

**MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE STOKE-ON-TRENT SOUTH U3A HELD IN THE CENTRAL HALL LONGTON AT 2pm ON THURSDAY, 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016**

**Present**

Keith Ward  
Fay Howell  
Lynne Stevenson

Vice Chairman  
Business Secretary  
Treasurer

Alan Stevenson  
Kevin Ford  
Susan Hartley  
Christine Whitfield

Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member

57 members plus guests:

**Guests**

Chris Robinson  
Debbie Whieldon  
Joan Bell  
Mary Cresswell  
Penny Wheat

Councillor  
Councillor  
Councillor  
Stone U3A  
Speaker

**Apologies**

Ann Beaumont  
Beryl and Ray Follows  
Kath Banks  
Pauline Williams

Member  
Members  
Councillor  
Committee Member

**WELCOME**

The Acting Chairman welcomed members and guests.

1. **MINUTES OF THE 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2015 were circulated to members, who were asked to accept them as a correct record (Proposer: Joan Vaughan, Seconder: Lynette Bell). These were duly accepted, and signed.
2. **VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
  - a) **COMMITTEE AND HELPERS**  
Thanks go to the Committee and helpers for their hard work over the year. Unfortunately, due to illness and other matters, there are vacancies on the Committee.
  - b) **GROUPS**  
Members were thanked for their support over the past twelve months in attending meetings and groups. We look forward to another successful year in 2016. Groups are the backbone of the U3A. Although a few groups have folded, more have started up.
  - c) **MONTHLY MEETINGS/SOCIAL**  
We have had a variety of speakers and/or entertainers at most monthly meetings. We have held a Jacob's Table which is always popular. Other events consisted of barbecues, coach trips, visits to gardens, and a visit to the

Notes

Lord Mayor's Parlour. There was also the Christmas party at The Tollgate. Many thanks to all who organised and attended these events, and continue to do so.

d) NEIGHBOURHOOD U3As

A meeting was held with our neighbouring U3As (Burton, Cannock Chase, Cheadle, Stafford, Stone, Uttoxeter) when local interests and concerns were discussed. A further meeting is planned for next month, which members of our committee will be hosting at Central Hall. We have also met up with our U3A Regional Trustee, Tony Randall, who encourages networking between U3As.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

1. The Treasurer, Lynne Stevenson, submitted an Accounts Summary dated 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 - to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Audited on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016, this showed a balance at bank of £6,754.54 on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, and a balance at £7,643.05 carried forward on 31/03/16 for the 2016/17 period. This is slightly more than last year, mostly due to increased membership and steady financial progress. The Treasurer said that all members present should have sight of a copy of the accounts, which have been independently examined and confirmed as correct. The accounts will also be available on the Charity Commission website.

2. SOCIAL BANK ACCOUNT

Our regional advisor had advised us to open an additional bank account for social events. It was well into the autumn before it was up and running. Funding can be used for any Stoke-on-Trent South U3A activity. Funds can be transferred from the main account but not vice-versa.

3. STOKE-ON-TRENT U3A ASSETS

The list dated May 2016 has been printed on the back of the Accounts Summary.

4. We are fortunate again to be supported by our local councillors, and Saltbox, particularly for equipment for groups, and some food for monthly meetings. We are extremely grateful for their help and support.

5. GIFT AID

There was an application to the Government, raising an additional £422.00. Members were urged to complete the bottom of their membership forms if they are tax payers.

6. MEMBERSHIP 2016 - 2017

There are no plans to increase membership fees (currently £10 per year).

7. OPEN DAY

We received funding from the National U3A office to support this. It was a good day, and we gained quite a few new members because of it.

8. The audited accounts were accepted (Proposer: Christine Whitfield, Seconder: Margaret Keith) by a show of hands. The motion was unanimously carried.

9. Lynne concluded by saying we all hoped members had enjoyed our U3A

activities over the past year, and that members felt that their annual membership fee of £10 had been used to good effect, adding that we will endeavour to continue doing this for the coming year.

**4. ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Christine Whitfield read out the nominations, as follows:

a) CHAIRMAN

Keith Ward has applied for Chairman.  
Proposer: Alan Stevenson, Seconder: Fay Howell.

b) BUSINESS SECRETARY

Fay Howell has applied to remain.  
Proposer: Michelle Tittle-Wang, Seconder: Valerie Greatbatch.

c) TREASURER

Lynne Stevenson has applied to remain.  
Proposer: M. Colley, Seconder: Graham Buckley.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

There were no nominations. The Chairman called out to members asking if anyone wished to stand as we need one under our constitution; this is a role which needs to be filled. There was no response. The post is now vacant.

d) GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Valerie Greatbatch.  
Proposer: Patricia Rowley, Seconder: Christine Whitfield.
2. Pauline Williams.  
Proposer: Patricia Rowley, Seconder: Susan Hartley.

Members voted in favour of all nominations.

e) THANKS

Christine Whitfield asked all members to show appreciation for the Committee and helpers behind the scenes. There was a round of applause.

**5. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR – None.**

The Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 2:25pm.

Chairman: .....

Date .....