



Surrey U3A Network

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 24 March 2011

Held at East Horsley Village hall.

Present: Tom Appleton, Elmbridge U3A, Network Chairman
Arthur Browne, Network Education & Development Contact
Ian Funnell, Chair of the Study Day Sub-Committee and Treasurer of IAUTA
John Kennedy, Treasurer
Sue Fielding, Epsom and Ewell U3A, Network Secretary

The following U3As were represented:

Ashtead, Banstead, Bookham and District, Dorking and District, Elmbridge, Epsom and Ewell, Fetcham and District, Horley and District, Horsley and District, Kingston, Leatherhead and District, Reigate and Redhill, Spelthorne, and Spelthorne K2.

Action

1 **Welcome from Chairman of host U3A**

Peter Tallon, Chairman of Horsley and District U3A, welcomed everybody.

2 **Opening of meeting**

Tom Appleton, Chairman of the Surrey U3A Network, opened the meeting by asking those members present to introduce themselves.

3 **Appointment of new Secretary.**

The meeting agreed that Sue Fielding be appointed as the new Secretary. Her contact details are as follows:

Heddle Springfield Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3EJ, Tel 0208 786 7251

Email : susanfielding@btinternet.com

4 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Sutton, Caterham and District, Merton, Farnham, U3A's and Colin Mitchell and Sheila Hill.

5 **Minutes of the meeting held on 26th October 2010**

The minutes were signed off as a correct record of the meeting.

6 **Matters arising**

a) Section 9 d) The report on the future of U3A's was not yet available .

b) Section 14. Ian Funnell stated that Yann Trevou (Ashtead) had now taken on the role as an additional member of the South East Forum.

c)Section 19. Insurance, Pat Jenkins Epsom and Ewell, stated that their U3A were still concerned about the need for Public Liability insurance for hosts who held group meetings at their homes. They had undertaken a small sample survey with some of their group leaders, who had consulted their Insurance Companies about Public Liability and whether Disclaimer Notices would save the extra expense incurred by Public Liability. The advice that they had was that disclaimer notices were more trouble than they are worth and that each householder should have Public Liability insurance. This was discussed further, and it was agreed that Pat would take this up again with the U3A

Surrey Network Meeting 24 March 2011

National Office and get a definitive written statement as to what the National U3A insurance will cover . Action Epsom & Ewell

7. Treasurer's report

- a) John circulated the financial summary for the last 6 months for the Network Study Days. He stated that the first two this year had been very well attended, but April had low number so far.
- b) He reported a small surplus of £1388 from the Study Days. Epsom and Ewell queried the differing amounts for catering for each meeting and it was stated that this reflected the need to hire staff to help when the attendance numbers were high. Kingston asked what was the total surplus, John replied about £8000.
- c) John reported that he had trawled the websites of our Network groups, and provided reports to each group present. (Groups not in attendance have received their report with these minutes.)

8 Report by Arthur Browne

- a) Arthur's written report had been circulated with the agenda. He drew the meetings' attention to the second paragraph. There was still not resolution with regard to representation on the National committee, there is still a belief by some but not the majority of the NEC, that one representative is not workable.
- b) Arthur circulated a new list of U3A Officers to the meeting, a revised copy is appended to these minutes

9 Report by Ian Funnell

- a) Ian reported that Colin was meeting with two potential candidates, to replace him as trustee for the SE, and there could be an election.
- b) We need to think of proposals for the AGM regarding the SE representation.
- c) Trust is currently looking at how it will support its trustees.
- d) Study days numbers are going up, and team are currently looking at the programme for 2013
- e) U3A's were asked to remind their members that the details for the study days can be downloaded at the website.
- f) Ian distributed a paper about IAUTA and members were invited to apply for the places. He stated that there are increasingly more events that happen in Europe that we will be eligible to attend. Ian asked groups to publish these opportunities in their areas.

Banstead stated that there were still places on the Meeting of 30th March, and that the workshop on Art History was nearly full. The next workshop will be on creative writing.

- g) Spelthorne asked who was paid in the U3A, Ian stated they should refer to the Annual Report

10 Reports by U3A's

A summary of reports had been distributed with the agenda, and groups were asked for any additions.

- a) Epsom and Ewell apologised for lack of report, also that they due to cost had not been able to provide 20 copies of the newsletter. (Several other U3A's had the same problem.) Action, all at next meeting review value of the copies being distributed.

- b) Dorking stated that they now had a new young sub-committee for outings. They had also provided copies of an anniversary magazine.
- c) Fetcham, stated that they had acquired new group leaders after a coffee morning for new members . They also distributed details of Leslie Pitchers new art course for September.
- d) Leatherhead stated they were thinking of changing their webhosting, they were advised that BTCK.co.uk provide this free for Charities.
- e) Spelthorne were trialling a new process to collect membership money using a bankers order.
- f) Spelthorne K2, have two new groups; Comparative religion and art appreciation.
- g) East Horsley, stated that they have a raffle for a case of wine to get the subscriptions in

11 Olympic Year 2012

Several U3A's stated they were having great success with their trips to the Olympic site. *U3A's were asked to fill in the questionnaire that they had received with the agenda, by 30 June.*

12 Discussion Topic, Promoting Interest Groups.

- a) Elmbridge stated that they had obtained nine new groups from a recent new members meeting.
- b) Epsom & Ewell stated that their open house had encouraged several members to create 4 new London Walking groups.
- c) Kingston agreed that their new members meeting was a source of new groups.
- d) Reigate and Banstead use a registration day and their two group co-ordinators had identified the following barriers to groups
 - 1) Venue not available
 - 2) Convenient time available
 - 3) People do not want to be Leader .
 In discussion it was agreed that the title Host or coordinator worked well.
- e) Dorking, found that once in a group people would not move on. They also stated that there was a U3A DVD that could be used to help , but it should be used selectively.
- f) East Horsley, stated that they had started up a computing group with the Howard of Effingham school and perhaps groups should look at collaborative measures.
- g) Spelthorne stated that they were setting up computer clinics

All

13 Discussion topic for October.

It was agreed that the topic would be Members Welfare.

14 AOB

- a) Reigate and Redhill asked where badges could be purchased for Committee members, Arthur stated TAT had U3A badges but not committee badges.
- b) John stated that the U3A have changed their site, address is now <http://u3asiteb.org.uk/surreyu3anetwork>.

The meeting closed at 4.00 pm

Signed as a correct record of the meeting _____
 Date _____



Surrey U3A Network

12th April 2011

Dear

Please find attached the minutes of the last Network meeting, I have also enclosed for those not present a copy of the report on their website.

Tom has also asked me to include the following statement that he omitted to say at the meeting.

'At a recent meeting the network committee considered the possibility that some members of constituent U3As might be prevented from attending Study Days due to the cost. The committee decided to bring to the attention of constituent U3As the possibility that the attendance fee could be reduced or waived if an Officer of the members own U3A recommended such action to Sheila Hill. If you are aware of any genuine cases of hardship that might justify this concession please contact Sheila Hill.'

Yours Sincerely

Sue Fielding

Enclosures: List of names
List of outings and speakers
Network info for groups not present at meeting.