

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK OF U3As - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 25th OCTOBER 2017 AT THE CENTRE, ST. PETER'S, RAVENSHEAD, NOTTS. NG15 9FD**

PRESENT	Jeremy Lloyd Chairman, Rosie Allen, Vice-Chairman, (Arnold), Jenny Greaves Support Officer (Keyworth), Rita Foulkes Treasurer, Margaret Taylor Secretary, Peter Edge Web Master, Margot Gale, Notts. County Contact (Beeston), Lynne Jaremczenko, News Bites Editor, (Carlton & Gedling) & Jane Pavier, Regional Trustee. Representatives from Ashfield, Bingham, Burton Joyce, Eastwood & District, Forest Town & District, Hucknall, Mapperley & District, Nottingham & District, The Park, Rainworth, Ravenshead, Sherwood, Southwell and Worksop U3As.
ITEM 1	Jeremy Lloyd welcomed everyone and paid tribute to Alan Morris and Rita Turner, both stalwarts of the U3A who had recently died. The meeting accepted apologies from:- David Dobbs, Paul Martinez, Dukeries Third Age Group, Edwalton, Gamston & District, Mansfield, Radcliffe on Trent, Soar Valley & West Bridgford U3As.
ITEM 2	The Network then held their Annual General Meeting. Please see AGM Minutes.
ITEM 3	AGREE MINUTES, ACTION POINTS & ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING DATED 26th JULY 2017. All Action Points were completed or on the Agenda. The minutes were proposed by Jenny Greaves and seconded by Jan Bridgman. Network agreed and accepted the Minutes which were signed by the Chairman and Secretary.
ITEM 4	INFORMATION TO NOTE a) Consultation Procedure. Despite this having been presented to previous meetings for comments, further discussion took place on the wording. It was therefore proposed by MK of Forest Town U3A that a vote took place on the acceptance of the document with a review in July 2018. 14 members agreed, 3 disagreed and 3 abstained. ACTION – Secretary to put on to the July Agenda b) AGM Procedure was accepted. c) Three Year Plan was updated throughout the meeting. The latest information will be circulated with the papers for the January meeting. ACTION - Secretary It was also requested that all documents have the current date and review date if required, on all future documents presented to the Network. ACTION – All Officers to Note & Secretary to check before circulation.
ITEM 5 a)	TREASURER'S REPORT – Rita Foulkes A question was raised concerning the forecast budget for 2017/18 when £200 had been quoted for travel but only £43.65 had been actually spent in in 2016/17. It was explained that not everyone puts in a claim but some future members may not be able to afford to do this and therefore £200 should be allocated for the future if needed.
ITEM 5 b)	REGIONAL TRUSTEE – Jane Pavier Picking up on the Action Points in the Minutes – JP explained that “Volunteers” were still required to be trained. “Regional” had been dropped from the title as these “Volunteers” would be travelling across borders and may not be working in their own regions. Individual volunteers can volunteer in the following areas - running workshops, opening new U3As and to mediate when problems arise within a U3A. The next workshop to be held on 1 st November and funded by National Office had 52 members from 18 U3As attending. JP then continued with her report - Continuing to visit U3As, Networks and Neighbourhood Groups she was trying to ensure that everything in the East Midlands Region was running smoothly but if a minor crisis does occur part of her role was to help sort it out. She had been involved in the launch of three new U3As in the Region, Sutton Bridge in Lincolnshire, Wirksworth and Melbourne in Derbyshire. The launch of the new Nottinghamshire U3A in Warsop is being mentored by Rosie Allen and Paul Martinez. The two pre-launch teams were well attended, thanks to help from Liz Wilson and others. The U3A National Conference held in Nottingham in August was very well attended with more than 400 delegates although she was disappointed at the small number of U3As representing the East Midlands. This Conference is an ideal way to meet U3A members from all over the UK. The workshops were popular and covered a wide variety of subjects and the speakers were informative. The final day of the conference, including the AGM, was streamed live so any interested members could ‘be there’. On the final afternoon the findings of Governance Structure Consultation Working Group was presented. An EGM will be held on 21 st March 2018 in the Great Hall of Birmingham University to agree the findings of the Working Group because if left until the AGM it would be another year before the results could be put into practice. All U3As in the UK will be invited to attend. There will also be speakers to make a visit to Birmingham an interesting occasion. This meeting will also be streamed live. The NEC Trustees frequently receive comments about how information from The Third Age Trust can be passed down to U3As and their members. The NEC now has plans to discuss this situation and invitations have been sent

	<p>to and all Networks, Cluster Groups and Neighbourhood Groups nationally to send one representative to a meeting to be held in London in November. One of the items on the agenda will be to discuss the venue for future meetings, as there is national consensus that too many events are held in London.</p> <p>There is still a need for volunteers in Nottinghamshire to help. Volunteers will not be expected to work alone and full training will be given for anyone who wants to be involved. If anyone is interested, please contact JP jane.pavier@u3a.org.uk who will pass details on to National Office. This is not just for committee members of U3As but is open to all members, so please make this known in your U3A.</p> <p>This year, there are five new Regional Trustees and one new Vice-chairman on the NEC.</p> <p>There are a number of workshops being put together by the national Development Sub-Committee (DSC). Although some of these may be held in central locations, they can also be brought out into areas where they are requested. The list for 2018 is not yet available but as soon as it is, JP will endeavour to bring one to all the counties in the Region.</p> <p>Some U3As unfortunately have problems, mainly recruiting sufficient committee members and JP will go along and talk to the members, explaining what could happen if their U3A does not have the necessary four officers and at least two other members. Please contact JP if your U3A has a problem and she will do her best to help.</p>
<p>ITEM 5 c)</p>	<p>NETWORK SUPPORT OFFICER – Jenny Greaves</p> <p>JG thanked everyone who had supported her during the past year and wished Paul Martinez well now he has become the Support Officer. JG wanted to highlight the things that had been achieved during the year with information in italics from others being added to the report –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 new U3As, The Park and Warsop had been set up. <i>RA wished to publically thank all members in surrounding areas for their help with the new U3A in Warsop which made for a very successful launch. 120 people attended and 11 people offered to help on the Committee. 5 members will also be attending the workshop on 1st November.</i> • The beginning of a U3A in Ruddington. Consultations had taken place and all U3As were willing to help. • Peer Support Group hosted by Sherwood U3A for Interest Groups, Meeter/Greeters, Business Secretaries and Group Co-ordinators. Sherwood U3A and Liz Wilson were thanked for organising. <i>LB of Sherwood U3A informed the Network that 44 members from 14 U3As had attended. Notes will be circulated by Liz Wilson in the near future.</i> • Peer Support Group for Educational Visits, Holidays and Day Trips. Liz Wilson was thanked for organising this following a successful Workshop • The News Bites had been resurrected by Liz Wilson and thanks were given both to Liz and to Lynne Jaremzenko who has now taken over as Editor. • Thanks were extended to Peter Edge for an important job updating the web site and keeping everyone not only U3As but the members of the public fully informed. <i>PE gave a short report stating that 56 emails had been received which showed a slight increase from the previous year. Concerns were raised that some U3As did not receive information or information that was not U3A based. MG stated that she sends out all information, it was not her job to “sift” the information and if U3As did not want to pass on information they could press the delete button. It was emphasised that all information is sent to Network Representatives and Network could not be held responsible if these people did not pass on information to their Committees and Membership. Again she reminded members to send her up-to-date information on any changes to members of their Committees and Network Representatives.</i> • The Support Group is intending to look at ways to encourage more U3As to run Peer Support Groups. <i>Lesley Elkington of Southwell U3A gave details of the Speaker Seeker Peer Support Group which has been organised by Chris Bentley, the Speaker Seeker for Southwell U3A to be held on 13th February 2018 starting at 2pm to be held in the Committee office in Minster Chambers. Although it was pointed out that the venue is up a couple of flights of stairs. Further information will be circulated to members nearer the time on how to apply.</i> <i>Keyworth U3A is proposing to “host” a Peer Support Group – Music, Book Club and Italian. Jean Hogg to organise. Again further information will be circulated.</i> • Finally Jenny asked for volunteers to join the Support Group and help in any particular area that you can. This did not mean attendance at meetings but just to be available should help be required. Names to Paul Martinez please. <p>Southwell U3A raised the question resulting from a recent workshop ‘what is being done to those members who were not conforming to advice and good practise information?’ JP stated that if this was highlighted by any U3A, she should be made aware of the individual U3A involved, provided with full details and she would then investigate. However if the problem was more financial then John Ellison from National Office could also be contacted.</p>

ITEM 5 d)	<p>NOTTS. NETWORK WAY FORWARD – Paul Martinez In PM’s absence JG read out the following report:-</p> <p>Context – This document is a summary of the large number of responses we have all made to the Way Forward consultation exercise. A big thank you to everyone for the careful and thoughtful way that they have engaged their U3A in making their contribution.</p> <p>Purpose – The document summarises our collective aspirations for the Notts. Network and sets out how the Network Officers are proposing to put them into practice.</p> <p>Process – You will see that this is NOT a set of actions that the Officers will do. We will achieve these aspirations only by working together. In particular, we ask you to do 2 things:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Identify one or more Peer Support Groups which your U3A could host b) Help recruit additional volunteers to join the Network Support Group which will be working to make these things happen. <p>Discussion –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Any questions b) Any major issues or themes which need to be added c) Any other comments <p>The general consensus that this document gave a good foundation to the future of the Network. Network Reps. were asked to keep their Committees and Membership informed by ensuring that they had all received a copy of this information.</p> <p>Due to the fact that PC himself was not in attendance the Network decided to have the discussion at the January Network meeting. ACTION PM TO NOTE AND SECRETARY TO PUT ON AGENDA.</p> <p>A request was also made that it should be dated with a review date for January 2018 when the full discussion will take place. ACTION MT - Completed</p>
ITEM 6	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) PE, Web Master, requested that “draft” minutes of the Network Meetings and AGM be put on to the Web Site before being approved. Network agreed. b) Judith Wright of Burton Joyce U3A asked if Network could approach National Office to negotiate a supplier of ink cartridges. Network agreed and the Secretary will be asked to email Sam Mauger for this request to be placed on the Agenda for the next NEC Meeting. ACTION SECRETARY c) This led on to the question of the amount of paper being used. It was recommended that if information was printed that it should be back to back. A reminder was given that lap tops can be used at The Centre. A request was made that could a projector be used to put on large screen. Officers will discuss at the next meeting. ACTION SECRETARY TO PUT ON AGENDA FOR NEXT OFFICERS’ MEETING d) A request from the North Notts. Neighbourhood Group. Could a page essentially for their use be put on to the Network Web Site for advertising holidays, events etc. Discussion took place but the Network felt that they must decline this request. e) RA of Arnold U3A asked if any of the U3As present had members who were skilled in 1st Aid and to let her know. A number of outside organisations who would be able to help were suggested.
	JL thanked everyone for attending.
	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> Wednesday 31.01.18.</p> <p><u>Dates of future Meetings</u> Wednesday 25.04.18. 25.07.18. & 31.10.18. (AGM)</p>

Chair.....Secretary.....Date 31st January 2018

Jeremy Lloyd

David Dobbs