

BRANSTON & DISTRICT U3A
Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 28 March 2023
Branston Village Hall 2pm

1 Welcome

Garry Snelson (Chair), welcomed everyone to the AGM and explained the housekeeping and evacuation procedures. He also thanked all those who had helped with the hall preparation and catering. He presented Ann Kennedy and Lucille Auckland, the retiring catering organisers, with bouquets in appreciation of their help and support. He also welcomed Annie Nash, who has agreed to oversee the catering at the monthly meeting.

There being 252 members and 86 members in attendance, he declared the meeting to be quorate.

2. Apologies for Absence

Marjorie Barr, James Hewson, Brian Sentance, Janet Webb, Sarah Packwood, Patrick Packwood, Carol Bland, Diane Oxby, Marcus Stead, Jo Randerson, Frank and Andrea White, Linda Chapman, Terry and Christine Skilbeck, John Dungate, Yvonne Pierce, Heather and Michael Sharpe.

3. Matters Arising from and Approval of the Minutes of the AGM held on 22 March 2022

There were no comments, so Eileen McKelvey proposed, and Bill Randerson seconded, that the Minutes be approved and accepted. All agreed, no abstentions.

4 Matters Arising from and Approval of the Minutes of the EGM held on 25 October 2022.

There were no comments, so Rick Smok proposed, and Robert Waltz seconded, that the Minutes be approved and accepted. All agreed, no abstentions.

5. Chair's Report

I would like to say thank you to the Committee, Convenors and everybody who has helped me during the last 3 years.

There has been a lot of changes and a few notable firsts during that time. I took over as Chair during lockdown and like a lot of people used ZOOM for the first time, which was a challenge in itself. I hope you all found the ZOOM meetings of benefit as we were all confined to our own bubbles.

Once we were able to restart meetings, I am told I am the only Chair to stand here to say the speaker hasn't turned up! Another 1st was our u3a stand at Heighington Christmas Market. It was an interesting day promoting our group and talking to people directly (obviously it helps if you have good weather, which we did).

Some groups have finished and new ones started such as the Ukulele band that will perform for us after the AGM. The various groups go from strength to strength and I am sure this helps attract new members. In fact our membership currently stands at 252, which includes 7 new members since last month's meeting. Don't forget, if you enjoy your u3a tell others and bring them along to the various meetings - visitors are always welcome.

Please remember this is YOUR U3A and your help is required to run it, both the Interest Groups and the General Committee.

I wish the new Chair, Jane Haresign, the Committee and Convenors continued success for the future.

6. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Accounts

As at 31 January 2023 the Branston and District u3a Main Account has a reconciled balance of £ 3584.55

The yearend accounts show a deficit of £606.00

This deficit was expected as subscription amounts for the 2022/23 year were kept at a reduced amount in an attempt to maintain membership levels, and move towards a full programme of speakers, events and activities during 2022.

Room Hire costs for 2022 show an increase on the previous year as we were once again able to meet every month.

Speaker fees are largely unchanged, thanks to careful and varied choice of speakers by Chris, our speaker secretary.

The increase in catering costs was largely due to our Jubilee Celebrations, which included cake & prosecco.

Increased stationery costs include the purchase of leaflets to promote our u3a. These have been distributed around local surgeries, coffee shops and libraries in the area. We also had a promotional stall at Heighington Christmas Market.

The Social account grant of £408 related to the summer barbecue and social where it was agreed that a £6 per head subsidy would be given to members attending.

The Christmas fish and chip meal in December was self-funding.

We were fortunate to receive a grant of £572.06 from Lincoln Coop after a successful application to be one of their Community Champions during 2022. Part of this money has been used for the purchase of new display boards.

Given the balance of £3584.55, as a committee, we have agreed to keep the annual subscription for the coming year at the same rate as 2022. (£10 single, £18.50 joint)

Bill Green proposed and Peter Robinson seconded that the accounts be accepted, the motion was passed unanimously with no abstentions.

7. Appointment of Examiner of Accounts

Lynn Snelson proposed and Tony Chapman seconded that James Kelsey should be reappointed to the post. All agreed, no abstentions.

8. Members' Motions

There were no motions.

9. Election of Committee Members

The membership was asked to confirm Jane Haresign as the Chair for 2023-4: this was confirmed unanimously. Candidates for election to the Committee were Rick Smok (Groups Co-ordinator) proposed by Anne Pickersgill and seconded by Rob Waltz, Marjorie Barr (Welfare Officer) proposed by Anne Pickersgill and seconded by Maggie Decaux, and Diane Prettie (Committee Member) proposed by Val Sargent and seconded by Marjorie Barr. All candidates were elected unanimously with no abstentions.

10 Vote of thanks to retiring Committee Members

The new Chair, Jane Haresign, proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Chair, Garry Snelson, and in their absence to Chris Hodson and James Hewson. She presented Garry with a token of appreciation.

11 Date of the next AGM

Tuesday 26 March 2024.

There being no further business, The AGM closed at 2.18pm