

Buxton & District u3a
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AGM
held on Monday 11/04/2022 1110
Buxton Methodist Church

1. WELCOME

Permission was given by those present for the meeting to be recorded for the purpose of minute taking after which the recording will be deleted

CHAIR'S REPORT

Welcome to everyone and thank you for coming along today. To ensure all members could participate during the uncertainty of the Covid 19 pandemic, the voting process took place by post and electronic voting earlier in the month. The closing date for votes cast was 31st March 2022. Prior to this there was an opportunity for members to attend an open forum on 14th March 2022 to raise any questions with the committee. Therefore the purpose of this notional AGM is to share the results with members and to update you with future plans

PRESENT

Committee: Fiona McIntosh (Chair), Tineke Bosma (Webmaster), Andrew Matthews (Group Leader Liaison), Gwyneth Rees (Membership Secretary), Sue Vernon (Business Secretary), Janet Bullard (PR & Communications Officer) plus 29 members present and 7 members via Zoom

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Zena Bishop, Joe Brown (Treasurer), John & Sue Anfield, Prem Kumar (Examiner of Accounts) Colin & Pam Rogers

3. THE RESULTS

PARTICIPATION

For the purposes of the AGM, involvement was represented by participation in the voting process.

The total number of completed Voting Papers received was 128

This was made up of: 9 paper forms 119 Google voting forms

The results are as follows:

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF AGM HELD ON 12th MAY 2021

Proposer: Gwyneth Rees

Seconder: Tineke Bosma

Voting result

<u>For</u>	115
<u>Against</u>	0
<u>Abstentions</u>	12
<u>Left blank</u>	1

The minutes of the AGM held on the notional date of 12th MAY 2021 were ACCEPTED

B. ACCEPTANCE OF THE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DEC 2021

Proposer: Fiona McIntosh

Seconder: Sue Vernon

Voting result

For	122
Against	0
Abstension	6
Left blank	0

The report and accounts for the year ending 31st December 2021 were ACCEPTED

C. RESOLUTION FOR THE SUNSCRIPTIONS TO BE ADJUSTED BY UP TO A MAXIMUM £10 UP OR DOWN WITHOUT THE REQUIRMENT TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE MEMBERSHIP.

Proposer: Joe Brown

Seconder: Fiona McIntosh

For	94
Against	27
Abstension	6
Left blank	1

The resolution was ACCEPTED

D. PREM KUMAR AS EXAMINER OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2022

Proposer: Joe Brown

Seconder: Andrew Matthews

Voting result

For	127
Against	0
Abstensions	1
Left blank	0

Prem Kumar WAS APPOINTED Examiner of Accounts for the financial year 2022

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

JANET BULLARD AS PR& COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Proposer: Tineke Bosma

Seconder: Gwyneth Rees

For	126
Against	0
Abstensions	1
Left blank	1

Janet Bullard was APPOINTED as PR & Communications Officer

I am delighted that Janet has now joined the committee I know she will be a great asset and we all look forward to working with her.

Chair's report.

You all received a copy of my report and those of other members of the committee online so I will not repeat myself here. However, I will say that I am pleased that we are seeing some light at the end of the tunnel after a very difficult 2 years for everyone. I think you will all agree that we want to look to the future now and try put the events of the last 2 years behind us. So now I would like to take this opportunity to talk about the coming year.

You have all had 2 monthly bulletins from me and I hope that the content is of interest to you. I want to avoid sending too many emails and we thought that the monthly bulletin was a good way to get the latest news out to you, give information about the monthly talk and use it to publicise local events that might be of interest.

40th Anniversary of the u3a

This is occurring nationally this year and we are hoping that we will be collaborating with other u3a's in Derbyshire to celebrate this. The main anniversary week is September 19th to the 24th We have organised a tree planting in Whaley Bridge Memorial Park on September 30th which I hope you will come along to. Sarah Ward the local novelist, who gave a talk here recently has agreed to plant the tree and we are hoping to encourage local dignitaries to join us.

Tea will be served afterwards in a nearby church hall and we will use this event also as an opportunity to invite the Group Leaders specifically to thank them for their hard work. There wouldn't be a u3a to celebrate without them.

We were delighted to hear about a successful meeting of walking groups recently when one of our walking group's hosted a u3a group from Southport for 3 days. It must have involved a lot of effort and we applaud you for it. Any more ideas or ventures do tell us about and let us know if we can offer any assistance as a committee

The Rotary Spring Fair

This is on Saturday 28th May, last year's Autumn fair was a great success so please come along and support us again. We generated a lot of interest and some new members & we even recruited Janet there!

Recruitment campaign

It is no secret that we have our numbers have depleted over the last 2 years. There are many factors, Covid just being one of them. So, our challenge this year is to recruit new members to the organisation and also to create some new groups. If you would like to join the recruitment sub-committee, please let me know. we are meeting at the end of this month for our first meeting. The more people we have the more ideas will be generated.

We held a coffee & chat session for current members and to encourage interest from

possible members in Whaley Bridge on the 25th March; there was some local interest. We are hoping to repeat this in Buxton and in Chapel: more details will be in my next monthly bulletin.

The working party

We know that the fixed rate subscription has caused some debate, so we have created a working party outside of the committee, to look into alternative subscription systems. It is a complex issue, and it is not purely about the money but about the implementation and the administration required. There is no easy solution, so we have allowed time for the committee to look into all the options. We have asked for a report by the end of September and if there are to be changes next year, we will have 6 months to put any proposal to you the members, before the next AGM. I would like to thank Ann Clark and her team for taking on this challenge.

Post Covid policy

To encourage the groups to restart we relaxed our policy of minimum numbers in groups. Although the major threat from Covid seems abated somewhat we have decided that we will continue to allow groups to meet in paid for venues regardless of the numbers involved. This will be reviewed in June this year.

Thank you

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our dedicated Group Leaders who do a fantastic job. We would not exist without you.

If any of you have an interest/hobby/activity that you think you could share, please let me know and I can put out a message to see if there is any interest in creating a new group. Remember you don't have to be a teacher, some group leaders co-ordinate the groups and the activity is run collectively. There are some u3a groups that disappeared during covid because of the nature of the activity such as board games, and it would be nice to see them return.

We do have new groups. It looks like we will have a Boules group starting very soon. We had a training session earlier this month and there is another session at the end of the month so hopefully in May we will be up and running with a new group of Boules players – or to give it its correct French name Petanque. Other new groups that have already started are Italian, Latin and a new Shakespeare group. We have 38 groups running at the moment which is a testament to all your hard work and enthusiasm

I would like to offer a special thanks to Charles Huff who has been brilliant keeping our general meetings going out on Zoom and for his great understanding of all the technical requirements in this hall.

I would also like to thank Prem Kumar for examining our accounts and being willing to continue this coming year. Also, to our excellent treasurer, Joe Brown who agreed to stay on the committee for a further year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my fellow committee members for all their commitment and hard work over the last year. They are a real pleasure to work with and I know we would all want to thank them for giving of their time and effort so freely.

Can I remind you all at this time that we are looking for new committee members for all positions, to take over at the next AGM. If you are interested, you can come along and shadow us to see if it appeals.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you: our members for your support and for sticking with us over these difficult times

Thank you.

Matters arising

None

AOB

- a) It was stressed that we will need a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for the new committee starting April 2023. Our Constitution states that these are the mandatory roles that are required for the u3a to function. Without these positions the u3a will have to fold.

- b) Anne Rogerson gave a vote of thanks to the committee for all their hard work in keeping our u3a running in such difficult times.

Meeting declared closed 1132.

Addendum 12/04/2022

Thank you

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Fiona made the point that all committee positions will need to be filled but Janet Bullard will be continuing as PR & Communications Officer and Jean Evanson will continue in the role of General Meetings Organise