



CONSTITUTION OF THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK OF U3As

Note:

None of the cooperative activities referred to or implied in this constitution should in any way interfere with the direct relationships individual U3As have with the Third Age Trust or its Board of Directors.

1. Definitions

- 1.1 Nottinghamshire is defined by the administrative County and includes the City of Nottingham.
- 1.2 The Regional Trustee is the person elected from and by all the U3As in the East Midlands Region to be their representative on the Board of Directors of the Third Age Trust.

2. Name

The name shall be “The Nottinghamshire Network of U3As” hereafter called “the Network”.

3. Objects

- 3.1 To help further the principles, aims and activities of the U3A movement in the UK by:
 - 3.1.1 Providing a forum for the discussion of issues of importance to U3As in the Network.
 - 3.1.2 Helping coordinate and initiate the development of new U3As in the County.
 - 3.1.3 Enabling U3As to initiate cooperative ventures.
- 3.2 To support the Regional Trustee in carrying out his/her responsibilities.

4. Membership

- 4.1 All U3As within the County will be eligible to be members of the Network.
- 4.2 All U3As will become members of the Network by paying an annual donation to the Network by August each year. New U3As are automatically affiliated and do not pay in their first year.
- 4.3 When votes are taken it will be on the basis of one vote per full member U3A and the quorum at a meeting will be 50% of the U3As in full membership of the Network.

5. Annual General Meeting

- 5.1 The AGM to be incorporated into the agenda for the Autumn meeting.
- 5.2 To receive the “examined” Annual Accounts ending 31st July.
- 5.3 To appoint a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and the Support Officer.
- 5.4 At the AGM Meeting, if there is more than one person for a particular post, those nominated will be asked to leave the room and a show of hands from the U3As attending will take place.
- 5.5 Officers will have a term of three years (to be confirmed annually at the AGM). Before the end of their term they must inform the Network Secretary whether it is their intention to retire or stand for re-nomination. It should be noted that Officers can resign before their term of office expires by informing the Network Secretary.
- 5.6 At least 30 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting, the Secretary will circulate the following information:
 - 5.6.1 Invitation to all members of the Network to attend the AGM.
 - 5.6.2 Invitation to U3A members in Nottinghamshire but not members of the Network.
 - 5.6.3 A list of the Network Officers showing terms of office. If any Officers are retiring at the AGM the Secretary will attach a Nomination Form, together with a copy of the constitution, to enable any member of a Network member U3A to volunteer for the vacancy.
 - 5.6.4 A list of other vacancies within the Network will also be circulated.

- 5.6.5 Formal Notification of any changes to the Constitution with details.
- 5.6.6 Formal Notification of any changes to the Network Annual Subscription with details.

6. Structure and Governance

- 6.1 It will be for Network to:
 - 6.1.1 Maintain a permanent existence.
 - 6.1.2 Meet at least three times per year.
 - 6.1.3 Invite the Regional Trustee to all meetings.
 - 6.1.4 Include Regional Trustee and National items on its agenda
- 6.2 The Network Support Officer will chair the Network Support Group Meetings and provide a report for each Network meeting
- 6.3 Within the context of the above, the Network will carry out its business as it sees fit and will review ways to do this from time to time.
- 6.4 The Network will deposit its current constitution with the Third Age Trust.

7. Finance

- 7.1 The Treasurer shall keep simple accounts to show details of receipts and payments and report financial details at each Network meeting.
- 7.2 The Network will maintain a suitable bank account or accounts. There will be three appointed signatories for cheques, any two required to sign cheques.
- 7.3 The Network may seek and receive funding from the Third Age Trust and outside bodies.

8. Amendments to the Constitution

The provisions of this Constitution can only be altered with the assent of not less than two thirds of the member U3As of the Network attending a duly constituted meeting for which thirty days notice has been given.

9. Dissolution

In the event of dissolution, all surplus assets, after payment of costs, shall be divided equally between all member U3As in the Network at the time of dissolution or paid to a succeeding regional body, at the discretion of the Association.

This Constitution was adopted for the Nottinghamshire Network of U3As on 23rd October 2019

- Chairman..... Rosie Allen
- Vice Chairman..... Margot Gale
- Secretary..... Sue Blackley
- Treasurer..... Rita Foulkes
- Network Support Officer..... Paul Martinez

Roles and Functions of County Networks of U3As

1. To provide a forum for the discussion of issues of importance to U3As in the Network.
2. To coordinate and initiate the development of new U3As in the County.
3. To enable U3As cooperatively to initiate aspects of learning support by:
 - a. Sharing matters of current importance to them;
 - b. Setting up cooperative ventures;
 - c. Participating in local Shared Learning Projects;
4. To carry out other cooperative activities decided by U3As in the County.
5. To relate to the Regional Trustee.
6. To appoint a Network County Contact.
7. To contribute to regional means of communication.
8. To send a representative to the National Network Link forum.
9. To complement and extend regional activities e.g. on supporting Group Leaders.
10. To establish such mechanisms as are deemed necessary to discharge their functions and responsibilities.
(e.g. The frequency of meetings, arrangements for Chairing meetings and the preparation of Agenda and minutes.)
11. To develop policies and plans as U3As see fit.