

KNUTSFORD & DISTRICT U3A

Minutes of the 19th Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 11th July 2024

1. Introduction

Sue Allan welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave housekeeping announcements. She also thanked Wendy Brooks and Denise Vallois for serving the teas.

Apologies have been received from Helen Smith, Roger Brown, Sandra Budd, Margaret Joscelyn, Bridget Knight, Pamela Jones and Mary Woodward

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 13th July 2023

The minutes, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, were accepted as a true record of the above meeting. Proposed by Irene Hardy and seconded by Adrian Long. All agree, none against, no abstentions

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

None

4. Trustees' Report

A summary of the Trustees' Report covering the period April 2023 – March 2024 had previously been circulated in the June edition of Kanuta.

This year from April 1st 2023 to March 31st 2024 has seen our u3a continue to thrive with a record number of members by the end of the period.

Our membership at the end of March 2024 was 760, which includes 43 Associate Members (those who are also members of other u3as).

Over the year we have inevitably had a few groups that have run their course or could not find a new leader and have had to close. To offset this a great deal of work has been done to facilitate the setting up of new groups and 12 new ones have been set up during this financial year.

Our Outings sub-committee has been very active this year organising eight trips to places of interest including a holiday to Slovenia. They also organised nine trips to concerts or the theatre.

The Committee organised three events that support our organisation to grow and thrive. These included a stall at the local Lions Fayre, a stand at the 'Knutsford Refresh' event and In September we held our 'Showcase event' with displays provided by many Activity groups so that both members and the wider public can get a better idea of what we do, and the groups themselves can attract new members.

We also held a coffee morning for new members. Such events had been held in the past but not for quite a while. We wanted to make new members feel welcome, to give them more information about what we do for members and to get ideas from them as to what type of activities they would be interested in taking part in or setting up. We wanted to emphasise the self-help nature of the u3a movement. This event was much appreciated by the new members and several ideas for new groups were proposed. These ideas have been followed up by our Groups Supporter and several new groups formed as a result.

In the autumn we had a group leaders' coffee morning. Also invited were key members involved in the organisation of our u3a, such as the technical team, and the Outings' and Speakers' committees. This is a networking event, usually with a theme, so that key members can share ideas and experiences to develop our organisation.

In addition to our monthly meetings where an outside speaker gives a talk, we have continued with our 'Hidden Talents' programme which involves presentations by Knutsford u3a members on a topic of their choice to the membership. During this period, we had four presentations on a diverse range of subjects which were very well received, and we intend to continue this new programme into the future.

We claimed Gift Aid on our subscriptions for the membership year 2023/24. This was the first year of doing so and it was very successful in raising extra income which will enable us to reduce our subscriptions for the following membership year.

I would like to thank my colleagues on the Committee for all their hard work and their enthusiasm during this year. My thanks also go to the many people who help on our various sub-committees, particularly the Technical Team who support all our events, our Outings and Visits Committee and our Speakers' Committee. Thanks are also due to all our Group Leaders and other helpers without whom our u3a would not be as successful as it is.

5. Treasurer's Report by Adrian Long

1. 2023/2024 has been an excellent year for our branch, some highlights were reported as follows:
 - a. Membership fee of £18 led to increased income (from £12.2k to £12.8k).
 - b. Gift Aid application was successful at £1,766.
 - c. There was a strong increase in our activity groups.
 - d. PayPal & SumUp have been extended to Activities including online payments for Theatre trips and outings.
 - e. We declare that Knutsford & District u3a is in very good financial health.
2. All transactions are recorded on a spreadsheet, ultimately producing year end accounts that were distributed to all @ 31st March 2024.
3. The PayPal Account for payment of subscriptions is proving popular with some 70% of the subscriptions paid on-line. Workload particularly with Activities coming on line has increased due to necessary analysis of payment.
4. We have a surplus for the year of just over £4.4k which resulted in an increased bank account entering the new year with £19,484k in the bank.
5. The restricted funds, i.e. Activities activity account is comprised of self-funding groups, and I'm pleased to report that they have increased once again to a turnover of £53.3k and a surplus of over £4,000.
6. This year (24/25) subscriptions will have been reduced to £12; membership numbers are holding up well so we hope to maintain our expectation for the coming years outcome.

Adrian Long

Treasurer Knutsford & District u3a.

11th July 2024

Questions from the membership: None

Vote to accept the Accounts: The membership was asked to approve the uninspected accounts, and their inspection by Bob Beale, former treasurer of Northwich u3a. Proposed by Irene Hardy, seconded by Jacqui Moore; all agreed, none against, no abstentions.

The full Trustees' Report and Accounts are available on our website and will be submitted to the Charity Commission.

6. Elections to the Committee

Under our constitution all Committee members must be re-elected at each AGM

Candidate	Proposer	Secunder
Stuart Allan	Sandra Stonehill	Yvonne Baker
Susan Allan	Evelyn Flett	Glynis MacLachlan
Tony Axon	Michael O'Driscoll	Susan O'Driscoll
Mark Barley	Mary Birchall	Michael Regan
Georgina Blackburn	Pamela Catlin	Barbara Rimmel
Wendy Brooks	Linda Mansell	Anne Orme
Roger Brown	Tony Roberts	Jane Smallwood
Irene Hardy	Marian Goddard	Wendy Brooks
Adrian Long	Irene Hardy	Helen Smith
Helen MacAlister Smith	Dorothy Long	Adrian Long
Marian Goddard	Irene Hardy	Wendy Brooks
Tony Roberts	Irene Hardy	Adrian Long

Those present agreed to vote on all the above in one vote and they were duly elected to the Committee with no abstentions, nor anyone voting against.

7. Any Other Business

None

8. Date of next meeting

This was provisionally set as Thursday 10th July 2025