

BISHOP'S STORTFORD U3A
Minutes of the 29TH Annual General Meeting held at the Methodist Church, Bishop's Stortford
14th April, 2014

The meeting was opened at 14.30 by the Chairman, Jenny McGregor, who extended a warm welcome to all.

1) Apologies for absence: Tony Henderson, Denise and Michael Kennard, Terry Robinson

2) Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and Chairman's report

The minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting were not read out by the Chairman as they had been published on the website and available via hard copy throughout 2013 for perusal and comment.

They were accepted as a true and correct record.

Proposed: Beryl Smith
Seconded: Susan Shaw

The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

3) Matters Arising

None

4) Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Jenny McGregor gave her report for 2013/14

Copy attached to the April 2014 Minutes. Available on the website or via hard copy upon request.

In particular she thanked retiring committee member Tony Henderson, who was not present, for his unstinting dedication to U3A and the committee for over 20 years. He had been presented with a small token of appreciation prior to the AGM.

The Chairman was asked if we were going to have an Honourary President to which she replied that there is provision for one, but no decision had been made.

5) Treasurer's Report and the Appointment of Examiner

The examined accounts for 2013 were presented.

The Treasurer, Alasdair Hidden, gave his report and addressed various items in the accounts. Copy attached to these minutes or available on the website or via hard copy upon request.

Questions from Members were answered including a question regarding what the committee considered as the correct balance in cash to be held in the bank account. The Treasurer stated that this was considered to be around £6 to £7K. The fact that we have received a considerable amount in Gift Aid had enabled this balance to be maintained without increasing the annual membership subscription. The Treasurer also endorsed the policy that groups are self supporting and that U3A is a self help organisation, and that the committee is more than willing to give new and existing groups support on this basis.

The examined accounts for the year ended 31st December 2013 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Kathleen Hird
Seconded: Mary Wilson

6) Approval of the Examiner of Accounts (Auditor)

The Treasurer thanked the Examiner, Robert Inglis, for his advice and diligence and stated that Mr. Inglis would receive a small token of gratitude from the Committee and that he had agreed to examine the accounts for 2014.

The meeting was asked to approve the appointment of Mr. Inglis to examine the 2014 accounts.

Proposed: Doris Baker
Seconded: Jean Hootton

7. Approval of the New Constitution

The new constitution based on the model constitution drawn up by U3A National Office had been available for inspection, perusal and comment since October 2013. There were no questions or comments, therefore, it was proposed and seconded that the new constitution be approved and adopted and put into action forthwith.

Proposed: Richard Cawse
Seconded: Valerie Robinson

8. Election of Officers

Under the new constitution the committee can consist of up to 12 members.

As previously stated Tony Henderson is standing down after serving many years as a valuable member of the committee.

Nomination forms had been received for the following full committee members.

Alan Draper and Jeff Poynter.

The Chairman introduced the proposed committee going forward for 2014/15.

The Chairman asked for a proposer and seconder to accept the new nominations to the committee and accept existing members willing to stand for a further term of office.

Proposed: Maureen Draper

Seconded: Barbara Beston

The committee for 2014/2015

Chairman	Jenny McGregor
Vice Chairman	Richard Cawse
Treasurer	Alasdair Hidden
Secretary	Christine Robinson
Membership secretary and Groups Co-ordinator	Rose Anderson
Outings/Events Co-ordinator	Christine Miller
Website Co-ordinator and Assistant Diary Compiler	Alan Draper
Members	Cyril Merrison Susan Shaw Jeff Poynter
Speaker Arranger	Derek Francis (Co-opted member)

Any Other Business

As there had been no written questions submitted for the AGM the meeting closed at 3p.m.

The AGM was followed by a speaker from Town Twinning – David Smith.

Website address <http://u3asites.org.uk/bishops-stortford>