

**Minutes of The Annual General Meeting of
Southport U3A held at 10.30am on Thursday 1st
November 2018 at Christ Church Southport**

1. **Apologies for absence** had been received from Iain & Catherine McNair; Janet Lockie; Derek Gorman; Ann Rogers; Margaret Parkes; David Town; Clive & Lesley Ashley; Malcolm & Alison Chisholm and Chris Devereux.
2. Approval of the **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on November 2, 2017** was proposed by Stan Hagan seconded by Jenny Tyler and carried unanimously. There were no matters arising.

3. **Chair's Report**

Neil McMillan welcomed all members to the AGM.

Our membership continues to grow steadily to around 1,400 members. We have had an 83% renewal this year; the average for U3A nationally is 65%. We have had 168 new members since August. As you will hear shortly from our Treasurer, our finances are in a healthy state. I should like to mention the outstanding work by Jim Hay, our membership secretary and his wife Yvonne, who have provided an excellent service for our members. Steve Hardwick, who oversees our website, is constantly making changes in order to allow more ease of access for members. I continue to be amazed at the organisation, dedication, commitment and passion of our group leaders. They are the backbone of the U3A and are to be congratulated. I should also like to thank all the volunteers who give their time in various capacities. Sue Jones and her team of meeters and greeters who control access to our meetings; Denise and Brian Mitchell with their monthly bookstall sales; Pat Ball and her team of catering volunteers.

As chair of Southport U3A, I am part of a team; our management committee. They work countless unpaid hours on your behalf maintaining the safety and security of our organisations. Our secretary Phil Watling, holds two positions as secretary and group co-ordinator. In this respect a special thanks must go to wives and partners for their support.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members who have made this a vibrant and proactive organisation and those who have shown their support for all our activities throughout the year.

The members showed their appreciation with a strong round of applause.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

This was to be the last presentation as Treasurer by Moira Ralph. Her term of office has come to a close after six years in the role.

In previous years the Southport U3A Groups Receipts and Payments transactions have been listed as an addendum at the bottom of the respective Balance Sheets. This year these figures have been included onto the Balance Sheet, following The Charity Commission and Third Age Trust recommendations. Thus the 2017 accounts have been restated now including the activity of the Social and Travel Bank Accounts and the Cash-in-Hand for all our Groups.

The surplus of £2,202 last year has increased to £7,421 on the Restated accounts for the prior year, £5,219 being the surplus from the Social and Travel Groups of that year.

This leaves the Main Account Income of £16,557 which increased from the previous year, mainly due to the growth in membership from 1,138 to 1,301. The surplus for the year is £2,611.

Details of Travel and Social accounts were given. Finally Moira gave a big thank you to all the Group Leaders for the work that they do and for the detailed records they keep of large amounts of money that pass through their hands regularly. She told them 'it has been my pleasure to work with you all.'

Patricia Saunders put two questions to the Treasurer from the floor.

- (a. Why do the Reserves stand at £13,000? In response the Treasurer explained that this is on the recommendation of the auditors taking into account the new 6-12 months running costs.
- (b. Patricia Saunders replied that she understood social accounts to be self- funding. The Treasurer's response was that The Charity Commission has made changes to that.

Doug Bridson proposed that the Treasurer's report be accepted. This was seconded by Liz Rainford and carried unanimously.

The Chairman congratulated Moira for her six years in the role as Treasurer. Her workload has increased enormously from approximately four groups in the beginning to over eighty today. He presented Moira with a very large beautiful bouquet of flowers and a bottle of wine. He presented Jamie Gaskin who is also stepping down from his role as vice chair with a bottle of wine. Neil McMillan said of Jamie, he has been the voice of reason and a calming influence during his time on the committee. There was a long period of applause for Moira and Jamie.

5. Professional Accountants

The committee recommended that JA Fell & Co be reappointed as Southport U3A's professional accountants for 2018/2019. Beryl Dunn proposed and Margaret Livingstone seconded the appointment. This was carried unanimously.

6. **Continuing Trustees**

The following are prepared to continue as Trustees:

- Neil McMillan - Chair
- Phil Watling - Secretary
- Jim Hay - Membership Secretary
- Viv Pulman - Social Secretary

7. **Election of Officers:**

The following have been nominated and offer themselves for election.

- a.) Alan Patmore as Treasurer - nominated by L. Wood and seconded by R. Howgate.
The vote was taken by a show of hands and carried unanimously.
Alan Patmore has been elected as an officer and trustee of Southport U3A for a term of 3 years.
- b.) Sharon Partington as Vice chair – nominated by S. Levine and seconded by J. Green.
The Vote was taken by show of hands and carried unanimously.
Sharon Partington has been elected as an officer and trustee of Southport U3A for a term of 3 years.

8. **Election of Committee Member.**

The following has been nominated and offers himself for election as a Committee Member.

Brian Tyler proposed by E. Rainford and seconded by P. Wall.
The vote was taken by show of hands and carried unanimously.
Brian Tyler has been elected as a trustee of Southport U3A for a term of 3 years.

9. **Chair's Closing Remarks.**

Should anyone require a full report of my speech and a full report of the Treasurer's speech this can be available upon request.
That concludes the formal business of the AGM. Thank you.

10. The 325 members who attended the AGM fulfilled the quorum.
The meeting closed at 11.15am

Chair

Date