

**Christchurch u3a Committee Meeting
MINUTES
Tuesday 21 January 2025
Somerford ARC, Christchurch**

Present: John Bell (JB) (Chair), John Fairbairn (JF), Sue Fillery (SF), Kathleen Smith (KS), Rosemary McCulloch (RM), Sue Crosoer (SC), Paula Watton (PW), Elaine Trayler (ET), Jackie Sherman (JS), Ian Peterkin (IP)

Apologies: Eileen Lancaster (EL)

<p>Minutes of meeting 26 November 2024 were approved.</p>	
<p>Matters Arising</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A website section for information relating only to committee members has been set up. 2. The updating of the Reserves Policy will take place after the budget review in February. 3. It was agreed that the current website is fit for purpose. As EL is happy to continue as Website Manager for the foreseeable future there are no current plans to change the Christchurch u3a website. Concern was raised regarding the photo of a bus stop for the location of Christchurch u3a on Google Maps. As Google Maps provide the photographs on its website it is unlikely that it can be changed. 4. ET will arrange PAT Testing of the Epicentre electrical equipment. 	<p>ET</p>
<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phil Erwin has resigned as Assistant Treasurer. • KS is currently working on the budget review updating venue costs and registration numbers. KS will check at the Epicentre for outstanding registration figures. • It was proposed and agreed a register of attendance should be taken for the International Luncheon Group and Out of Hours activities. • The PSX issues have been resolved. PSX will invoice monthly. • The budget review will be held at the next meeting. 	<p>Agreed</p>

<p>Chair's Report JB reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The accounts have been submitted to the Charity Commission. The financial report includes the income and expenditure from all the bank accounts instead of just the main account. • Although the Charity Commission were notified of the changes to the Constitution in November 2023 the website has not been updated. The Charity Commission will respond to JB's enquiry with 48 days. • JB proposed, to save the considerable sum spent on postage, members should collect the new Programme from the Epicentre. Members will be notified on the website when the new Programme is ready for distribution. Members without email will be sent a letter regarding the change of procedure. It was agreed that the Epicentre will be opened for more days to enable collection of programmes during the Programme launch week. • Replacements for the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and New Members Contact will need to be recruited over the next few months. In addition, a Membership Secretary and, following the resignation of Phil Erwin, a Treasurer's assistant is needed. It was suggested that the Membership Secretary and New Members' Contact roles could be combined. <p>It was agreed that in the first instance the Chair position should be advertised by Mailchimp with the other available positions being advertised later. As recruitment for committee positions has proved difficult in the past it was suggested that possible members should be followed up on. IP suggested advertising outside the u3a membership by using Reach, a recruitment agency for volunteers.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>ET</p>
<p>Publicity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PW proposed the printing of new advertising leaflets and posters. PW suggested a small leaflet of approximately A6 size to be distributed at coffee mornings, on the market stall and possibly through Group Leaders and A4 size posters for advertising at suitable venues. PW and IP will meet to discuss design ideas. • It was agreed PW should pay for articles to be published in the local community magazines. 	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The u3a stall in Christchurch Monday market will start again in April/May. • The Programme launch coffee morning will be held on 21 June at Druitt Hall from 09.30 to 12.30, subject to availability at Druitt Hall. • PW suggested a “Meet the Members” article featuring the interesting lives of indivi • • dual u3a members which could be included in Active News or printed as a series of stories. • It was proposed that members should be asked if there are any additional subjects/activities they would like to be included in the Programme. It was agreed JS will email members asking for suggestions and for possible Group leaders to run any new activities. • It was agreed that printing an updated 24/25 Programme is not necessary at this stage of the year. Any changes can be notified on the website. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Agreed PW/RM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JS</p>
<p>Committee Members Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venues SC asked if the national website has a folder of useful information to provide to venues e.g. the folder could include the public liability insurance policy. JB said he would enquire. • SC asked if an alternative venue to Christchurch Baptist Church should be looked for. Parking is no longer available at the Church which makes attendance at the Monthly Meetings difficult for disabled members. It was suggested that SC should discuss the possibility of a change of venue with Jennet Lambert, Speakers Secretary. • New Members JF reported an attendance of 37 members at the New Members coffee morning held in November. Of those attending 24 were new members. • Programme Term dates are required for inclusion in the 25/26 Programme. A decision on length of term times and the membership fee for next year will be made following the budget review at the February Committee Meeting. • In next year’s programme group activities will be in 2 categories, either social or recreation. • RM said the Pies and Pictures Group will only be held in the winter and spring terms. RM was concerned about the lack of men attending the group. This is a widespread 	<p style="text-align: center;">JB</p>

<p>concern for all u3as, due to the u3a demographic females will outnumber males. It was suggested setting up a Men's Shed group. As this is already an established organisation and a suitable venue and group leader would be difficult to find it was decided it was not an option.</p>	
<p>A.O.B. None</p>	
<p>Date of Next Meeting. 25.02 2025 at 14.00 at Somerford ARC, 20 Southey Road, Christchurch BH23 3EH</p>	