

**Christchurch u3a Committee Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**Tuesday 09 May 2023**  
**Somerford ARC, Christchurch**

**Present:** John Bell (JB) (Chair) Sue Fillery (SF), John Fairbairn (JF), Kathleen Smith (KS), Eileen Lancaster (EL), Jackie Sherman (JS), , Jill Smith Buckland (JSB) (Janice Miller (JM), Paula Watton (PW), Judy Hall (JH),  
**Apologies:** Ron Watson (RW) Helen Heatley (HH) Elaine Trayler (ET)

<p><b>Minutes of meeting on 14 March 2023</b> were approved and seconded by all attending</p>	
<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. JB reported that EL had set up a skype meeting with the Chair of Swindon u3a to review the “so called” Swindon Model. The conclusions of the meeting were circulated to the team. The initial conclusion was that this model, or some adaptation of it, could be a possibility for a future operational model for Christchurch u3a to address our longer-term structural model and financial challenges. However, it was recognised that any proposal to migrate to a new operational model would be extremely challenging. As a result, it would require a comprehensive consultation with members before being considered for adoption. It was agreed that, when the time was right, the preferred approach, would be to set up a dedicated project team to address this specific issue. It was agreed that this topic would be given a more comprehensive review at a future meeting.</li> <li>2. At a recent meeting of the trustees it was agreed that John Fairbairn would respond to Peter Guntrip’s queries regarding Vintage Brass. JF subsequently confirmed Vintage Brass is entitled to retain its bank account and assets as stated in the terms of Vintage Brass policy set up with Christchurch u3a many years ago. JF also confirmed website support will be provided as long as required.</li> <li>3. In response to a Vintage Brass request it was agreed an email would be sent to all u3a members informing them of Vintage Brass’s decision to become an independent Band. It was also agreed, if required by Vintage Brass, u3a would continue to provide on going support in the form of advertising and mail chimp until the AGM in November 2023.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Agreed</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Agreed</b></p>

<p>4. Some negative comments had been received regarding the payment of the subscription fee for Group Leaders. Although some members thought a consultation process should have taken place the Committee acted within its remit and is responsible for setting the subscription fee. It was agreed that no exceptions could be made for specific Group Leaders.</p>	
<p><b>Chairman's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JB thanked everyone for their support during the past few months.</li> <li>• JB confirmed 4 July is the 23/24 Course Programme launch date.</li> <li>• JB said the new committee/support group structure would be finalised at the next AGM. He said Sarah Howell-Davies has stepped down as website project manager. It was agreed there was an ongoing need to recruit new committee members and to have assistants/deputies for the committee positions.</li> <li>• JB said Elaine Trayler had been very busy tidying the Epicentre so it can be used as a venue for group meetings. The noticeboard had been replaced and Elaine is getting quotes for new windows. It was agreed that KS would also obtain quotes.</li> <li>• All policies and procedures need to be updated. JB, will update and generate the financial and reserve policies and with JF,SF and KS will review the policies on the website. SF will finalise the draft Constitution. Committee approval will be sought if necessary.</li> </ul>	<p><b>KS</b></p> <p><b>JB,JF, KS,SF</b></p>
<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>KS's report was approved. It was agreed that JF, as a signatory to the bank accounts, should have internet access to all the bank accounts.</p>	
<p><b>Secretary's Report</b></p> <p>SF had received a suggestion from a u3a member that draft committee meeting minutes be sent to group leaders immediately after a committee meeting. It was agreed that the minutes should not be circulated prior to approval by the committee. It had also been suggested that if a new Constitution is being drafted « update «.does not accurately record the committee's actions. It was agreed that the body of the</p>	<p><b>Agreed</b></p>

Constitution remained therefore the use of « update » is considered acceptable.	<b>Agreed</b>
<p><b>Committee Members' Reports.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Publicity</u> It was agreed PW to purchase a suitable structure to provide cover for the u3a stall. PW reported that Elaine Trayler had been working exceptional hard at distributing u3a advertising material in the locality.</li> <li>2. <u>Venues</u> JH will continue to update venue cost increases as and when they occur.</li> <li>3. <u>Group Leaders</u> There is an ongoing need to recruit new groups and group leaders.</li> </ol>	<b>Agreed</b>
<p><b>A.O.B.</b></p> <p>Dee Collins, Social/Events Group Leader, enquired if u3a members from other u3a areas e.g. Bournemouth were able to go on Christchurch u3a travel trips? It was agreed that it is allowed.</p>	
<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> 11 July 2023 at 14.00 IT room, Somerford ARC, 20 Southey Road, Christchurch BH23 3 EH</p>	