

Wolverhampton u3a
Minutes of u3a AGM held on Tuesday 28th March 2023

Chris Collins was in the chair. 49 members attended the AGM.

1 The Chair opened the meeting at 2.10 pm and welcomed everyone.

Apologies were received from 7 members.

2 2022 AGM Minutes The minutes of the 2022 AGM were voted on and accepted as a true record.

3 Matters arising from the 2022 minutes None

4 Reports of Officers for 2022/23

4.1 Chair - Chris Collins

Chris thanked the committee, including retiring members and the group co-ordinators for their work. He gave special thanks to Geoff Williams for his website management and communication work and to Jill Pugh for her organisation of refreshments at the general meetings.

He stated he had been chair for three years and that following Covid our u3a is slowly growing back to pre-pandemic levels but is not quite there yet.

He talked about the achievements that have been made including the successful move to a new venue at Springdale Church Hall, the interesting range of speakers we have enjoyed and the planting of a tree to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of u3a. He also hoped that the membership had been kept informed through The Magazine, bulletins and emails.

He encouraged members to be active participators by sharing their skills to aid the running of our u3a and that anyone wishing to help in any way should contact a member of the committee.

Finally he gave thanks to the membership for attending the AGM and valuing and supporting our u3a.

4.2 Treasurer - Yvonne Rickard (report presented by Chris Collins in Yvonne's absence)

The Income and Expenditure Summary for the year ending March 2023 had been prepared by Yvonne and was displayed on a screen. Chris talked through some of the main points about general increases of overheads and outgoings and the necessary steps that have been made to reduce costs. These included increasing our yearly membership fee to £15 and attendance to monthly meetings to £2.50. Such actions have been made to hopefully ensure that the Wolverhampton u3a will continue to be financially viable.

Overall expenditure was £3,503.29 and the closing balance is at £4,983.24.

5 Election of Officers and Committee

5.1 Nominations for the named officers posts of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer were received. Following a vote, these officers were elected:-

Chair: Mercedes Fonfria

Vice Chair: Mo Johnson

Secretary: Mary Warwicker

Treasurer: Yvonne Rickard

5.2 Nominations for the election of other members of the Committee had been received. Following a vote, these members were elected unopposed: David Ashworth, Julia Hood, John Sheard, Margaret Taylor, Josie Turner.

6 Comments by members

6.1 One member asked "What is Beacon?" John Sheard (Beacon Administrator) gave a concise explanation, saying that Beacon is a data base and management system.

6.2 Another member suggested that electing a publicity officer may be beneficial and that distributing posters and leaflets may raise awareness. It was explained that these things have been discussed by the committee and the posters and leaflets that have been produced were handed to her.

7 Incoming Chair – Mercedes Fonfria

Chris handed over to Mercedes who gave a short address outlining her aims and that it was her intention that the membership should be kept informed at all levels.

8 Date and time of next AGM: Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 2pm

The Chair closed the AGM at 2.55pm