

RAVENSHEAD U3A

Registered Charity – registration number 1154123

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON 12th June 2018 at 10.a.m. at St Peter's Church, Ravenshead

Present: 113 members

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Jackie Salmon, Mike Salmon, Ian Harrison, Sue Owen, Val Ford, Diane Rumsey, Terry Moore, Jan Mee, Alan Paul, John Bewick, Jill Bewick, Doreen Clark. Lesley Green (Chairman) invited members to make sure that they had signed in for the meeting.

2. Welcome

Lesley Green (Chairman) welcomed members to the 6th Annual General Meeting. Members were reminded of the safety procedures in the case of an emergency and Lesley directed their attention to the series of slides which displayed the Agenda for the meeting. She explained that Agenda item 7 would be dealt with after Item 4.

Lesley explained that since there were only four members of the committee present the committee would be introduced at the next monthly meeting.

3. Minutes of the AGM of 13th June 2017

Maria Gabrielczyk (Business Secretary) drew members' attention to the distributed copies of minutes of the 2017 AGM and asked if members wished to raise any comments. No comments were raised by members and the minutes were approved.

4. Matters arising

No matters were raised by the members.

7. Chairman's Report on behalf of the Trustees.

This was presented by Lesley Green, Chairman:

“Ravenshead U3A has increased its membership this year to 421 as at today’s date which is a good sign towards becoming a success

We the committee are always trying to find ways and opportunities to advance your skills and learning and to also share your skills with each other. We keep you informed through our local newsletter and our own magazine and Web site. Everything we do for each other is purely voluntary and we all give a great deal of our free time and energy to make sure everybody is satisfied.

What did we do or achieve in 2017?

We have introduced Gift Aid and as a result the membership Subscription has been reduced - the treasurer will say more later. We have had a good selection of speakers this year including our own committee member Alan Paul telling us about his sailing adventures; Ann Barnes gave us a feast of traditional flowers and food of Tudor England, whilst testing us on our history; Chris Vasper inspired us with his moving account of Walking with the Wounded across the desert.

There were also many interesting trips including a visit to the first RHS flower show at Chatsworth, a cruise down the Gloucester Canal which I have been told was great fun and a lot of hilarity took place! There were lots of other trips which everybody enjoyed.

Our own web site is very well used by many other U3A’s as well as our own and gives us up to date information on all our new groups, as well as our many wine tasting groups and walking groups who seem to travel a fair distance before they even start their walk.

There are also volunteers who print copies of the monthly newsletter and future dates from the web site and personally deliver to members who do not have computers, our grateful thanks to them.

For the last few months a small group of committee members have been involved with RU3A’s application to join and implement “Beacon”. Beacon is an online management system which has been designed to make the running of U3As easier and more efficient for committee members. It includes tools that will help us to handle all aspects of membership and means to help the group co-ordinators keep track of what is happening. Beacon has the full support of the Third Age Trust and many other U3As are already reaping the benefits. We hope to join them soon.

May I remind members to check the web pages regularly for up to date information (that is what it is there for). If you change your email address or telephone number please communicate this to the membership secretary. If anyone has ideas for trips

and visits please come forward and ask for volunteers to organise them. We would also like members to come forward with ideas for new groups.

And now for some “Thankyou’s”

The helpers who turn up at the monthly meetings to give us a hand. The “Welcomers” who look after you when you arrive. The ladies who supply us all with that welcome tea or coffee each month. The committee members and volunteers who look after you at coffee and conversation.

To the group leaders.

To Alan Paul who keeps us up to date with the web site

To Judith and Terry Moore for producing the RU3A’s magazine now in superb colour, and they are always looking for articles from you the members.

And to all my committee for their support, ideas and hard work.

And finally to you the members for supporting the Ravenshead U3A, for participating in activities and events and long may they continue to make you “Live Learn and Laugh”.

This concludes the Trustees’ report to the AGM of Ravenshead U3A June 2018.

5. To receive the annual accounts for 2017

Alan Wilson (Treasurer) presented the accounts, bringing members attention to the following aspects:

- In 2016 the Charity Commission decided that U3A main and social accounts must be consolidated.
- The accounts for 2017 look different to those presented in previous years.
- Gift Aid – thanks to 270 + members who felt able to sign up for Gift aid. We applied for Gift aid grant for the previous three years. In future years we will receive something like £750 or £800 from Gift Aid every year. The total Gift Aid received in 2017 enabled the 2018 subscription to be reduced from £15.00 to £13.50

6. To approve the appointment of an Independent Examiner for the year 2018

Alan Wilson explained that the accounts had been independently examined by one of our members, Ralph Chapman who was suitably qualified. He therefore proposed that Ralph be appointed as an independent examiner for the 2018 accounts. This was agreed by a show of hands.

8. To consider amending the purposes (objects) in Clause 3 of the constitution to bring it in line with the new Third Age Trust model and to read:

CHARITABLE PURPOSES

The charitable purposes of the U3A are:

The advancement of education and, in particular, the education of older people and those who are retired from full time work by all means, including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development, in Ravenshead and its surrounding locality.

Lesley Green (Chairman) asked the members if they wished to support this amendment. All members supported the change. There were no abstentions.

9. Motions to be lodged with the Business Secretary by 15th May 2018

No motions were received.

10. Election of Committee for 2018/19

[In accordance with the nomination procedure twelve nominations having been received for twelve places there was no need for an election].

11. Election results

Lesley Green (chairman), Val Ford (vice chairman), Alan Wilson (treasurer), Margaret Craddock, Frances Gilbert, Ian Harrison, Terry Moore, Sue Owen, Alan Paul, Diane Rumsey, Mike Salmon, Trevor Smith. Lesley Green informed the members that as so many committee members were absent she would introduce the new committee at the next monthly meeting, in July.

12. Date of the next AGM

Lesley Green asked members to note that the AGM in 2019 will take place on Tuesday 9th April at 10 a.m. *(to be confirmed in due course)* as this was considered a more suitable time.

Members were invited to stay for coffee and biscuits and to visit the presentations put on by a number of the U3A's groups.

The meeting closed with a photographic slide display put on the Photography Group.

