

Lincoln Bailgate U3A  
AGM  
18th April 2023  
Nightingale Rooms

PRESENT

Tony Wass (TW) Chair  
Derek Cottrell (DC) Vice Chair and Website Manager  
Angela Pullen (AP) Group Co-ordinator  
Linda Mason (LM)  
Melody Cottrell (MC)  
Jill Allen (JA) Minutes Secretary

WELCOME

TW welcomed everyone to the meeting, stating this was the first normal AGM since COVID, so it covers the time from November 2021. There was a good attendance.

APOLOGIES

Baz Aveyard (BA) Business Secretary  
David Hunt (DH) Treasurer  
Christine Elsmore (CE) Membership Secretary

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

TW stated that as a vital part of our organisation the Committee has functioned very well. Two members were stepping down - Linda Mason, and Baz Aveyard - and he thanked them for their hard work, adding that without a Business Secretary we cannot function and need to find a member to take up that role. The 13 activity groups are now functioning normally, as are the Monthly Meetings with their speakers, though it would be good if more members attended them. Current membership is down from around 100 pre-COVID. [Membership was confirmed as 62 to 4th April in the Financial Report - see below.] Finally, he thanked everyone for their support, and the support of the Committee over this difficult period.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared by DH and read out by DC.

Bank Account	£ 1848. 81
Petty Cash Float	<u>37.53</u>
	£ 1886.34
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Annual Income

Subscriptions	£ 1211. 00
Monthly Meetings	<u>716. 00</u>
	<u>£ 1927. 00</u> £ 1927. 00

Expenses

Rent £ 360. 00  
Caterers 646. 00  
Speakers 502. 00  
Capitation 320. 00  
Sundries (includes

two membership  
refunds)

50.24  
£ 1878.24 £ 1878.24

Surplus £ 48. 76

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There were 62 Members to 4th April 2023 plus 2 new members today.

Asked why there is so much surplus money, and what will it be spent on, DC explained that membership fees will not increase this year *because* of the surplus. TW explained some surplus was accumulated because when COVID began we had already received that year's subscriptions, but the Capitation fees were reduced. And, because expenses will increase while membership fees remains the same, the surplus will reduce.

Action: The Committee to discuss how any remaining surplus might be used - eg for the Christmas function. Someone suggested booking more expensive and therefore higher quality Speakers. TW remarked that no complaints had been received about any Speaker. DC reported that some Speakers, being U3A members, did not charge anything, and that this year Speakers will probably have to increase their fees. Proposer to accept the Financial Report - Sylvia Heller. Seconded - Ruth Drake. Approved.

#### PROPOSAL TO CHANGE OUR BRANCH NAME

Entering "Lincoln U3A" into an internet search engine produces no mention of Bailgate branch, while both "Bailgate Lincoln U3A" and "Lincoln Bailgate U3A" do. TW asked members to indicate their preference via a show of hands, which unanimously favoured the latter. He proposed to change the name to Lincoln Bailgate U3A. Seconded - Margaret Chegwidden. Approved.

#### ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

TW asked for members' opinion on whether to adopt the National U3A Constitution or to keep Bailgate's as is. A member pointed out that they are not familiar with the National version, so they were not in a position to decide - and also asked why a change was being considered. Action: Committee to discuss this further.

#### APPOINTMENT OF NEW OFFICERS

Current Committee

Officers:

Tony Wass Chair [until 2024]

Derek Cottrell Vice Chair and Website Manager [until 2024]

David Hunt Treasurer

Non Officers:

Christine Elsmore Membership Secretary [until 2024]

Angela Pullen Group Co-ordinator [until 2024]

Melody Cottrell

Jill Allen Minutes Secretary [until 2024]

and

Margaret Chegwidden volunteered as Business Secretary [until 2026]

Proposed by Sandra Thompson. Seconded by Valerie Skelton. Approved.

Officer roles have a limit of three years (with a possible extension of one year).

Officers can switch to non-officer roles up to a maximum of a total of six years.

No-one volunteered to be Speaker Finder. However, after the meeting three members offered to form a Sub Committee to carry out these duties: Pam Simpson, Susan Sproson, and Valerie Skelton. (Speakers are already booked till November.)

#### GROUPS

AP stated that new groups are needed to attract new members, and that some groups are full. She said the following new groups had been suggested by members:

Dominoes

Art Appreciation

Knit and Natter

Discussion Group "Making the Most of Retirement"

Thanks were given to members who had rescued two flagging groups: Local History and Poetry. More suggestions invited and received from the floor:

Church Visiting

Theatre Group

A sheet of paper for each group was produced for members to record their interest which some did.

ANNUAL TRIP - organised by Pam Simpson. Members spoke of enjoying this year's trip to Weymouth. Next year: Eastbourne 29th March 2024 - £269. TW presented Pam with an envelope from members in appreciation of her services.

Before closing, Ronnie Preston, Welfare Officer, asked to be informed when any member becomes unwell or dies.

Meeting closed at 14.45 hrs.

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