

WHITBY WHALER U3A

Minutes of the AGM Meeting held at 9.30, Friday 9th October 2020

On ZOOM

Committee present: Anne Jackson (Chairman), Michael Menier (Vice – Chair), Mo Metcalfe (Membership Sec.), Clair Stones (Sec.), Janice Shade (Treasurer), Frances Hilson (Newsletter Editor), Moira Ferguson (Curriculum Organiser) John Dickinson, Helen Leech (Publicity) Lilian Kelwick (H&S).

Members present on ZOOM (41) : Attached list of signatories with filed minutes, POSTAL VOTES 38 received

The meeting was Recorded and held on file as recommended by the Charity Commission.

1.	Apologies for Absence Peter Bolton (V-Chair), Jane Bolton, George Osborne, Maureen Osborne, Don Readman
2.	Minutes of AGM 26/10/2019 These were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman. (proposed Trevor Barrowcliffe, seconded Mike Stones)
3.	Matters arising from Minutes of AGM 2019 There were no matters arising
4.	Chairman's report (attached) Anne reported that the year had not only been difficult but had challenged the direction and format of the Whaler u3a from the one we recognise. One thing was very clear, the Committee had united and worked very hard to not only support members but herself and she had valued and been grateful for the support given. We have 763 members and 48 groups. Our U3A could be said to be very much in touch with modern thinking with the creation of some new groups - we already know the benefits of regular exercise and have a number of exercise classes already – and have gone one step further with new groups of 'Walking Netball' and 'Walking Cricket' – increased fitness, strength, confidence, coordination and mood are just some of the positive affects experienced. 'Sewing for Beginners', another new group, proved popular and how can that not be so when participating in an enjoyable and relaxing occupation, achieving a sense of accomplishment and pride when you see your finished product – and find it fits! For strategy, fun and competitiveness 'Dominoes' began at the Rifle Club and 'Egyptology' contributed to the ethos of Learning, starting and developing for some after the 'Tutankhamun Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh' in 2019. Prior to the Lockdown the Whitby Whaler had hosted 4 prospective candidates standing for Scarborough & Whitby in the General .A new venture for Whitby Whaler u3a and one she would like to see repeated in the future, especially the involvement of local secondary schools. November proved to be a very busy month as the end finished with the Whitby Winterfest weekend. An ideal opportunity to promote the u3a to the visitors with a suitably Christmassy decorated beach hut, posters and pamphlets but also to showcase some talented members. Elizabeth Cheyne and some of the U3A Singers entertained the public, on stage each day, a quite frightening task for some of us and the Ukulele and musicians gave a varied and very polished performance to the crowds. The whole event was a credit to the Whalers and showed an essence of what we are all about – a community who pull together and support each other through comradeship – from the members who dusted off their baubles, lights and decorations to 'dress' the hut, to those who manned the stall over the three days, talking to visitors and 'selling' being a member of the organisation, to our very talented performers. The February Winter Social witnessed a change to the norm with the event taking place in the afternoon as An Afternoon tea at the Spa and not the Evening event as in previous years. The 200+ members who attended, a large number having dressed for the occasion, were highly entertained with a 'Murder Mystery' performed by the U3A Stagers. There was great hilarity both on and off the stage with a number of tables identifying the Murderer. Thanks not only go to the U3A Stagers who had rehearsed their performance but also to their Leader, Jan Jennings and her husband Adrian who wrote this and even managed to change the Murderer clues for the second performance asked for by demand at the Rifle Club. Then came March16 th when Matt Hancock told the House of Commons that all unnecessary social contact should cease followed by 23 rd March when Boris Johnson, Prime Minister, told the country that people 'must' stay at home and certain businesses must close. A date that will be forever in some minds.

	<p>Very early on in the 'lockdown' the Committee met to try and continue with online groups and perhaps give a sense of normality and contact, especially for those members living alone. It was good to see that lots of members rallied round offering support to each other through shopping, email, phone call and letter writing. A number of groups did manage to continue even though in some cases this meant altering the original outcomes and having to 'think outside the box' in the approach. Clubs were varied – Philosophy, Discussion, Book Club, Singalong, Jazz and Music Appreciation, Family History, Photography, Egyptology, Writing Workshop and Travel Group Talk. Every week an Open Forum was held giving members and leaders the opportunity to find out what was happening as well as a chance to ask questions. These have been well attended with some attending regularly and others as and when they felt the need.</p> <p>Communication with all members had been difficult and continues to be mainly through email. Writing to 159 members who are not on email was not only difficult but expensive to cover printing from home (our usual source was closed) as well as stationery and stamps where necessary. A Covid 19 newsletter came out every 2/3 weeks proving to be informative and adding a light- hearted upbeat message to all the doom and gloom we were hearing on TV and Radio. These were emailed and BIG thanks go to those who received and then printed copies off for neighbours and friends who were not on email.</p> <p>There have been some good outcomes from the 'lockdown': we now have the defibrillator installed at the Fire Station and everyone's data has been entered onto the Beacon system (not without a lot of hiccups). The latter is a computer system which will streamline our administration and enable us to keep contact 'at the touch of a button'.</p> <p>All the committee have worked hard to keep the U3A going, and our next aim is to return to some kind of activity when Government guidelines allow this and it is safe to do so. Anne thanked all the committee and gave special mention to Clair Stones, Michael Menier, Frances Hilson, and John Dickinson who were leaving the Committee for all their contributions.</p>
5.	<p>Treasurer's report to Receive and Adopt the statement of Accounts 2019-2020</p> <p>The Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st July 2020 shows a positive of £15799.28. The income of £29826.42 made up of Subscriptions, Class fees, Gift Aid and donations. Expenditure of £22101.89 was made up of Room Hire, Tutor fees and Administration. Affiliation fees, Insurances, Music and Copy Licences still had to be paid with only five months activities. As well as the defibrillator being bought and now situated outside the Fire Station.</p> <p>Janice thanked Michael Scholey who audited the accounts, mask and hand sanitisers to hand and Maureen Agar who expertly managed the Social Account.</p> <p>The Treasurer's report was adopted and signed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Proposed and confirmed via postal vote0)</p>
6.	<p>Adoption of an independent Examiner of Accounts for 2020-2021</p> <p>Mr Michael Scholey has indicated his willingness to be the Independent Examiner of Accounts for 2020-2021 via Janice Shade.</p> <p>(Proposed and confirmed via postal vote)</p>
7.	<p>Election of Committee 2020-2021</p> <p>The outgoing committee were thanked for their efforts throughout the year.</p> <p>The following were re- elected to the Committee for 2020-2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anne Jackson (Chairman) Peter Bolton (V -Chairman) Janice Shade (Treasurer) Maureen Agar (Assistant Treasurer, Social Account) Clair Stones (Covid -Newsletter Editor) Mo Metcalfe (Membership) Moira Ferguson (Curriculum Organiser) Lillian Kelwick (Committee Member)

	<p>The following were elected to the Committee for 2020-2021:</p> <p>Helen Leech (Publicity Officer)</p> <p>Veronica Carolan (Shadow Secretary)</p> <p>Margaret Hirst (Committee)</p> <p>Julian Plested (Committee)</p> <p>(proposed and confirmed by postal vote)</p>
8.	<p>Consideration of Motions from Committee /Members</p> <p>No written considerations for motion submitted.</p>
9.	<p>Date of AGM 2020</p> <p>AGM of Whitby Whaler U3A to take place in October 2021 dependent on government lifting of current restrictions or again on ZOOM.</p>

The meeting closed at 11.06 with thanks to Mrs Anne Jackson for taking the chair.

On ZOOM.

List of Members in Attendance on ZOOM

Anne Jackson	Moira Ferguson	Michael Menier
Mo Metcalfe	Michael Walker	Clair Stones
Janice Shade	John Dickinson	Lillian Kelwick
Francis Hilson	Janice Shade	Peter Bolton
Kathryn Kent	Helen Leach	Susan Menier
Gaynor Wilkin	Dawn Catte	Adrian Catte
Ian Wilkin	Alan Boland	Pam Boland
Mike Hilson	Alan Jackson	Jan Jennings
Adrian Jenning	Sue Murray	Maureen Agar
Angela Wall	Trevor Barrowcliffe	Margaret Barrowcliffe
Marian Robinson	Mike Stones	Graham Robinson
Joy Huish	Celia Doubleday	Joyce Stangoe
Edward Carolan	Jane Welford	Veronica Carolan
Joy Huish		Alan Jackson

Postal Votes received

Val Rowe	Barry Foster	Monica Foster	Barry Weeks
Marion Brockway	Laura Smith	Cynthia Russell	Bruce Russell
Beth Veitch	Judy Vasey	Elizabeth Cheyne	Ann Natriss
Michael Scholey	Margaret Scholey	Peter Littlewood	Julian Plected
Avid Farmilo	Liz Farmilo	Jonathan Atkinson	George Osborne
Maureen Osborne	Peter Bolton	Jane Bolton	Marie McCrone
Rob McCrone	Chris Metcalfe	Pauline Shepherd	Christine Edey
Janice Wieringa	Jan Wieringa	Joy Huish	