

**Minutes of the 7th AGM of the East Midlands Region held on 29th July 2015
at Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln.**

Agenda Item	Note
1. Present:	Hilary Wells (Chair), Michaela Moody (Regional Trustee), Jane Pavier (Secretary), Karen Highfield-Taylor (Nottinghamshire) Mandy Topp (Shared Learning Contact), Lynne Cox (Memory Course Contact) and representatives from 34 U3As
1. Apologies	Apologies had been received from Mary Cearns (retiring Treasurer), Christine Shaw (incoming Treasurer), Kath Oakley (RRC member), Elaine Lovell (RRC Member), Rutland U3A, West Bridgford U3A, Belper U3A, Beeston U3A.
2. Minutes of Previous AGM 15th July 2014	The Minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. Proposed by: Margaret Potter and seconded by Pat Reeve. They were agreed by a show of hands and signed by the chairman.
3.i.To receive the Financial Report	The Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Treasurer was not present and there were no questions. Proposed by Lynne Cox and seconded by Stephne Tewson. Agreed unanimously by a show of hands.
3.ii To agree the U3A contribution for the year 2015/2016	The contribution from each U3A would continue as £10.00 for U3As with less than 250 members and £20.00 for U3As with more than 250 Members. Proposed by Julie Belk and seconded by Vickie Seth-Kosoko. Agreed unanimously by a show of hands.
3.iii To appoint an independent examiner for the year 2015/16	David Kyle was proposed by the chairman and seconded by Helen Davison. Agreed unanimously by a show of hands.
4.i To receive the Chair's Report	This had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions. Proposed by Pat Reeve and seconded by Lynne Cox. Agreed unanimously by a show of hands.
4.ii To receive the Regional Trustee's Report	<p>This had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions. John Tyerman proposed the report and Karen Highfield Taylor seconded it.</p> <p>The Regional Trustee told the meeting that she has been nominated for one of the Vice Chairmen positions on the NEC. If she is successful at the AGM in August, this will leave a vacancy for the Trustee's role and national office will send out nomination forms to all U3As in the Region after the AGM. The successful applicant will be co-opted on to the NEC until the following AGM and will stand again for nomination for a three-year period at the next AGM. She went on to explain that the role will be different to the one she has carried out. Third Age Trust is extending the Training Team, as so many new U3As are required that it is often difficult for the Trustee to come with the demand. The new system will be in place in November. This system will begin in November and the Trainers will be responsible from the close of Launch meetings until the first AGM. Regional Volunteers will continue with their Pre-Launch role and that of mentor to new U3As. The system will operate on a trial basis for 12 months. The Trainers are to be part-time, paid employees of the Third Age Trust. A letter had been sent to national office saying that there had been no consultation before the scheme was put in place. Paid employees are against the ethos of the U3A.</p> <p>Comment: there have always been paid staff employed by the Third Age Trust, a registered company. The Chair thanked the Regional Trustee for the hard work she had put into the Region over and above what would have been expected of her.</p>
5. Nomination of Treasurer	Hilary thanked Mary Cearns for all her hard work over the year she had held the post. Christine Shaw of Edwalton & Gamston U3A was the only volunteer for the post Treasurer and the appointment will be ratified at the next Regional Representative Council meeting in September. Christine Shaw was not present at the meeting.
6.	<p>To consider the proposal to remove Reference to the Regional Education & Development Officer (REDO) from the Constitution and to rename the East Midlands Regional Representative Council as East Midlands Regional Committee.</p> <p>John Lamb proposed that this item be considered in two parts. He also noted that the Agenda made no mention of the Proposal Document item to appoint a sub-committee to look at the changes to the Constitution.</p>
6.i To consider the proposal to remove reference to the REDO from the Constitution.	<p>The proposal was considered and voted on. Proposed by John Redshaw and seconded by Pat Reeve. For the proposal 30, against 2, abstentions 2. The proposal was carried.</p> <p>It was suggested by Chesterfield that voting should be on a pro rata basis in future as happens at the national conference. This would be considered when amending the Constitution.</p>

6.ii To consider the proposal to rename the East Midlands Regional Representative Council as East Midlands Regional Committee.	There was considerable discussion on this subject. Some members were happy with a name change, some said we should stay as a Council not a Committee, some offered alternative names. It was pointed out by the Regional Trustee that we are the only Region not known as a Committee and the word Council makes it sound like too many layers of bureaucracy. The consensus was that the name should remain as East Midlands Regional Representative Council and the motion to change was not carried.
7. To confirm the Officers and members of the RRC for 2015/16	<p>The Chair thanked Margaret Potter for her work as Secretary and also thanked those members of the RRC who have stood down this year.</p> <p>The following were confirmed as comprising the Regional Representative Council (RRC) for the following 12 months:</p> <p>Chair Hilary Wells (2013 – 2016) Regional Trustee Michaela Moody (2013 – 2016) Secretary Jane Pavier Perpetual Assistant Secretary Vacant Treasurer Chris Shaw (to be ratified) Shared Learning Contact Mandy Topp Derbyshire Rod Brennan (2012 – 2015) Derbyshire Geoff Belk (2014 – 2017) Derbyshire Alternate Carol Lockwood (2013 - 2016) Leicestershire & Rutland Vacant Leicestershire & Rutland John Redshaw (2014 – 2017) Leicestershire & Rutland Alternate Vacant Lincolnshire Elaine Lovell (2013 – 2016) Lincolnshire Sue Hewson (2013 – 2017) Lincolnshire Alternate Richard Johnston (2015 – 2018) Northamptonshire Vacant (2015 – 2018) Northamptonshire Vacant (2014 – 2017) Northamptonshire Alternate Phil Grace (2012 – 2015) Nottinghamshire Mary Mitchell (2014 – 2017) Nottinghamshire Vacant (2015 – 2018) Nottinghamshire Alternate Vacant (2015 – 2018)</p>
8. Any Other Business	<p>None had been notified to the secretary prior to the meeting. However, John Boulton said he was disappointed that so few U3As have sent representatives. The Chair said she, too, was disappointed but unfortunately it is not possible to make U3As attend.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked all those that have helped to organise this event, especially the Lincolnshire Team.</p>
<p>The meeting closed at 3.30pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 16 August 2016 at the Brackenhurst Campus of Nottingham Trent University, Southwell, Nottinghamshire.</p>	

MINUTES APPROVED AT THE 8th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Signed.....Monday 19th September 2016