

Minutes of the
14th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
PRESTON PARK u3a

Held on Thursday 2nd December 2021 at 2.15 pm

At Knoyle Hall, Knoyle Road, Brighton

The Chairman, John Colman, welcomed everyone to the meeting. After a very difficult year, it was good to see so many members present.

1. Apologies for absence

Not applicable.

2. Minutes of the last AGM on 3 December 2020

Having been on the PPU3a website for many months, these were deemed to be accepted and approval of the minutes was proposed and seconded. There were no Matters Arising from the minutes.

3. To approve the return of an annual subscription to £14

Last year the subscription was halved due to the pandemic. This year it is proposed that the annual subscription reverts to £14 a year. This was proposed and seconded and approval given.

4. Chair's Report

The Chairman gave his annual report which is available on the website.

5. Treasurer's Report

Kevin Thomas presented his Financial Report, giving a summary of our current financial position.

This has been a difficult year due to the pandemic. Our income was down to just under £8k as compared with nearly £15k for last year and £41k for the previous year. Our membership fee was halved as were in effectual lockdown for a good part of the year, Interest Groups did not meet and there were hardly any Group visits.

However, with an income shortfall of £7k, our expenditure only fell by £3k. This has resulted in a loss of nearly £2k as we still had to pay at the normal rate for a number of things such as membership affiliations and licences. These particular subscriptions in fact increased from £2.7k to £3.1k, mainly due to our contributions to the Beacon system which is a universal administration system developed for u3a's nationally.

The amounts held in our accounts this year fell back to £10k from £12k in the previous year.

Kevin Thomas confirmed that he has been in post as Treasurer for 5 years and, under our Constitution, Treasurers can only serve for a maximum of 6 years so this coming year will be his last. One member has expressed some interest in taking over next year and the job role will be explained in more detail to see whether it suits him. However, if any other member was interested in this role or part of it, they were asked to let Kevin Thomas or one of the Committee know.

6. To approve the report of the examiner of the accounts

The accounts have been examined, reviewed and signed off by Mr A J Ashby FCA.

7. Resignation of Officers and other Executive Committee members

At this point all existing Officers and Committee members resigned, as required by our Constitution.

It was noted that we had lost 2 Committee members during the year and Elaine Corcut, Marion Watson and Sarah Richardson have all served their 3-year term as Committee members and have to resign. Although Marion Watson will not be a Committee member, she will continue in her role as Membership Secretary.

John Colman thanked Elaine Corcut, Marion Watson and Sarah Richardson for their hard work during their time on the Committee and they were each presented with a bouquet.

Roger Luther was also thanked for his work as Speaker Secretary and Ann Kerrison for producing 5 Interest Group newsletters throughout the year. They were each given a bottle of wine in appreciation. Alan Beebe has agreed to take over the role of Speaker Secretary.

8. Election of Officers

Christine Hooper as Secretary has received the following nominations for Office which have been proposed and seconded. The nomination forms were confirmed as all in order and the nominees have all agreed to stand:

Chair	John Colman
Treasurer	Kevin Thomas
Secretary	Christine Hooper

No other nominations were received for Office so the above were elected for 2022 without the need for a vote.

The office of Vice Chair remains vacant.

9. Election of Committee members

The following nominations for Committee members have been proposed and seconded by members and the nominees have all agreed to stand:

Alan Beebe, Terry Careford and Philip Haughey

No other nominations were received so these members were elected for 2022 without the need for a vote.

Philip Haughey was welcomed to the Committee as a new member. We still need more Committee members and can have 2 Vice Chairs and 5 more Committee members.

Members were therefore asked to consider coming forward to serve on the Committee and to speak to any Committee member to find out more about what is involved.

10. Any Other Business

The first speaker meeting will be on Thursday 6 January 2022 at 1.45pm. The speaker is Peter Hill and the subject is 'Pills, Potions and Patience – post-war recollections of a local pharmacist'.

There will be a collection at this meeting for the Cherry Trees Blossom project in Preston Park and more information on this initiative will be included in the January newsletter.

The AGM next year will be held on Thursday 1st December 2022.

Signed
Chair

Date