



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WILMSLOW U3A

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### Present:

Angela Every (Chair), Kate Bryant (Treasurer), Gillian Fosdyke (Business Secretary), John Cookson (Webmaster), Dave Mangnall (Membership Secretary), Anne Grace, Cherry Dolden, Martin Cook, 56 members and one guest.

Apologies were received from Peter Highfield and Babeth Thompson. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all members present.

### Minutes

The Minutes of the AGM held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 were presented having previously been circulated to the membership together with the other AGM documents. The Minutes were accepted as a true record of that meeting.

### Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

### Chairman's Report

We currently have 420 members comprising 314 who have renewed, 86 who have yet to renew and 20 new members.

In future years there will be no physical cards. Members will be able to print out the digital cards they receive or show the cards on their phones if need be. The advantages are that it will save the expense of purchasing sheets of cards and inks. It will save the membership secretary a lot of work and saves the members the expense of sending a sae.

Over the past 12 months we have enjoyed a wide variety of speakers on topics such as the history of the Alpenhorn, dialects across the UK, a solo walk across Africa and a young man who spoke so movingly about his struggle with a gambling addiction.

The interest groups are doing well and it has been lovely to read their contributions to the newsletter. Please keep them coming and include photographs where possible. Cherry is always grateful for contributions.

There have been some suggestions for new groups including ukulele, canasta and whist. Some people have expressed an interest and we hope there will be more so that they can get up and running. We hope to restart the Science Group soon. Also, Cheadle Hulme U3A is inviting new members to attend their talks on 'Technology for Everyone'.

We do need more Committee members. For U3A to continue successfully we are in dire need of more people to volunteer a little of their time. We have no Interest Group Co-ordinator. New groups will flounder without a co-ordinator to help them get started. The Chairman asked the membership to think seriously about the future and offer to sit on the committee to facilitate the smooth running and indeed the future of the Wilmslow U3A.

The role of business secretary will be divide into two again. Gillian will be the minute taker and Caroline Mangnall has offered to be the Secretary.

The chairman concluded by thanking all the people who kindly and generously given their time and assistance over the past year - the members of the committee, the Group Convenors, the organisers of special events such as theatre outings, the Christmas lunch, the refreshment organisers and helpers with putting out the chairs and tables and many more who deserve a mention..

### Treasurer's report

The Treasurer presented the accounts for the year 2023/2024 and said that had been checked and approved by the treasurer of Macclesfield U3A.

The funds had increased to £5576 at the end of 2023 compared with £4503 at the end of 2022. There are also restricted funds of £1000 belonging to some of the groups. The unrestricted funds are for room hire, speakers' fees etc. The Treasurer claimed £668 gift aid (190 members had signed up for this). In

previous years we had lost money as we had stopped taking membership fees. A fee of £14 has been maintained for 2024 although we do expect certain costs to rise. There has been a 9% increase in the cost of the room hire but we have stopped charging for the monthly meetings. We have to pay £1 per member for Beacon which is the U3A computer system.

The committee had agreed to pay a donation to Oakmere Retirement Group in Handforth as we use their premises for certain groups at no charge. However, we do have to include residents in the activities.

Grants are available for interest groups.

The accounts were approved.

### Election of the Committee

There were no nominations for committee members.

Volunteers were requested (after the meeting two members did express an interest and will be invited to the Committee meeting in May).

The Committee members are now:

Chairman	Angela Every
Vice Chairman	Peter Highfield
Treasurer	Kate Bryant
Deputy Treasurer	Peter Highfield
Business Secretary	Caroline Mangnall
Minutes Secretary	Gillian Fosdyke
Membership Secretary	Dave Mangnall
Webmaster	John Cookson
Groups Co-ordinator	Vacant
Newsletter Editor	Cherry Dolden
Speaker Co-ordinator	Martin Cook
Social Secretary	Anne Grace

## Any Other Business

The chairman informed the membership of 'the Big Sing' taking place in Liverpool in June and of the Summer Schools in Carlisle. More details will be in the newsletter.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.