

OUSA Sheffield Branch, Tuesday 27 January 2009

Ruskin's Tudor Square Sheffield

Draft Minutes of Meeting, including the face to face meeting at 8 pm on 27th January, and on line items from OUSA Regional Forum for Sheffield as at 3rd Feb 2009.

(Minutes remain draft till approval at next formal meeting on April 28th 2009)

1 Present:-

Cat Marshall Chair

Helen Griffiths

Nick Dibben Secretary

Peter Allan

Mike Goven

3 others via forum: Julia Patrick, Kathleen Eades, Trixie

Apologies:-

Robert Murray Treasurer, David Cox, Joanne Shaw (via forum)

2 Minutes of last meeting (AGM)

Accepted

3 Matters Arising:-

Agreed to keep meeting dates to last Tuesday of the month (list in AGM Minutes).

Agreed to appoint Helen Griffiths as Communication Officer for the branch, so she can submit the Newsletter to OUSA HQ

Helen to send Nick her OU identifier and he will send in the form to HQ - done - OUSA HQ have this request and are updating their records..

Agreed that Julia Patrick can manage the Forum and any issues about them to be raised with her. She has announced this on the First Class forum.

4 Newsletter

Julia will do an article on First Class. This could include the best way of quickly reaching the forums.

Cat will do an article on FaceBook.

Cat will do an introduction to herself as Chair.

We expressed concern about the time it takes to get a newsletter out by HQ, especially now they are proposing to do this via e-mail. The time it takes mean it is not possible to do an article about the conference asking for delegates as it may not come out before the deadline for agreeing delegates.

Helen agreed to contact OUSA to find more about the electronic version and its lead time.

We could still do a short article saying who had agreed to go?

Agreed a cut off of 14th February for articles for Newsletter. All material to go to Helen Griffiths. Helen has made the invitation for articles and the deadline on the forum.

Kath Eades has sent in her suggestions for the Newsletter - see the Branch First Class forum.

5 Futures article from OUSA HQ

The questions were mostly inward looking. We wondered how it would be possible to survey students to obtain views on what they want from a local OUSA group.

One proposal is that Sheffield become the S Yorks branch.

Agreed that attendance at Conference and networking with other branch and regional students will help clarify these issues.

6 Social meetings for 2009

Agreed to keep to last Tuesdays for now see below for dates.

Suggestions were - if we can apply as a group there are resources in Sheffield eg free guided tours of galleries etc, cheaper theatre tickets.

Kath Eades has posted her suggestions on the First Class Sheffield Branch forum.

7 AOB

FaceBook - Cat suggested a competition for a photograph taken by a student that could be used on the FaceBook site to represent OUSA Sheffield.

FaceBook could provide a bridge for ex students who might be coming back as OU students - a form of honorary membership of OU.

FaceBook - need more than one administrator, Cat to contact David.

Forums - give Monday as last day for comments prior to a face to face meeting, then a week after the face to face for comments on the meeting.

Conference - agreed Cat and Helen attend. We have at least 3, maybe 4 places so if others wish to go, please contact Cat.

Cat Marshall has passed on invite to OUSA open day (via the forum) on 27 June 09 at Walton hall, Julia and Cat thinking of going.

OUSA HQ has offered a DVD promoting OUSA membership for use by branches if wished. You can view the video by following the web link in a posting on our Branch forum from Michael White - 'Take a look'.

8 Dates of Next meeting:-

Social - 24 Feb, 24 Mar, 28 Apr, 26 May (day after B Hol), 30 Jun, 28 Jul, 25 Aug, 29 Sep, 27 Oct, 24 Nov, AGM possibly 8 Dec, all at Ruskins at 8 pm

Business - 28 April at Ruskin at 8 pm for report back on Conference.