

MINUTES OF U3A COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 9th MARCH 2021
VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Carmel Audrey Douglas Gail Judith Lawrence Anita

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

There were none.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th February 2021 were discussed.

Although there had been discussion about a further approach to a Member regarding the position of Treasurer, it had been felt that this was not appropriate as he had already refused.

Discussion had taken place regarding the treatment on the accounts of the donations made by Jeremy and Stephanie from sale of their plays. After research, it was decided that no further action was needed.

The Cotswold Link had decided not to pursue the use of 'Go To Meeting' so it was agreed that it was not of interest to this branch.

As agreed, dates had been booked for monthly meetings at the Goods Shed for 2022 and these would shortly be on our website.

The Bulletins which had been discussed had been dealt with, sent and put on the website and information had appeared in 'The Tetbury Advertiser'.

IT WAS PROPOSED BY LAWRENCE AND SECONDED BY DOUGLAS -

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 9TH FEBRUARY 2021 BE PASSED AND APPROVED.

3. LOCKDOWN:

(a) The new Government roadmap had been seen by all. The Goods Shed foresaw restricted opening from 17th May with more general opening from 21st June.

From 29th March, six people would be permitted to meet outside. This had enabled the Short Walks Group to organise a walk for 1st April.

It was still difficult for the Gardening Group, consisting of twenty members, to make specific arrangements at this time.

At the moment, the latest rules did not really allow for any change in the current situation or for Groups to meet except virtually.

(b) National Office had produced a new link for Members with a variety of ways of keeping in touch and virtual talks, some free, some at a cost, but it was felt that there was very little change overall. A note could be put in the next Bulletin and a link on the web site for those of our Members who might be interested.

(c) There was wide discussion regarding co-opting new members to the Committee but it was agreed that in principle it would be better to wait until times were more 'normal' when there would be need for extra help in the Committee. However, it might be possible to remain open to the possibility of recruiting a new Treasurer before then. The Treasurer confirmed that the work load, now that the initial system is in place, is not onerous and is within the capacity of a business-minded person. Gift Aid, which initially appeared that it might be difficult, had proved straightforward using Beacon.

4. FINANCE:

There had been no overall change in the position. £478 had been donated from the sale of the plays, which was greatly appreciated.

As expenses had been minimal and despite the renewal subscription of just £5, it was agreed that it would be right to consider the level of next year's subscription over the next few months.

5. GROUPS:

There had been no change from last month.

6. SPEAKERS:

There had been three 'rehearsals' for the talk due next week as this would include both video and audio clips. Lawrence was thanked for the amount of

work he had put into making this possible.

The change in the Speaker for May had been included in the Bulletin and would shortly be on the web site.

The Speaker Secretary canvassed opinion as to whether it was felt that a talk by a member of the Police on avoiding fraud might be of interest for the September date. It was agreed that this would be useful and topical.

Considering the situation at the Goods Shed and possible reluctance of Members to mix freely too early, it was agreed that Monthly Meetings would continue via Zoom until July when it was hoped that, subject to changing regulations, the Meeting could take place face-to-face.

Dates had been reserved at the Goods Shed for 2022 and some Speakers already booked.

It was suggested that on the Agenda for the next Meeting should be consideration of dates for an August Open Day so that this could be booked at the Goods Shed, also whether it would be preferred to meet on a day when the cafe was open or to provide our own free refreshments. Publicity for the Open Day would be needed at least two months beforehand.

The subject of a possible luncheon party in December 2021/January 2022 was raised as it has been reported that bookings for events are already being made.

7. MEMBERSHIP:

There had been no change in the current position.

A list of members had been circulated to Committee Members as previously agreed.

8. NEWS BULLETINS:

These were being produced as often as possible in the circumstances.

9. A.O.B.:

(a) National Office is planning a National Awareness Day for 2nd June. Carmel agreed to have a further look at this but the feeling was that this was

not useful for us.

(b) Unsolicited emails. It was confirmed that it is our policy not to pass on or in any way endorse projects, however worthy, to Members. The only charities we promote are those of Speakers who provide their services free on behalf of a specific charity.

It was decided to hold the next Committee Meeting on Monday 12th April 2021 at 2pm via Zoom.

Lawrence was thanked once again for setting up the meeting.