

**Minutes of the Mansfield and District U3A Committee Meeting
held at the Oakham Suite, Nottingham Road, Mansfield
at 10am on Friday 15th January 2010**

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| Present: | Sylvia Slack | Chair |
| | Pauline Boucher | Treasurer |
| | Max Clarke | Groups Co-ordinator and Vice Chair |
| | Carole Justice | Business Secretary/Minuter |
| | Avril McGee | Membership Secretary |
| | Mike Allen | Committee Member |
| | David Ling | Committee Member |
| | George Powell | Committee Member |
| | Pat Prescott | Committee Member |

1. Apologies for absence

Glynis Benford, Jean Dalton, Fred Brown, John Troop.

2. Minutes of the last meeting – 9th December 2009

Approved.

3. Matters Arising

Item 4 - Social Events

Pauline confirmed that in her letter to the Derbyshire Hotel, she had complained about the standard of the meal, as well as stating that the U3A would not book again next year. She had received a response from the hotel manager who was sorry about U3A disappointment but thanked her for the feed back.

Mike said he had a lovely meal at The Cottage, Blackwell during December and suggested that this would be an enjoyable venue for a Committee Christmas dinner in December 2010. The committee welcomed this idea and Mike to obtain menu/price/availability at some point, for further consideration. **ACTION: MA**

4. Treasurer's Report

Pauline produced her finance summary dated 31 December 2009. She reported that all subscriptions were now received, including those from new members and the finances were in good order.

Bank balance figures including Current and Deposit accounts amounts to £6,796.84. After the deduction of commitments for Room Hire, Speakers and Capitation Fees amounting to £2,221.50, the Current net worth is £4,575.34.

The Interest Groups Account, which is separate and belongs to various interest groups, has a current balance of £2,719.61

Discussion took place on how to collect monies for organised trips. It was agreed that there is no specific procedure in place but it was recommended that any cheques should be made payable to the U3A and any invoice paid via the Treasurer.

David confirmed that he had produced pay envelopes for people who wish to pay cash for his luncheon trips.

Pauline confirmed that the U3A do not subsidise any group outings.

5. Business Secretary's Report

Carole had received the 2010 Annual Return from the TAT. This has been completed and returned to the head office.

She had also received copies of J L Fisher and Co confirmation of insurance cover arranged for 2010. Areas covered are Trustee Liability and Charity Reimbursement and Public and Products Liability. Copies were given to Pauline.

Two further items of interest had been received:

- * Will Information Pack
- * Jazz appreciation holiday in Rimini in June 2010

6. Membership Secretary's Report

Avril reported that Mansfield now had 240 fully paid up members, which included 40 new members. This represented a full membership. She was now compiling a waiting list of people wishing to join Mansfield. She also passed on information to enquirers regarding other U3A groups in Nottinghamshire, who may be able to take new members in 2010. However, Avril pointed out that her waiting list comprised of people who only wanted to join Mansfield U3A.

At the next U3A meeting, Sylvia to inform members that we now have a full membership for this year.

ACTION: SS

A discussion took place on:

* **The possibility of increasing the membership to 250.**

It was felt that more thought should be put into this due to the capacity of the current venue. It was decided to discuss this further at the March committee meeting. More thought was also needed on the possibility of inviting waiting applicants to a U3A meeting, as guests
ACTION: SS

* **How to establish the membership turnover and how many of the 240 members were actively involved in groups.**

Avril confirmed that in October 145 members attended the U3A meeting and in November 134 members attended, therefore, there were some 60 members who did not attend.

Avril said that the only way she had been sure of membership turnover was due to Pauline checking who had paid their membership. It had been assumed that non-payment meant no interest and these places were given to those on the chronological waiting list.

This practice may be required each year and more thought is needed on this.

* **Due to a full membership, how can interested parties become involved with Mansfield interest groups.**

It was felt that it may be possible for people to attend Mansfield Interest groups if they join a U3A in another locality and then attend interest groups as they wished. .

Sylvia summarised the membership discussion by stating that membership was now full at 240, which was all the current venue could cope with.

It was decided not to increase membership to 250 at this stage.

There are currently six people on the waiting list for Mansfield. It was agreed that the membership situation should be reviewed continually and will be mentioned at the main U3A meetings to keep members aware of the situation.

7. Social Events

Monday 1st February 2010 – New members meeting.

11am St John Centre Mansfield.

Group leaders also welcome.

George and Pat to help out on the door etc.

Saturday 20th February 2010 – Quiz Night

7pm St John Centre Mansfield

Pauline - Tickets to be sold at the U3A meeting

Pat, George and Colin - help on the night

Sylvia and Janet - catering

David asked for photographs of the event for the website

Friday 23rd April- St George's Day

Coffee Morning/Garden Stall/Raffle etc

The Towers, Botany Avenue, Mansfield (room now booked)

More details to follow.

George suggested another venue for future consideration is
Debdale Lane Sports Club, Mansfield Woodhouse.

Swing Band Evening

St John Centre Mansfield

Sylvia tried to book the band for 22nd May but they are unable to do this.

She has agreed Saturday 1st May or Saturday 8th May if the room is
available. Confirmation to be given at the U3A meeting. **ACTION: SS**

Tuesday 30th November – U3A Christmas Dinner

Pauline confirmed that she had provisionally booked the Oakham Suite.

Both she and Max agreed that the food was very good. The Oakham
Suite had facilities for 120 at a sit down meal. The committee agreed to
go ahead and Pauline will now finalise booking details. **ACTION: PB**

Sylvia said that it had been suggested to her that a sub-committee should
be formed to arrange social events.

Discussion took place on whether there should be a sub-committee
responsible for social organising.

Mike felt that it would be nice to have a committee member co-ordinating socials but felt that group leaders should be encouraged to arrange a social via liaison with the committee. To be suggested at U3A meetings.

ACTION: SS

8. North Notts Neighbourhood Group/East Midlands Association

No report on NNNG.

Regarding the EMA, Sylvia confirmed that she was the Nottinghamshire representative along with Roger Bennett, Southwell. There is a meeting on Wednesday 20th January at Nottingham University and an AGM on Wednesday 16th June 2010.

9. Newsletter

Discussion took place on the latest publication. It was noted that Glenys' term on the committee ends at the AGM in September 2010 so, for the sake of continuity, it was suggested that David take over a level of co-ordination by uploading information into the newsletter and gradually reduce Glenys' workload. He could then send the newsletter to Glenys for her to proof read, submit to Sylvia for approval and then send to the printers.

Sylvia to speak to Glenys about this suggestion and if she is in agreement, Sylvia to request the word file for the Jan 2010 newsletter be sent to David.

ACTION: SS

Website

David had nothing to report and showed the committee the current website page as updated on 14th January. He confirmed that the Mansfield U3A was now fully indexed by all search engine sites. David was congratulated on his good work and on the improvements he had made. Avril confirmed that she had received a lot of enquiries via the website.

David still had to do a lot of work updating interest group pages with their 2010 programmes but was implementing these promptly as leaders submitted changes.

10. Any other business

**U3A Meeting – Tuesday 19th January
Group Leaders Presentation**

Max gave an outline of the day's programme. He had several projects to put into the timetable.

These were presentations by the Art Appreciation, Science, Singing for Fun, Treasures and Hiking Groups.

Max hoped for each group on his list to give a 10 minute presentation. He would co-ordinate the groups presentations and other committee members would help where necessary.

11. Date of next meeting

Friday, 12th February 2010, 10am at the Oakham Suite.

Meeting closed at 12 noon