

WOLDS U3A COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 6th October, 2017 at Cass Hall

1. Present: M. Blackwell, G. Carrick, T. Carrick, P. Casson, J. Dunn, P. Dunn, B. Kavanagh, M. Killin, J. Robson, T. Robson, K. Taylor, H. Walker. P. Casson and J. Dunn were welcomed onto the Committee.
2. Apologies: The full Committee was present.
3. Minutes of 01.09.17: These were signed as a true record.
4. Matters Arising 01.09.17:
 - a) **Review of Constitution [4b]:** This has become urgent as the bank account cannot be changed until it is done. It was decided that a sub-committee be formed [proposed J. Robson, seconded B. Kavanagh]. Members –M. Blackwell, K. Taylor, J. Robson, T. Robson, J. Dunn, P. Dunn. J. Dunn and P. Dunn have already produced a draft document. [14.10.17. The sub-committee has met and a special committee meeting to consider the amendments will be on Monday, 23rd October, 10 -12, at Market House].
 - b) **Bank Account [8b]:** This cannot be moved until the Constitution has been reviewed as the new bank needs to see a copy.
 - c) **Table Tennis [13c]:** The cost of the table was £25 not £20.
 - d) **Resignation [5a]:** S. Adamson will still represent U3A on the Community Centre Committee.
 - e) **Projector stand [13d]:** It seems there is a 2nd stand already in the Community Centre – to be investigated.
5. Communications: None
6. Secretary's Report: October 2017

It's been a learning, listening and getting to know you month.

Doncaster —Regional at Frenchgate, T. Robson, Maureen Blackwell, and Jan Robson went to represent our U3A-and very welcome they were made. Sitting with Beverley U3A and Whitby got them all talking and we listened to how others ran and achieved a smooth active unit.

Beacon was mentioned and as we are not in it we asked "what are the advantages?" It seems over 100 of U3A's are signed up as the control is with the Membership Sec plus Group Leaders both for membership and finance. Both Ted and Maureen will explain their use of it and how it would be an advantage, (Frank from Ripon came to the home of J. Robson. to give a PowerPoint demo Both M. Blackwell and W. Kavanagh attended.)

Points were raised to improve our U3A and a paper was passed for discussion between us—the result was interesting for the wider YAHR and at our Group leaders meeting

I tried to get response from them - the results were interesting and may help the committee learn how the Leaders feel—can I suggest we do it again at our October Meeting and see the feedback so we can learn how our members feel?

The Constitution was mentioned it seems a lot of new stuff needs to be looked at re charity clause, and financial records, before we can change -Branch and apply for Gift Aid. This may be of use to ACCORD members to hear the correct way forward -an expert can visit a meeting but this will be into next year-I feel a subcommittee would be beneficial to sort it out.

Questions to be asked.

It was queried why the committee did not know about the Doncaster conference. The Secretary explained that information was only received at the last minute.
7. Treasurer's Report:
 - a) **Monthly details:** These were tabled.
 - b) **Driffeld Show:** Details of the expenses were tabled.
 - c) **Pie Chart:** After discussion the Treasurer agreed to draw up a chart showing the breakdown of the £10 subscription.

d] **U3A Magazine:** Some members have said they do not wish to receive this. It was suggested that the question be asked on the annual renewal/new members form. [[FAO Membership Secretary](#)].

N.B. the subscription would be the same whether the magazine is taken or not.

e] **Group Monies:** There was a long discussion about groups holding large amounts of money in the U3A bank account where it is being 'saved' for social events. Money collected at each meeting should be only that which is needed to cover the group needs e.g. rent & other expenses. Other monies should be collected separately and have nothing to do with U3A finances. Some committee members felt strongly that if all groups paid the same amount at each meeting this problem would be solved. However, it is hard to change the traditional culture.

f] **Group Financial Rules:** An up-dated sheet had been given out at the Group Leaders' Meeting [02.10.17]. It was pointed out that the Committee should have approved this before it was distributed. This oversight was partly due to the cancellation of the meeting on 22nd September.

g] **Expense claims sheet:** A draft was tabled for comment. It was agreed that a simpler version should be used, just asking for name and description/details of expenses with receipts attached where possible. The Treasurer would query anything excessive. The sheet is to be used by the committee and any member on 'official' business e.g. attending a conference, representing Wolds U3A at an event. Groups are free to decide about their own internal expense claims.

h] **Mileage Allowance:** This was previously set at 45p per mile. P.Casson to clarify again the need or not for business car insurance. [[FAO P. Casson](#)]

8. Membership Report: 430 members.

9. Group Liaison: a] P. Casson has agreed to carry out this role.

b] **Group Leaders' Meeting 02.10.17:**

i] The meeting was well attended and those attending expressed their opinions freely.

ii] The Committee accepts that the meeting should have had more structure and should have been chaired by the Chairman. Future such meetings will have an agenda.

iii] The survey handed out by the Secretary should have been more carefully explained. The results from it highlighted 'communication' as an issue. It was suggested that P. Casson encourage the group leaders to meet together without the Committee to exchange ideas, support each other and pass on any issues/queries/suggestions to the Committee. [[FAO P. Casson](#)].

10. Publicity: P. Dunn was thanked for the reports and meeting details which are now regularly in the local paper.

11. ACCORD: Minutes of the last meeting have not been received. It was suggested that those members attending the meetings should compile their own report to the Committee.

The next ACCORD meeting is 26.10.17. J. and T. Robson to attend.

12. Any Other Business:

a]

Database: K. Taylor recommended that we use the Swanland system [Minutes 7th July 2017(14iii)]. However, before making a final decision the committee decided to invite representatives from both the Swanland and the Beacon systems to speak to the committee. Their expenses will be paid. A fully informed choice can then be made. [Date: Wednesday, 18th October 2017, 10 -12, Council Offices.](#)

Away Days:

a] It was confirmed that guests may be invited and that permission does not have to be sort by the Group Leader from the Committee each time this happens. However, a guest may only come once. If he/she wishes to participate again then they must become a U3A member.

b] The Treasurer confirmed that repayments had been offered after the cancelled Grimsby outing. Those concerned had chosen to carry the money over towards another trip. One query to be investigated.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON FRIDAY, 3rd NOVEMBER, 9.30am AT CASS HALL.