



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

## U3A ACCORD

Caves, Cottingham AWAKE (Anlaby, Willerby & Kirk Ella), Howden and District, Hornsea and District, Driffield and Wolds, Pocklington, Beverley and District and Hull)

### Open door arrangements for U3A members

Several years ago the U3As of Beverley and District, Caves, Cottingham, Hessle and Swanland formed the Accord network in order to share information, experience and ideas for their mutual benefit. Subsequently AWAKE (Anlaby, Willerby & Kirk Ella), Howden and District, Hull, Hornsea and District, Driffield and Wolds and Pocklington have been welcomed into the group. Meetings are held at approximately 3 monthly intervals and are attended by 2 Committee members (usually the Chairperson or Secretary and one other) from each U3A. There are some rules/guidelines to ensure the system operates fairly and is not abused. Individual U3As may vary the detail but are asked to honour the principles.

#### PROTOCOL FOR RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS:

1. To avoid confusion and/or problems, it would be helpful to develop common practice so all know how the system should work. The system can apply to our Interests Groups, monthly meetings and other events.

#### INTEREST GROUPS

2. U3A members may request access to no more than 2 Interest Groups of another U3A within HUMBER ACCORD on the understanding that this would not necessitate them paying the local/host U3A membership fee. They would be expected to pay the same group subscriptions, or other fees that are paid by existing group members. Attendance at more than 2 groups will require payment of the full membership fee minus the capitation fee.
3. For all Interest Groups – the leader has total discretion about whether their group can accommodate an increase in membership or has space for guest visitors on an occasional basis. U3A
4. Group Leaders may wish to prioritise membership to their own U3A. This can be done by limiting external access until after a stated cut-off date or any other suitable system.
5. U3A Members should always contact the leader of the group that they wish to attend – before attending. They should not just “drop in” on an ad hoc basis.
6. If space within the Interest Group is limited and the applicant has to be denied access, it is expected that this would be done with normal courtesy by both parties. The applicant may be added to any Waiting list operating for local members.
7. All such members would be covered by the normal National U3A Insurance.

#### GENERAL MEETINGS

8. A member of any U3A is allowed to attend as a guest a couple of general meetings of another Accord U3A (paying any normal meeting fee). Similarly, they may be present at their AGM but should not speak except by permission of the Chairman. They are not allowed to vote. In all cases names should be recorded in the register as guests. To continue to attend these general meeting those people should become full members of that U3A and pay the normal subscription fee minus the relevant capitation fee.
9. Please note that many of the venues within the HUMBER ACCORD area have limited space and therefore attendance at monthly meetings will be limited and guest attendance may be refused. It is expected that this would be done with normal courtesy by both parties.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

10. These guidelines can be reviewed in the future to ensure that it is working well, to everyone’s benefit and that any practical problems are minimised. This should be done at reasonable intervals especially if any problems or issues arise through the Open Door Arrangements and should be dealt with by the host U3A.