



Minutes of Selby u3a AGM

Wednesday 2nd February 2022

1. Apologies for Absence Helen Billington, Anne Selwyn, Ann Young, Jean Scull, Carole Weston, David & Denise Thomson, Celia Barnes, Pauline Mann, Margaret Burniston, Michael & Carol Hewan, Deidre & Edwin Bonner,

2. Minutes of 2021 Meeting

a) Matters Arising -none b) Any written questions – none c) acceptance of minutes - all in favour

3. Revision of the Constitution – query from floor re included need for change of name to Selby and District – Chair explained members are spread over district and “Selby” is not inclusive.

Acceptance - Proposed by Alma Traska, seconded Eddie Roberts

4. Annual Trustee Report from Chairman

The Trustees are the Executive Committee of Selby U3A.

Another interesting year with things not back to ‘normal’. The committee have met each month and on 3 extra occasions to discuss group matters. We moved venue to Selby Bowling Club in July after holding 4 Zoom monthly meetings this year. Selby Bowling Club made us very welcome and we have moved between the lounge and the marquee areas. July 21 was our first face to face meeting and 56 people turned up for our quiz. The most that attended was 67 at our November meeting led by Celia Barnes and some members of Selby Camera Club.

To go from February 2021 with 97 members to 142 is fantastic. People did want to get out and mix again. The majority of people car share to get to the monthly meeting. We found out that the largest contingent of our members reside in Selby, Brayton or Thorpe Willoughby but that we come from as range of 16 areas.

A big thank you to all our Interest Group Leaders and it is great that we now have 22 groups with a lot only starting this year with new members bringing along their expertise. This is what the u3a is all about; a buy in, by and for members.

Many thanks must go to the committee for all their hard work and dedication in maintaining the group under these challenging times. Michael Hewan deserves a special mention as he has just completed 6 years on the committee as treasurer and he is the last of the original committee. A big thank you to him for his commitment! We do need new committee members as we can only stay for so long on the committee. There is a new constitution being tabled at this AGM as it was realised that the old one needed tweaking due to Covid and the shortage of committee members in-year.

The committee have attended a lot of Zoom meetings e.g. Yorkshire and Humberside u3a AGM, publicity training, inclusion and diversity. From our training we realised we needed to be more proactive on Facebook. Our thanks to Alma Traska and Pauline Witton for setting this up and being the administrators. We regularly advertise in all the surrounding villages.

A special mention needs to go to Sue, Alma and Deirdre for their regular sterling help at monthly meetings. We have a band of volunteers who help out at our monthly meetings but as always, more helpers means less chores for everyone.

This is your group and we are only as good as what people offer, help and share.

a) Any written questions – none

b) Acceptance of report – Proposed Ian Ayres – Seconded Alma Traska. All in Favour

5. Treasurer -Report for Financial Year 2021

- a) Any written questions answered - none
- b) Acceptance of report – proposed Helen Jessop Seconded Pauline Witton, All in Favour

6.Treasurer -Annual Budget and Subscription

- a) Any written questions -none
- b) Acceptance of Budget and Subscriptions proposed Helen Jessop Seconded Pauline Witton, All in Favour

Treasurers reports and statements were displayed and had been circulated to all and are filed ready for circulation with these minutes (prior to 2023 AGM).

7. Membership Report - Pauline Witton

We started 2021 with 97 members. This was a considerable, but understandable, reduction in numbers from the previous year. COVID restrictions were still in force and there was no indication of when we would be able to start meeting again. As a thank you to those members who did stand by us in a difficult year, we offered discounted membership renewal fees.

From July onwards we have been able to start meeting again and since then we have seen a steady increase in both new and returning members. As a result, our membership currently stands at 142. Many members have joined or returned as a result of our social media activities and, particularly via the fortnightly Drop in for a Cuppa coffee morning, which has proved especially successful in attracting new members. We also have a number of new Interest Groups which, hopefully, will attract yet more members in the coming year.

- a) Any written questions answered - none

8. Election of Officers to the Executive Committee-

- a) Chairman - Jan Tetley proposed by Deidre Bonner, seconded by Margaret Cromack
- b) Vice Chair - vacant
- c)Treasurer - Helen Billington proposed by Carol Hewan, Seconded by John Braithwaite
- d) Secretary - Rita Braithwaite proposed by Joanne Plant, Seconded by Sally Robinson

9. Election of Non-Officers to the Executive Committee

Pauline Witton proposed by Carol Hewan, seconded by John Braithwaite

John Richardson proposed by Alma Traska, Seconded by Carol Hewan

David Simpson Proposed by Jennifer Foster – Seconded by Terrence Braithwaite

Anne Selwyn proposed by Val Hanson Seconded by Mary Ann Hawkin

Eddie Roberts proposed by Carol Weston Seconded by Jean Scull

John O’Neil proposed Ann Richardson seconded Alma Traska

Election of all officers as proposed and seconded – All in Favour.

10. Any Other Business

Alma Traska raised the issue of our Bookings Secretary not being a current member of Selby u3a. Joan Batt stated that Eva Lambert was a founder member and a valued former interest group leader. The Chairman explained that under the new constitution which had been agreed in principle at today's meeting that everyone actively involved in Selby u3a would have to be a current member in future. However, Eva was given the brief back in November of booking for events for 2022.

The Chairman advised the meeting that we were seeking a new venue for general meetings as per her email 2 months ago. One member in reply to the email stated that they would not want to meet in a church. The marquee in Selby Bowling Club will only be available for five months of each year. The lounge bar area at Selby Bowling Club has insufficient capacity for our growing membership. Pat Ainger asked whether we would be using comparative costs when looking at alternative venues. At Selby Bowling Club - we currently pay only for refreshments, and no room hire fee.

Sue Davidson queried if we needed to move out from Selby Bowling Club. It was explained that attendance from the Town Hall has doubled on moving to the Selby Bowling Club and we intended to continue to publicise Selby u3a; 67 out of 142 members have attended a monthly meeting so a higher percentage than at the Town Hall. By increasing membership, we have also increased our interest groups from 12 to 22.

Ian Ayres queried the criteria for venues.

These were stated to be: - accessible to all, accommodate up to 100 people seated at tables, have facilities for making refreshments, be within our budget.

A vote was taken and approved by the majority of those in attendance re refreshments to be served. It was stated more help would be required in moving furniture as this occurred before each meeting even here.

Various venues have and are being researched including Thorpe Willoughby Village Hall, Brayton Village Hall, Portholme Church Hall, Working Men's Club Selby, Rugby Club Selby, Standerling Hall and Hawdon Institute. Additional suggestions came from the floor included Drax Club, Selby Superbowl, Staynor Community Hall, Riccall Regen, Osgodby Village Hall; it was also suggested there may be a local business with a large room.

Time was given if there were any extra questions to be raised to ensure everyone had the opportunity to speak.