Welcome & value message | • Group Leader experience (discussion). | • Issue of revised Group Leader handbook |
| • Committee Q&A | ○ As a Group Leader what would you like to: See more of? | • Showcase of newly purchased equipment |
| • Guidance re handling of U3A monies | Less of? | • YAHR Showcase 2017 |
| • Preview of new U3A website | Stay the same? | |

- **Appointment of 'Acting Chair' for November & December**

- Ian Smith volunteered to be support the Committee as Acting Chair
 - Proposed: Pauline Carter
 - Seconded: Kay Stephenson

- **Open Meetings 2017**

- The Secretary communicated that provisional bookings had been made for Speakers and venues for 2017 (January – August) and that the updated summary would be circulated to Committee Members for their reference.
- The Secretary is to invite U3A members to suggest further subject content / Speakers to complete the 2017 Open Meeting programme of events.

5. Groups:

- The Link Committee Coordinator (Nothing to report)
- Update re Groups – Link Committee members
 - Frank Challoner confirmed that he had spoken with Mike Tunnicliffe re the introduction of Ballroom Dancing as a prospective new group and that this would sit under his area of leadership as Link Committee member (Physical Activities)

6. Treasurer's Update:

- £9655 at bank which was down on the previous month due to payments of the Members Information Booklets of £505 (was £440 in 2015) and postage amounting to £142. Last year bank total as at September was £12879 though it's worth noting that this year we have incurred expenditure re development of our new website of £2398.
- £434 cleared fund from Yorkshire History Group to be transferred to the current account so that the YH specific account can be closed. Deposit (£104) paid to Talbot Hotel (Malton) for pre arranged Yorkshire History Group Christmas dinner to be repaid to U3A.
- Membership: 809 members
- Audit of Assets
 - Carry forward action to October: Treasurer to update the summary (including recent new purchases) and he and Secretary to complete an audit. The Treasurer also mentioned that any equipment not wanted should be disposed of firstly to members.

7. Secretary's Update:

- YAHR Photo slide show
 - The Secretary shared the photos taken by Sue Giles who attended the event
 1. Secretary to seek more information about the Showcase for 2017 so that our U3A could consider greater representation / participation
- TAT Comms
 - The Secretary communicated that there was a TAT request that we promote the celebration of 1000 U3A's and member opportunity to join in an event (at own cost) at Friends House, Euston Road, London on 22.11.16. Flyers to be displayed at October Drop-in
 - TAT announced the new Chief Executive of TAT is Sam Mauger – comms had been received re this appointment together with a pack containing 'hints & tips' for a new Chair, and updates for inclusion in the Committee Reference File.
- Suggestion Box:
 - 4 matters were posted by members to the Suggestion Box at the September Drop-in
 1. Request for permission to allow Pocklington & District Anti-Fracking group to present to the U3A
 - Committee agreed Secretary write to the member advising that this subject matter is not for 'open mic' communication / discussion or announcement at meetings which are open to all members as it does not present an unbiased representation nor fit within the scope of the U3A which defers from association re matters of a political, religious or commercial nature. The member wishing to discuss Fracking could however do this at a discussion based Current Affairs group (with agreement of its members and Group Leader)
 2. Request that Group Leaders and Committee Members wear name badges at Drop-ins
 - Secretary to contact all Group Leaders / Committee Members to request badges are worn at U3A meetings.

Secretary to produce new / replacement badges for those that require them.

3. Statement re Freedom of Speech
 - Member presenting this suggestion does not require a response however the Committee agreed that open discussion should be maintained as non political, religious or commercial and that matters communicated in an open manner at U3A dedicated events be of specific U3A interest only.
4. Proposal to set up a group or host Open Meetings re Environmental projects (current / forthcoming)
 - Committee agreed Secretary write to the member advising that Open Meetings are not an arena for discussion of Environmental matters and that this subject matter could be discussed at a Current Affairs group (with agreement of its members and Group Leader). The member could present the proposal re setting up an Environmental Group with the Link Committee Co-ordinator however should note specifically that the U3A (Pocklington & District or any members specifically) should not be referred to (or be a representative supportive re views and opinions) with others (organisations) outside of the U3A – the group could only exist as a ‘discussion group’ in the same way as our Current Affairs groups operate.

8. Meetings:

- Drop-in session 6.10.16: ED to stand as Secretary (GG on holiday), PC, VW, IS, DB.
- Open Meeting 19.10.16: GG, IS, PC, VW

9. Website Update:

- Pauline summarised that the design was progressing well and that there had been valued input from Ted House as an advisor / contributor. Next steps: The Membership Secretary and Treasurer are to arrange a meeting with website designers and follow up meeting with website working party.

10. AOB:

- The Secretary explained that he had received an approach from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service who is prepared to host 1 or more 2 ½ hour First Aid Awareness sessions free of charge. The committee agreed that inclusion of such an event or events may appeal to members. The Secretary agreed to make a provisional booking for the tutor (and venue) and seek interest of members to attend in early 2017. The Committee also suggested that this subject be offered to Group Leaders in the first instance (this would be communicated to those attending the Group Leaders event in November 2016).

11. Date of next Meeting:

- 18th October 2016.

The meeting closed at 11.20am.