

Minutes of the Twenty Fifth Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 11th April 2023 in St Mary's Centre, Clitheroe.

u3a Clitheroe Officers: Marjorie Taylor (Chair), Janet Elliott (Vice-Chair), Paul Fisher (Treasurer), Eileen Narain (Business Secretary)

1. Apologies: Margaret Cunliffe, Paul Fisher, Patrick Gavin, Pam Hope, John Marchant, Margaret Marchant, Allan Myers, Trichia Myers, Rachel Pallister, Janet Rudd, Lena Talbot, Su Whitehead, Pauline Whittle

2. The Chair confirmed the appointment of two tellers for the meeting: Ginny Aighton and Sue Walton.

3. Minutes of the 24th AGM had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Minutes were accepted as an accurate record. Proposer: Jenny Grimes, Seconder: Barbara Milne-Redhead.

4. The Chairman gave her report, a copy of which can be found in the Minutes Folder and on the website. Marjorie took the opportunity to celebrate the thriving u3a Clitheroe and the vision of the u3a to make lifelong learning a reality through Learn, Laugh, Live, allowing us to share our knowledge and expertise with each other through the interest groups.

Newsflash and the website allow us to share information and Marjorie thanked Frank Taylor and Robin Taylor for their diligent work.

Coffee mornings allow us to promote the groups and attract new members. Marjorie thanked Janet Elliott, Lesley Crosland and Eileen Narain for organising these.

Publicity -Thanks go to Mary Ann Renton as Publicity Officer for her reports on the organisation's events.

General Meetings - Marjorie thanked all those involved in making our monthly meetings successful; Colin Wright from St Mary's Centre, Lynne Carr and Jean Hart who organise the Meet and Greet team, and Liz Wolstenholme and Sue Monk for organising the supplies of tea, coffee, biscuits etc. for the refreshments.

Thanks also to Roy Gonsalves for planning the speakers for our monthly meetings, and to Jonathan Pickup and Brian Hudson for preparing the sound system. The new seating arrangement where members can sit down for a drink and chat before the commencement of the meeting has been most successful.

Interest groups - Marjorie reported that she had visited most of the groups and continues to encourage members to try something new. We now have 28 groups which are successful due to the hard work of the Group Convenors and the Groups Co-ordinator, Jenny Grimes. Two groups, Poetry and Gardening, are in need of convenors and Roy Gonsalves would like to start up an instrumental group.

Short courses – 2 short courses have taken place, a course on Fashion by Jacquie Melia, and one on Literature by Meg Shaw.

Trustees – Marjorie thanked the Committee for their hard work and support of her over the last year.

Membership – Marjorie thanked David Grimes for his work in keeping accurate and up to date records of our membership. She reported that bank transfer and credit/debit card payments are now the preferred method of payment.

Special Events – Marjorie thanked all those involved with the planning and organisation of the u3a 40th anniversary celebrations and the Christmas event, in particular Gill Kilbey and Liz Wolstenholme.

Finally Marjorie thanked all members for contributing to a vibrant u3a Clitheroe.

5 Treasurer's Report - Robin Taylor presented the report on behalf of Paul Fisher. Copies had been sent out with the March Newsflash and can be seen on the website The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Charity Commission and agreed by the committee. Details of income and expenditure can be found on the U3A Clitheroe website. The bank balance at the end of the year was £5323.00.

The meeting approved acceptance of the examined accounts. Proposer: Bill Sprunt, Seconder: Steve Monks Robin proposed appointment of Emily Watnik, Treasurer of Longridge U3A, as Independent Examiner of accounts for 2023-24.

The meeting agreed to the appointment of Emily Watnik. Proposer: Diana Davies, Seconder: Janet Elliott.

6 The Groups Co-ordinator's Report - Jenny Grimes presented her report. A copy of the full report can be found on the website, and in the Minutes folder. She reported that 2022 had been a successful year with 27 groups back to full activities after the problems with Covid restrictions in 2021. She thanked all the convenors and those who support them, and also thanked Jacquie Melia and Meg Shaw for running short courses.

Jenny also reported that members are encouraged to carry some form of In Case of Emergency information with them, particularly on trips. These can either be in the form of an ICE card which can be carried in a wallet or purse, or by having information about emergency contacts on mobile phones. ICE cards can be obtained from Jenny or the Secretary.

7 Election of Officers and Committee 2023 - 2024 Majorie reported that Eileen Narain was standing down as Business Secretary. Fortunately, Julie Whitehead had put herself forward for nomination for the post. The terms of office of Gill Kilby, Roy Gonsalves, David Grimes and Robin Taylor have come to an end. Robin Taylor, David Grimes and Roy Gonsalves have agreed to be nominated for a further term and will continue in their roles as Newsflash Editor, Membership Secretary and Speaker Secretary respectively. There being no other nominees, the Chair was pleased to confirm the newly elected members of the committee as published with the agenda.

RESOLUTIONS

To adopt Part I of the revised Constitution as published on the website and in Newsflash.

The Secretary explained that U3a Clitheroe had been unable to register the complete constitution as adopted in 2022 with the Charity Commission as prior permission for changing the precedent clauses in Part I had not been obtained. U3a Clitheroe had sought advice about this from the Trust but had been informed that as we were adopting the model constitution agreed between the Trust and the Charity Commission it was not necessary to seek prior permission. However this is not the case and the Charity Commission does require prior permission. This has now been given but the Charity Commission did require Part I of the revised constitution to be put to the membership. There have been no changes to Part I since the 2022 AGM.

The adoption of Part I of the revised constitution was passed unanimously. Proposer: Eileen Narain, Seconder: Jonathan Pickup.

Marjorie thanked those retiring from the committee: Gill Kilbey for her work on the Special Events team and Eileen Narain as Business Secretary.

At the end of the formal meeting David Grimes, Membership Secretary, presented a report on current membership numbers. There are currently 361 members of which 47 are new members in 2023. 48 members decided not to renew their membership for a variety of reasons and 4 members sadly died during the past year.

David explained the transition of the organisation of collecting membership fees over the last few years. Whereas previously fees had been paid in person at the general meetings by cash or cheque which had not been possible during the pandemic, U3a Clitheroe has now moved to collection of fees by bank transfer or credit/debit cards where possible.

Date of the next AGM

9th April 2024.

Eileen Narain Secretary
12th April 2023