

**Minutes of Alnwick U3A Annual General Meeting
held on 17th October 2019 at St Michael's Church Hall**

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Peter Carter, Liz Cartner, Jacqui Edwards, Jean and Mike Findlay, Richard Higginbottom, Alan and Judith Hudson, Trisha Macdonald, Angela Marvin, Douglas Ramsey, Ann and Gordon Turner, Valerie West and Barbara Wood.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the AGM held on 18th October 2018 were accepted as a true record.
Proposed: Eileen Peckham; seconded: Marjorie Smail

3. Chairperson's Report

Meryl McConnell welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all members for their support throughout the year.

It had been a particularly busy year for the committee, who had gone through the process of registering the U3A with the Charity Commission, making necessary changes to the constitution, updating and drawing up new policies, redesigning the enrolment process and improving record keeping systems. An EGM had been held to approve the changes to the constitution.

Members had enjoyed the wide range of activities provided by the various groups., including outings and field trips arranged by the architecture, history, archaeology and walking groups. Some groups had had a change of co-ordinator, music appreciation and the computer group had gone into abeyance and line dancing had started. On behalf of everyone, Meryl thanked group co-ordinators for all their hard work.

Those who went on the summer outing to Edinburgh had thoroughly enjoyed the day and many had taken the opportunity to travel part of the way on the recently opened railway from Galashiels. A holiday on the Isle of Wight was planned for April 2020.

We continued to be involved with Northumbria Region and the North Northumberland Network. Committee members had attended regional meetings and training events and had met with representatives of Berwick, Wooler and Coquetdale (Rothbury) U3As. Members had attended regional events at the Centre for Life. No one from Alnwick had attended the National Conference and AGM this year.

Meryl thanked the two members of the committee who would not be continuing - Colin Watson, who had resigned during the year, and Trisha Macdonald, who would be standing down. Meryl was sure that everyone would like to thank Trisha for her tireless efforts in the thankless task of organising refreshments at meetings and Christmas festivities. She also thanked Anne McMillan for offering to take on the task.

In conclusion, Meryl thanked the committee for their support and hard work and reminded members that 2020 would be our 20th Anniversary and that preparations were already underway to celebrate the occasion.

4. Treasurer's Report

George Ellames presented the accounts for the year, which were accepted.
Proposed: Andrew Smail; seconded: Miriam Imrie

5. Appointment of Examiner of Accounts

Brian Ellis had agreed to examine the accounts for the following year.

6. Election of Committee

Pat Ashton and John Godfrey had completed 3 three years and were willing to stand again for re-election.

Kathy Platt had completed two years and was willing to continue.

Meryl McConnell, Maureen Stephenson and Trisha Macdonald had completed one year after re-election. Meryl and Maureen were willing to continue, but Trisha wished to stand down.

Julia Grieveson and Doris Hinshaw had completed one year as full members, having been co-opted the previous year. They were willing to continue.

George Ellames had completed one year and was willing to continue.

Tom Boroughs agreed to join the committee.

It was proposed that the following members be elected to serve on the committee:

Pat Ashton, John Godfrey, Kathy Platt, Meryl McConnell, Maureen Stephenson, Julia Grieveson, Doris Hinshaw, George Ellames and Tom Boroughs

Proposed: Anne McMillan; seconded: Eileen Packham