

Wilmslow u3a

Motion 1

Proposed amendment to the Constitution for approval at the AGM on 25 March 2026:

7. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

- (i) The election of members of The Committee shall be held at the Annual General Meeting of the U3A.
- (ii) The newly elected Committee shall take office at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.
- (iii) Officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) shall serve for a period of one year.
- (iv) Other Committee members shall serve for a period of three years.
- (v) Retiring Officers may stand for re-election provided that no-one may hold the office of Chairman or Vice-Chairman for more than 3 consecutive years without an intervening period of at least 1 year except that a retiring Vice-Chairman may stand immediately for the post of Chairman. These rules can be overridden in exceptional circumstances such as their application leading to the closure of Wilmslow u3a and specific approval is given at the AGM.
- (vi) Notwithstanding the above no person shall be a member of the Committee for more than 6 consecutive years without an intervening period of at least one year unless there are exceptional circumstances and specific approval is given at the AGM.
- (vii) If insufficient nominations are received to fill the vacancies for Officers and/or Committee members, The Committee may as a last resort, appeal to the assembled members at the Annual General Meeting for permission to ask whether anyone present is willing to reconsider and put themselves forward as a candidate for one of the vacancies. A vote must be taken on this motion and must be carried by not less than two thirds of the members present for the request to be made.
- (viii) In the event of no nominations being received for one or more of the Honorary Officer posts a majority decision can be taken by The Committee to appoint an officer until the next AGM.

Reasons for the proposed amendment:

To make the wording related to terms of office more clear and to allow for exceptional circumstances whereby the six year rule must be broken to allow for the continued functioning of Wilmslow u3a.

Current wording

7. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

- (i) The election of members of The Committee shall be held at the Annual General Meeting of the U3A.
- (ii) The newly elected Committee shall take office at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.
- (iii) Officers shall serve for a period of one year and Committee members for a period of three years. Retiring Officers may stand for re-election provided that no-one may hold the office of Chairman or Vice-Chairman for more than three consecutive years without an intervening period of at least one year except that a retiring Vice-Chairman may stand immediately for the post of Chairman. Notwithstanding the above no person shall be a member of the Committee for more than 6 consecutive years without an intervening period of at least one year.
- (iv) If insufficient nominations are received to fill the vacancies for Officers and/or Committee members, The Committee may as a last resort, appeal to the assembled members at the Annual General Meeting for permission to ask whether anyone present is willing to reconsider and put themselves forward as a candidate for one of the vacancies. A vote must be taken on this motion and must be carried by not less than two thirds of the members present for the request to be made.
- (v) In the event of no nominations being received for one or more of the Honorary Officer posts a majority decision can be taken by The Committee to appoint an officer until the next AGM.

Wilmslow u3a

Motion 2

Proposed amendment to the Constitution for approval at the AGM on 25 March 2026:

13. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (i) There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the U3A held each year and not later than 15 months after the preceding Annual General Meeting.
- (ii) Every Annual General Meeting shall be called by The Committee.
- (iii) The Secretary shall give at least 21 days' notice of the Annual General Meeting to all the members of The U3A.
- (iv) All the members of The U3A shall be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting.
- (v) Accidental omission to give notice to any member shall not invalidate the proceedings of the General Meeting.
- (vi) The Committee shall present to each Annual General Meeting the report and accounts of The U3A for the preceding year for approval.
- (vii) The Committee shall seek approval for the appointment of the examiner for the accounts.
- (viii) Nominations for Officers and Committee Members must be made by members in writing and delivered to the Secretary of the Committee by the date stipulated in the AGM Notification documents.
- (ix) If there is more than one nomination for an Officer role a vote will be held with the person receiving the most votes being elected.
- (x) If nominations for the Committee exceed vacancies a vote will be held with the people receiving the most votes being elected.
- (xi) Any proposals to amend the Constitution shall be according to clause 16.
- (xii) Apologies must be submitted in writing to the Secretary and may include a Proxy Notice.
- (xiii) The Proxy Notice will be in a form decided by the Committee and the votes cast by the appointed
Proxy will be added to the votes cast at the meeting.

Reasons for the proposed amendment:

The timing of the AGM was moved from January to March at sometime in the past. This amendment regularises that change and allows more flexibility with the timing. Proxy voting is being added in line with the u3a Model Constitution. Other changes are to clarify wording, voting and the handling of Nominations.

Current wording

13. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (i) There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the U3A which shall be held in the month of January in each year or as soon as practicable thereafter but not later than 15 months after the preceding Annual General Meeting.
 - (ii) Every Annual General Meeting shall be called by The Committee. The Secretary shall give at least 21 days' notice of the Annual General Meeting to all the members of The U3A. All the members of The U3A shall be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting.
 - (iii) Accidental omission to give notice to any member shall not invalidate the proceedings of the General Meeting.
 - (iv) The Committee shall present to each Annual General Meeting the report and accounts of The U3A for the preceding year for approval.
 - (v) The Committee shall seek approval for the appointment of the examiner for the accounts.
 - (vi) Nominations for election to The Committee must be made by members in writing and must be in the hands of the Secretary of The Committee at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. Should nominations exceed vacancies, election shall be by ballot.
- Any proposals to amend the constitution subject to clause 16 shall be considered at the Annual General Meeting and any other business published in the agenda.

Wilmslow u3a

Motion 3

Proposed amendment to the Constitution for approval at the AGM on 25 March 2026:

15. PROCEDURE AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- (i) The Secretary or other person specially appointed by The Committee shall keep a full record of proceedings at every General Meeting of The U3A.
- (ii) There shall be a quorum when at least 10% of the number of members of The U3A, are present in person or by proxy who are entitled to vote upon the business to be conducted at the meeting.
- (iii) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present or during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall be adjourned to such time and place as the Committee shall determine.
- (iv) The Committee must re-convene the meeting and must give at least seven clear days' notice of re-convened meeting stating the date, time and place of the meeting.
- (v) If no quorum is present at the re-convened meeting within fifteen minutes of the time specified for the start of the meeting the members present at that time shall constitute the quorum for that meeting.
- (vi) The Chairman of The U3A shall be the Chairman of the General Meeting at which he/she is present. In the absence of the Chairman, The Committee shall have the power to elect a chairman for the meeting.
- (vii) If there is a tied vote the Chairman of the meeting should have a single casting vote.

Reasons for the proposed amendment:

Achieving a quorum for the AGM under the current Constitution can be difficult. Without a quorum the meeting must be adjourned for at least 21 days so in practice for a month. This is very cumbersome and does not add to the effective running of the u3a. The revised wording is in line with the u3a model constitution and is less onerous.

Current wording

15. PROCEDURE AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- (i) The Secretary or other person specially appointed by The Committee shall keep a full record of proceedings at every General Meeting of The U3A.
- (ii) There shall be a quorum when at least 15% of the number of members of The U3A, are present at any General Meeting.
- (iii) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting if convened at the request of the members shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall be adjourned to another day and time as The Committee may direct provided 21 day's notice is given to all members. If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.
- (iv) The Chairman of The U3A shall be the Chairman of the General Meeting at which he/she is present. In the absence of the Chairman, The Committee shall have the power to elect a chairman for the meeting.
- (v) If there is a tied vote the Chairman of the meeting should have a single casting vote.