

Minutes of 28th Annual General Meeting of Fife U3A held at St Bryce Kirk on 12 May 2022

Present – Executive Committee: John McArthur (JM), Muir Shaw (MS), Susan Kirkwood (SK), Sadie Seath, Jean Black, Sheena Lawson, Val Robertson

Members: Eileen Barnbrook, Ruth Beddall, Anna Bennett, Irene Campbell, Gina Carnegie, Avril Carroll, Susie Clark, Maureen Closs, Gillian Dooley, Vicky Duke, Helen Frier, Sheila Gillam, Alice Gordon, Phyllis Gray, Catherine Johnstone, Isobel Kynoch, Marion Lackie, Jess Lawson, Peter Leigh, Shelagh Logan, Elizabeth McArthur, Sheila McLean, Shan Mitchell, Jean Morris, Linda Muir, Steve Petts, Ann Pollard, Jan Rea, Tom Reid, Isabel Riddell, Elise Shaw, Mary Smith, Rose Smith, Diana Steedman, Joy Tibbett, Janice Urquhart, Margaret Waby, Evelyn Walker, Ursula Wall, Carol Watson, Caroline Wright

Apologies: Jeanette Arnett, Margaret Craig, Christine Gillan, Sean Gillan, Jane Halloran, Penelope Klein, Stephen Klein, Jill Marshall, Lynn Moy, Stephen Moy, Colin Tremble.

JM opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, saying it was encouraging to see so many present. He continued by appealing once more for more members to come forward for the committee. A section of the constitution was read out explaining new members could come forward on the day if this was acceptable to those present. This was accepted unanimously by the meeting.

Approval of minutes of 27th AGM: Approval was proposed by Margaret Waby and seconded by Gillian Dooley. Agreed unanimously.

Annual Report (a)– Muir Shaw (to December 2021):

- The Office Bearers were Chairman Muir Shaw, Vice-chairman John McArthur, Secretary Penelope Klein, and Treasurer Susan Kirkwood.
- Because of Covid 19, nothing much happened for U3A members in June and July. To keep in regular contact with the membership it was agreed to continue publishing the Newsletter monthly. He thanked Jess Lawson for all her work on this.
- Our first face-to-face meeting was a Picnic/Treasure Hunt held in Beveridge Park on 12 August, attended by more than 30 members. This was followed on 20 August by a meeting of Group Leaders at which all groups were represented. To date, all but three groups have restarted, including a new Scrabble group.
- Monthly meetings continued on Zoom, with a full programme organised for the rest of the 2021/22 session.
- By November, all continuing groups had restarted and were running successfully. This being the case, it was decided to cut back newsletter publication, starting in January. It will be up to the new committee to decide on the future frequency of publication.
- In December we held our first indoor face-to-face meeting in almost two years In St Bryce Kirk. “We’re Walking backwards for Christmas” featured a film, a nostalgic look at old adverts, a quiz, and finished with a song. We managed to squeeze this in just before a new bout of government restrictions. It was hoped this was a short-term measure and that we would be able to restart by the end of January.

Annual Report (b) – John McArthur (from January 2022)

- Encouragingly, membership has increased, although still not to pre-Covid levels.
- The committee has undertaken much organisational work, including improving our website, Data Protection and Finance policies, a guide for Group Leaders, and an aide memoire schedule to guide the committee. Work is also ongoing to update our constitution.

- Face-to-face meetings were resumed with our Festive Lunch in January. We also resumed our monthly general meetings in February in St Bryce Kirk, and the programme for 2022/23 is substantially in place. Group meetings also restarted at this time.
- Thanks are due to all committee members for the work they have put in during the year. This also applies to those outwith the committee, including helping with the Newsletters, outings, and, of course, our Group Leaders. Their efforts go largely unnoticed, but we are in their debt for their contributions.
- During March John McArthur and Muir Shaw visited all but one of our indoor groups. These visits showed the good health of our groups and the fun, enjoyment, and satisfaction members received from these activities. Hopefully, this will continue into the future.

Presentation and adoption of annual accounts 2021/22 – Susan Kirkwood:

- The accounts showed a surplus position this year, because of our first application for Gift Aid. An annual gift aid claim will allow us to maintain the annual subscription at £12 for the year ahead.
- The accounts have been examined and approved by the independent examiner and are now available on the Fife U3A website.
- The accounts have been included in a report format this year. They will be submitted to the Office of the Scottish Charity Register (OSCR) and will become available for public view.
- SK proposed the adoption of the accounts. This was seconded by Jean Black and passed unanimously.

Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner – Susan Kirkwood

- SK proposed Sue Jack of Fife Voluntary Action should be re-appointed. This was seconded by Jess Lawson and agreed unanimously.

Election of committee members

The present committee now retired.

We had received seven completed nomination forms prior to the meeting and, further to JM's appeal earlier in the meeting, an eighth member has come forward.

The nominations are as follows:

Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Susan Kirkwood	Caroline Wright	Helen French
Sheena Lawson	Evelyn Walker	Penelope Klein
Sadie Seath	Jan Rea	Linda Young
Val Robertson	Willie Crombie	Maureen Closs
Shelagh Logan	Sheila Gillam	Elise Shaw
Colin Tremble	Jess Lawson	Elise Shaw
Evelyn Walker	Tom Reid	Mary Smith
Sheila Gillam	Shelagh Logan	Jan Rea

There being no further business, JM closed the meeting by thanking all members who took the time to participate in our AGM. Your continued support of the organisation is appreciated.