

**RRC Meeting on Wednesday 6th July 2016 at:
Nottingham Trent University, Clifton Campus, Room 026 Pavilion Building, NG11 8NS**

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
1. Present:	Hilary Wells (Chair) Jane Pavier (Regional Trustee) Phil Grace (Secy) , Pat Reeve, Steph Tewson(Northants) John Lamb, John Redshaw (L&R) Rita Foulkes (Treasurer) Richard Johnston (Lincoln) Liz Wilson (Notts) Geoff Belk (Derbyshire) Bob Price (Lincs East) Liz Wilson, Jenny Greaves (Notts) Mandy Topp (Shared Learning Contact)	
Apologies	Chris Shaw (Treasurer), Judith Hodges (Derbyshire), Sue Hewson (Lincs) David Oliver (Lincs East)	
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting 4th May 2016 & Matters Arising	Discussion on preparation of minutes. Agreed that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes will be written up and sent to all RRC members • Watermark will not be used • Minutes will be posted on website <u>after</u> signing 	PG
3 Conference	Speakers confirmed Hosts for guests agreed: Paul Roebuck – Jenny Greaves Jim Gould – Liz Wilson/Steph Tewson Pam Jones – Pat Reeve Venue: to be visited by HW/JP Breakout Groups: LW explained the plan which will be for the groups to rank attributes of a successful U3A Programme/Application Form to be sent to County Contacts Discussions: Regarding fact that programme perhaps did not reflect feedback from 2015. Explained that difficulties resulting from change of date and securing speakers had limited the room to manoeuvre. Agreed that Conference is “bait” to attract people to AGM. Suggested that planning for 2017 should commence immediately after this year’s event and that all Counties should be involved. Question of “guillotine” if numbers not obtained e.g. quorum not secured? Constitution requires 20% of member U3As to be represented – calculated to be 22/23. Feedback: Agreed that more structured feedback should be obtained from this year’s delegates. For example a set of options NOT free text. Feedback sheet to be revised. RRC members asked to put forward their preferences for 2017 e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic theme • U3A focussed • Celebrity Speaker 	JG LW/ST PR PG PG ALL by end July
4. AGM Planning	Meeting updated on progress. Agreed that someone needed to take over responsibility for final steps after PG departs for holiday. ST agreed to undertake this. Final meeting of planning group to take place on morning of August 19 th at East Bridgeford Garden Centre.	PG ST JP/HW/PG/JG/ST
5. Chair’s Report	HW stated that it had been a challenging and interesting time and	

	<p>continued by saying that she believed the role of Chair had changed in the past 3 years. JP thanked HW for all her hard work as Chair – and this was supported by all present.</p> <p>New Chair: JR stated that he was no longer prepared to stand. Although the call for a new Chair had gone out to all U3As and was on Region website no interest had been forthcoming (Note: None as of July 26th) Discussion as to what would happen if no one stepped forward: agreed that in absence of volunteer the RRC would appoint someone to the post.</p>	
6. Treasurer's Report	<p>Rita Foulkes was welcomed as new Treasurer. As she had only received the relevant documentation etc immediately prior to meeting she said that she would provide more information in due course.</p> <p>Agreed that David Kyle would be asked to examine accounts prior to AGM. In absence of Treasurer, attendees were referred to documents that had been placed on Dropbox by Chris Shaw. There were no specific questions for Treasurer.</p> <p>The subject of finances was raised – following on from previous meeting's discussion. Agreed that financial position would be helped by reducing to 3 meetings per year (as agreed at previous meeting). Also agreed that detailed analysis of "defaulters" was needed. Mentioned that better use of County contacts might increase support.</p> <p>Some members reported their experience that a number of U3As were not interested in Regional affairs and would not be enthusiastic about paying "subs" to RRC.</p>	RF
7. Regional Trustee's Report	<p>JP referred to written report that had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Conference: Discussion about what course to follow if applications exceeded capacity; agreed that it was on a "first come first served" basis. There is no reserve list.</p> <p>(Secy's Note: As at 28th July seems unlikely that this will be a problem!)</p> <p>Great Oakley: Situation discussed – feeling that they will not ask for help/assistance.</p> <p>National workshops: Comment made that content needs "tweaking". Also preference for venue of events to be more "local" i.e. in East Midlands.</p> <p>JP commented that we must all remember that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is National Office NOT Head Office • Acronym TAT must NOT be used. • Individual U3As are NOT Branches. 	ALL
8. Proposed Submission to National Review on Future of U3A	<p>Discussion on draft paper prepared by PG/JR. Agreed that there were two question to decide upon:</p> <p>Q1: Do we wish to make a contribution: Proposed GB, Seconded RJ – passed</p> <p>Q2: Is RRC happy with form of words in draft Proposed JL, Seconded RJ – passed</p> <p>There were a few small points, some typos to be corrected and then paper to be passed to National Office</p>	PG
9. Proposed amendments to Constitution	<p>JR outlined the amendments to constitution that had been drawn up in conjunction with GB.</p> <p>The changes were in many cases administrative and did not go to core of the RRC's role/status etc. Perhaps the major change was that regarding funding where it was necessary to correct (i.e. delete) reference that stated RRC was funded from National Office.</p> <p>Need to check that latest/current version is on website.</p>	PG
10. Planning for the Future: Discussion paper	Paper circulated by JP discussed.	

<p>submitted by Jane Pavier, Regional Trustee</p>	<p>There was general agreement that RRC had tended towards “talking” and had not delivered much for Networks/U3As e.g., workshops, events etc. Some RRC members believed things had been better in the past – but there was no consensus about what had changed (if anything) to have reduced drive/effectiveness/delivery of/from/by RRC.</p> <p>There was discussion about loss of Regional EDO position, the possible benefits of making greater use of RVs and the expectations of the Networks e.g. of action by RRC.</p> <p>The low/limited continuity of RRC members was thought to hinder delivery. However, equally thought that the RRC lacked clarity about its vision/purpose. It was hoped that the current National review would provide a view about the National U3As view of the role and function of Regions.</p> <p>There was discussion about the “status” of RRC and the Association: could RRC be disbanded without dissolving Association? Some felt that any decision to disband the RRC should be preceded by consultation with the Networks. Also felt that to disband before AGM would seriously impact attendance etc and that making changes in advance of outcome from National review was perhaps not ideal, not best course of action.</p> <p>Some members thought that the current year – 2016 – should be a time of reflection, a time to concentrate on a plan or programme for events and activities for 2017 and beyond. In contrast, others felt that this was not possible until a realistic role/vision/purpose for the RRC has been agreed AND the outcomes of the National review were available.</p> <p>There were a number of proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disband RRC at coming AGM: Proposed PR, Seconded ST: this was not passed (only 3 in favour) • Hold Conference/AGM and then review position at November meeting; Proposed HW, Seconded BP. This was passed <p>It was agreed that the best course of action was to hold Conference /AGM, review these events in November and then decide whether to place RRC onto “care and Maintenance”basis until such time as National review came up with suggestions for the future. Such an approach could be linked to a “subscription holiday”.</p>	
<p>11. Dates of Future Meetings</p>	<p>Agreed final RRC meeting for 2016: Nov 9th Room to be booked</p>	<p>PG</p>
<p>12. Shared Learning Report</p>	<p>MT stated that there was nothing of note to report.</p>	
<p>13. Network Reports</p>	<p>Discussed.</p> <p>Derbyshire: To hold a workshop on Nov 5th</p> <p>Notts: Has lost a U3A from Network – along with couple of others that have moved to another Region that is geographically “closer”.</p> <p>Northamptonshire: PR outlined forthcoming Speaker Secretary Workshop to be held on July 8th</p> <p>Visits to Drayton House arranged</p> <p>Daventry has had its first AGM – successfully!</p>	
<p>14. AOB</p>	<p>Nothing raised</p>	
<p>14. Date of Next Meeting</p>	<p>Wednesday 9th November 2016 at Nottingham Trent University Clifton Campus.</p> <p>2017: February/May/Nov - provisional</p>	<p>PG/All</p>

Signed.....Chairman 9th November 2016