

## **KNUTSFORD & DISTRICT U3A**

### **Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

#### **1. Introduction**

Mark Barley welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave housekeeping announcements. He also thanked Wendy Brooks and Elizabeth Hosking for serving the teas and Dorothy Long for providing the cakes.

**Apologies** had been received from Irene Hardy, Helen Smith, David Matthews, Heather Eddowes, Brian & Jennie Banfield, John & Jo Munnery, Alan & Kathryn Ferrier, Yvonne Baker

#### **2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the above meeting. Proposed by Margaret Joscelyn and seconded by Tony Axon. No abstentions and no one against.

#### **3. Matters arising from the Minutes**

None

#### **4. Trustees' Report**

A summary of the Trustees' Report covering the period April 2021 – March 2022 had previously been circulated in the June edition of Kanuta. The year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 has seen our u3a bounce back from the effects of the Covid pandemic with long-running groups restarting and new groups forming. At the end of March 2022 our membership was 692 plus 41 Associate Members. At the beginning of this period our activities were constrained by Covid with no indoor meetings until late July. Committee, Membership and some Group Meetings were conducted on Zoom prior to July. Our first organised outing was to the new RHS Bridgewater in early July. Other successful visits and theatre trips followed. By September indoor meetings had re-started although there was a brief interruption in January when the Members' Meeting and Committee meeting returned to Zoom as a result of the Omicron variant. This interruption was brief and by the end of March our u3a was fully open.

We held publicity events which included a stand outside the Knutsford Methodist Church for u3a publicity day on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and a 'showcase' event in September.

We were able to hold a face-to-face AGM in December when four new members were elected to the Committee. We now have a Committee of 11 with one vacancy.

In April 2021 we used the Beacon software system to facilitate on-line membership renewals. This was successful and reduces the workload on Committee members.

By the end of this period we had 52 active groups including some new additions such as a Singing group and a Railways Interest group.

Mark Barley thanked the Committee for their hard work during this turbulent year and felt that we can look forward to a bright future.

The full report will be uploaded to the Charity Commission's website.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

The accounts had been previously circulated to the membership by email. These accounts have not yet been inspected but will be inspected by the Treasurer of Northwich u3a as an independent inspector.

We are now settled with a NatWest charitable bank account as recommended by the Third Age Trust. Most payments and some receipts are now done electronically. The PayPal account for on-line payment of subscriptions is being used by around 80% of members thus reducing paperwork and work load

significantly. Last year the subscription was reduced to £10 due to Covid. This has obviously resulted in reduced subscription income for the year and we ended the financial year with a deficit of just over £2000 (which was better than the expected £5500) leaving £9400 in the bank at the start of the new financial year.

The restricted funds i.e. Activities account, is comprised of self funding groups and they have bounced back to a turnover of about £26K with a small current surplus.

This year subscriptions are £18 and so far membership numbers are holding up well so we expect to maintain our expectation for the coming year's outcome.

**Approval of uninspected Accounts** was proposed by Stuart Allan and seconded by Margaret Hinde.

The members present voted to accept the uninspected Accounts with 1 abstention.

Under Charity Commission rules our u3a does not have to have an audit. An independent inspection is sufficient. It was proposed that we keep to the process of having an independent inspection of the accounts by the treasurer of Northwich u3a (Bob Beale).

This proposal was made by Bridget Knight and seconded by Wendy Brooks.

The members present voted to accept this proposal with 1 abstention.

The full Trustees' Report and Accounts are available on our website.

## 6. Elections to the Committee

The following people are standing for re-election to the Committee:

	<b>Proposed by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
Mark Barley	Irene Hardy	Robert Watson
Roger Brown	Irene Hardy	Robert Watson

The vote was held and the above were elected to the Committee with no abstentions or anyone voting against.

All other Committee members are not due for re-election this year.

The Committee now consists of 11 members, therefore there is one vacancy this year.

## 7. Any Other Business

A member asked whether the Committee had any thoughts of making the Members' Meetings available on Zoom or YouTube. Mark made the point that the speaker's permission would be needed which may make it problematic. The Committee will consider the matter in the future.

## 8. Date of next meeting

This was provisionally set as Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023