

Bognor Regis u3a

Minutes of Committee Meeting

18 September 2023 at St Mary's Centre, Felpham

Present: Iain Palôt (Chair), Sara Edwards (Secretary), Bill Page, Alan Walker, Paul Barry, Julie Cruickshank, Dee Yorke-Hasted, Trevor Pitt

Reference		Action by
61.23	Apologies: , Colin McCulloch, Marilyn Patton, Mike Shawyer	
61.23(a)	Update on Their Finest Hour Val Henke came to provide an update. Bognor Regis u3a are the only u3a in this area that is organising this. So far there are 30 volunteers. Publicity is ongoing including Sussex Views, Westmeads Community and Pagham Newsletter. Bognor u3a members will be able to download the poster via the Bulletin. Tables will be covered with cloth so photos can be taken of artifacts etc. All volunteers will have WII style armbands. There will be a professional First Aider attending on 11 November. There will be a “dry run” on 18 October between 2 and 4pm. Bill confirmed that he would be available to help out, and can provide the mugs for refreshments. Oxford University are paying for the hire of the hall. However there is no provision for refreshments. A vote was taken for Bognor u3a to donate £100 for this – Proposed: Dee Yorke-Hasted, Seconded: Paul Barry. The Committee thanked Val for her time in coming to update them and for undertaking the organisation of this day.	
62.23	Previous Minutes/Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.	
63.23	Chair <u>Trips</u>	

	<p>The Yorkshire trip was a success with good weather (sometimes too hot).</p> <p>It is hoped that the next trip in 2024 will be North Netherlands. Details are still to be arranged.</p> <p>There will be no further day trips as these are very difficult to get members interested in. The fact that we must book the coach so far in advance could be a factor. Therefore, there will be no further one day trips organised by Bognor u3a.</p> <p>The Royal Geographical Society is holding a Show and Tell evening on 25 September from 7.30 – 9.00 at Chichester College.</p>	
64.23	<p>Treasurer Marilyn previously provided the Committee with a breakdown of funds, but as she was absent from the meeting, finances will be discussed at the next committee meeting.</p>	
65.23	<p>Group Co-Ordinator A report will be available in October.</p>	
66.23	<p>Membership Update See report from Membership Secretary at the end of these minutes.</p> <p>We were given the new welcome leaflet and introduction leaflet – these have been revised and reprinted.</p>	
67.23	<p>Speaker Co-ordinator</p> <p>The previous speaker was somewhat controversial – however, there has been no comeback from members to date.</p> <p>The next speaker will be Paul Ullson – “From Hunter Gatherer to Farmer”.</p> <p><u>2024</u> The AGM will again be held in June. There will be no meeting in August. Julie will be sourcing speakers and will report back. It was suggested that some charities might be willing to give a talk – ie National Trust, “Saving Chalk Downs” (Iain has contact details), or Knepp Castle Estate, rewilding.</p>	

68.23	<p>Website</p> <p>Trevor has spent some considerable time removing every Sun Study entry. He has also removed all “dead” links and has now added some new guidelines for SPAM avoidance. All group leaders should really review their entry on the website.</p> <p>Trevor has asked that Mike provide the mahjong and Italian leaders contact details so he can ascertain what to put on the website as a contact – he needs to firstly confirm this with the leaders.</p> <p>The majority >700 of the U3A websites were designed and assisted by the Site Builder team and these guys wish to retire from the project. The U3A has commissioned a new project to adapt the websites and it's called SiteWorks. It uses Wordpress as the web development engine.</p> <p>Sadly, our Website is a self-built one and it's not possible to transfer it to SiteWorks as easily as those using Site Builder. So if we wish to update the website (which we do) then it's going to be manually developed.</p>	Mike
69.23	<p>Pier Views/Advertising</p> <p>November will be the next Pier Views. Paul will let us have deadline in due course.</p> <p>Felpham in Focus now carries details of u3a. This costs £20 for 3 months and includes other publications in the group.</p>	
70.23	<p>Refreshments</p> <p>All in order. There are enough volunteers to run the refreshments without supervision.</p> <p>We still have disposable cups but we will not replenish these when they run out – we have enough mugs.</p> <p>Mugs will be used for New Member Meetings and any other u3a meeting.</p>	
71.23	A.O.B.	

	<p>New Members</p> <p>This item was omitted from the Agenda (Sara apologised and will ensure that it is put in the next Agenda). The next new member meeting will be arranged when Colin, Mike, and Alan can get together.</p> <p>Dee advised that she would not be able to attend the next two meetings. This means that she must give the u3a laptop to a committee member. Iain will text Dee something on Their Finest Hour for Pearl & Dean.</p> <p>Trevor asked Iain to review the Members Only page on the website.</p>	<p>Sara</p> <p>Iain</p>
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Meeting closed at 16.20 hrs

Next Committee Meeting – 16 October 2023

Membership Report – September 2023

Total current members as of 11 Sept is **504** (comprising **417** Renewed and **87** New memberships)

For comparison, the total membership this time last year was 500, and we finished the year with 514 members, so I think we are just a 'squeak' ahead and should finish the year marginally up. More importantly, we can once more describe ourselves as having 'more than 500 members'!

Our Introductory Leaflet for prospective members, and the Welcome Leaflet which is sent to all new members, have both now been reprinted, and copies should be available at the Committee meeting. If you have any stock of the previous versions, they should now be destroyed. (Please don't point out any mistakes in the new versions – we've just printed several hundred copies!)

I fully expect to be at the monthly meeting on the 28th – but Marilyn won't be, so between us we need to deal with the entry fees and register. I will print off an up-to-date list of members for that.

Colin

DRAFT