

Glossop U3A

Registered Charity Number – 1091836

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on October 29th 2020

1. Introduction. The meeting was held as a closed meeting online this year due to covid restrictions. Members participated by voting on resolutions in advance. With 231 members having paid subscriptions and 61 votes received the quorum was deemed to be met. The chair opened the meeting at 10.15am. Barbara Connah, Glyn Connah, Maureen Brierley, Diane Butterworth, Chris Blackett, Jo mortlock and Pam Zuntz were present. Apologies from Sue Vince, Barbara Craven, Jean Lowcock, Brigitte Manchee and Hazel Allman.

2. Minutes of the last AGM meeting. Proposed Maureen Brierley seconded Jo Mortlock that the minutes of the last AGM held on September 26th 2019 be accepted as a true record. Carried with 57 votes for, 1 against and 3 abstentions.

3. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.

4. Chair Persons Report. Barbara reported that the year started on a high note with our 25th anniversary celebrations at the Cricket Club. There were displays by the groups demonstrating their activities for everyone to see and we awarded life membership to four of our long serving and hardworking members.

Then the virus arrived and everything that happened before March had become a distant memory. Since then the committee has been busy cooperating with Maureen Hobson and Alice Shaw to organise refunds for trips where possible. Many thanks to Maureen Brierley and Chris Blackett who have delivered the cheques. The committee has been holding meetings on Zoom so we decided to have this meeting on 'Zoom' as well. It would be logistically too difficult to hold an open meeting but members have had the opportunity to vote on resolutions before the meeting.

One or two groups have tried to start up again but new restrictions mean it will not be possible to hold face to face meetings for now. Coffee mornings are suspended until further notice.

Unfortunately, some groups have had to close and I would like to thank all group leaders who have worked so hard in the past and are still working to keep things going. Thanks also to Barbara Craven who is stepping down from her post as Assistant Treasurer to concentrate on other important U3A activities including the Thursday Group.

Finally, I would like to thank Jean Lowcock for her work this year as Group and Activities Co-ordinator. Jean will be stepping down after the meeting.

5. Secretary's Report. Glyn said that the year started off with routine activities which for the Secretary means mostly taking minutes of meetings. There is very little correspondence in the post with most communication arriving by email. We get a newsletter every month from the Third Age Trust which anyone can register to receive. With the new website up and running we also receive enquiries direct to the Chair, mostly potential speakers.

Then the virus struck and we had to close down all our meetings. It has also meant a large amount of information from the Third Age Trust advising us each time the government guidelines changed. They also sent out a lot of ideas about keeping in touch. Chris Blackett has been putting all of this on the website, so we hope that members have been checking it out from time to time.

There has been a lot of work to do preparing letters to send out relating to the AGM as it is a closed meeting on Zoom this year. Also, as groups were preparing to restart, glyn was collecting covid risk assessments but this is all back on hold now. Let's hope that we can restart safely before too long.

6. Treasures Report. The Treasurer had circulated a copy of the Final Accounts and Balance Sheet for the financial year ending 31st August 2019 to all members prior to the meeting. A member

noticed a minor error in the figures shown for the previous year. This has been corrected and this year's accounts are correct.

Maureen stated that the purpose of this report is to inform the members of how the Trustees of Glossop U3A have used the members' money this year 2019-20.

All the Committee, as Trustees, have joint responsibility for the proper use and management of the U3A finances, including money paid at group meetings, and for trips and outings, and then to produce an annual statement in accordance to the laws applicable to charities. These Annual Accounts are a means to demonstrate the Trustees proper management of the members' money. During the year the Trustees are kept informed at regular committee meetings of the financial state of the U3A by the treasurer's reports, enabling them to have a regular and updated oversight of the accounts. The Trustees are responsible for ensuring our U3A is financially able to continue its activities and support of members' groups.

As a charity we come under the laws and rules of the Charity Commission and our annual accounts must include all income and expenditure and be reported to them. The Charity Commission rules specify certain financial bandings for the level of reporting and, whichever banding our charity turnover falls within, determines the extent and detail of accounts to be reported to them. Each year we calculate our charity's turnover based on all income and expenditure including all groups (even those with nil returns), and trips and outings. With our income, Glossop U3A produces Receipt and Payment Accounts.

Each group monitors its own finances, keeping their own records up to date throughout the year and then reporting their counter-signed end of year financial statements to the treasurer, (on behalf of the Trustees). The trips and outings organisers keep records for each individual trip or outing and reconcile each activity as soon as possible after the event has occurred, sending the reconciliation to the bookkeeper for agreement with the accounts and then on to the treasurer. This is a legal obligation with which the leaders, organisers and committee must comply.

The accounts are examined half-annually and annually, but this year the half-annual examination, due the end of March, was cancelled due to the Coronavirus lockdown. The full year check and examination has been completed by our examiner, Chris Parrack and, in his opinion, they show a true and fair picture of Glossop U3A's financial position at the end of 2019-20 and that the financial statement has been properly prepared as required.

The Coronavirus has had a difficult effect on our U3A with most meetings and activities closed since March. This, obviously, has had an effect on our U3A finances with less members joining through the year but still having to pay Third Age Trust membership fees and licences. The rents for the rooms normally hired at Bradbury House were cancelled. Six theatre trips, organised by Maureen Hobson, and two of Alice Shaw's outings were cancelled and members refunded. Another trip has now been postponed until sometime in 2021.

The committee decided to keep our U3A subscription for 2020-21 at £9.00 as was agreed by members at last year's AGM (2019-20) and to monitor costs through the coming year with regard to any increases in rents or Third Age Trust Subscription fees, licences and the size of the membership.

I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work and support during this difficult and different year. In particular many thanks to our assistant treasurer Barbara Craven for her work in banking monies received, to our bookkeeper Jo Mortlock for her assiduousness in keeping our books correct and to Chris Parrack for his end of year examination of our accounts.

Barbara Connah proposed that the accounts be accepted as accurate. Seconded Jo Mortlock. The resolution was carried with 58 votes in favour and 3 abstentions.

Maureen Brierley proposed that the annual subscription be raised to £10 to apply from September 2021. Seconded Chris Blackett. The resolution was carried with 52 votes in favour, 3 against and 6 abstentions.

7. Membership Secretary's Report.

Diane said she had enjoyed holding the position of Membership Secretary for the past 12 months.

Obviously, things turned out not as planned working with our successful routine.

She had worked hard & consistently along with our dedicated committee to keep Glossop U3A members connected during uncertain times. She feels that she knows all the members as she has contacted them all via phone or email.

Our members are very important to Glossop U3A. We look forward to renewing our membership for 20/21. We are always open to new ideas for groups & activities.

8. Group Co-ordinators Report. Jean posted the following report in absentia.

The following groups have closed. Not all due to COVID-19, most age related & ill health:

Easy Listening, Flower Arranging, Fun With Flowers, Genealogy, Jewellery Making, Strollers.

Some of the leaders have asked if any of their members wanted to take over the group. So far nobody as far as I know have taken up the request.

She is now stepping down from post.

9. Election of Officers and Committee

Nominations were received for the following:-

Group & Activities Coordinator – Pam Zuntz. Nominated by Diane Butterworth seconded by Chris Blackett.

Committee Member – Hazel Allman. Nominated by Glyn Connah seconded by Barbara Connah

Approval of these nominations and the re-election of existing trustees where appropriate was put to the members in the form of resolutions. Results of the voting are as follows:-

To re-appoint Barbara Connah as Chair for a further year. Agree 60 - 1 abstention

To re-appoint Maureen Brierley as Treasurer for a further year. Unanimous.

To re-appoint Glyn Connah as Secretary for a further year. Agree 60 Disagree 1

To appoint Pam Zuntz to the committee as Group and Activities Co-ordinator. Unanimous

To re-appoint Chris Blackett to the committee for a further year. Unanimous

To appoint Hazel Allman to the committee. Agree 60 – 1abstention

The above appointments are therefore confirmed.

All other Officers and Trustees will remain the same for the coming year.

10. Any Other Business

Members were offered the opportunity to table items for discussion, but none were received.

However, one member took the opportunity to post the following: "Just to congratulate the Committee on producing an excellent Autumn programme." There are still vacancies on the committee if they would care to volunteer.

The meeting closed at 10.35am

Glyn Connah (Committee Secretary)