

AGM 2020 Virtual Annual General Meeting

2.00pm Wednesday 19 August 2020

Minutes

- Chairman's Welcome;** David Little welcomed the committee members on zoom, and reported on the very good online response to voting by U3A members on line and by post for the AGM. A summary of the voting is included at the end of the minutes.
- Apologies:** from Audrey Stainton and Hilary Claxton.
- Present**

David Little (Chair)	Val Garvey
Catherine Williams	Ian Powell
Kathryn Kohn	Hester Gorman
Anne Urquhart	Peter Bunny
Colin Edwards	Cath Sharpe
- Minutes of last year's AGM: Approved - These will be signed when face to face meetings are resumed.
- Matters arising:**

Item 8 - Attendance fees of £1.50 per attendance have been implemented.

Item 8 - Newsletter for non-email users. This matter has been frequently discussed during the year, and is referred to under AOB.
- Chairman's Annual Report:** Widely circulated with the AGM details and is on the website.
- Treasurer's Report:** Accounts are detailed on the website. Total reserves increased to a healthy £19,431 as a result of increased attendance fees. Thanks go to members of the committee and the group coordinators for all their help in collecting subscriptions and Group Charges. Stuart Hinton has examined the accounts for the last time and the financial statement was approved by members.
- Appointment of an Independent Examiner:** Stuart Hinton has stepped down as independent examiner and will be formally thanked on behalf of the committee. Bob Boyd is proposed as the new examiner and his appointment has been approved by members votes.
- Election of Offices for the Committee 2020/21:** All of the committee members and officers standing for election were approved.

Chair	David Little
Vice Chair	Hilary Claxton
Secretary	Val Garvey
Assistant Secretary	Catherine Williams
Treasurer	Ian Powell
Assistant Treasurer	Audrey Stainton
Membership Secretary	Kathryn Kohn
Assistant Membership Secretary	Hester Gorman
Minutes Secretary	Anne Urquhart
Publicity Officer	Peter Bunny

Cath Sharpe now stands down as membership secretary - she has stayed on to assist the new membership team in this difficult Covid period, and was formally thanked for her work over many years. Ian Fishwick (treasurer) and Bob Wells (chair) also stand down and have been formally thanked for their considerable efforts, their 'acting' replacements are now confirmed in office.

- 10. AOB:** Items raised by members under any other business have been grouped into a number of sections.

Miscellaneous:

There were specific expressions of thanks to the committee and officers from 4 members
1 member wished clarification of the term 'marmite' in the chairman's report - (you either love it or hate it).

1 member expressed the wish to be allowed to remain in SLU3A even if one started in Kirkby Lonsdale (no problem).

1 registered apologies for not attending the AGM.

Subscriptions:

The committee were asked if there were any plans to change the basis of subscriptions and also to consider collecting Group membership fees in advance instead of at each individual meeting. At the moment the consensus is that the subscription levels and group charges are left as they are until we have a much clearer view of how the future will develop.

It was suggested group coordinators should be able to use BACS payments to remit funds to U3A. Discussed and approved as a sensible way to avoid so much handling of cheques and reliance on postal services, Ian Powell, Audrey Stainton, and Hilary Claxton will consider and report at the next committee meeting.

Risk assessment: There was a request for a clear statement on U3A policy on 3rd party liability insurance and risk assessments. The committee will be discussing this in detail at their next meeting.

Minutes: It was suggested that the minutes of committee meetings be placed on the website. This was discussed and agreed, so minutes will be available to members in the password protected 'members area' from September onwards. (The password can be found at the bottom of every members newsletter).

Communication: The committee was asked to consider how more support could be offered to the members who have no internet access as loneliness and isolation could result. This matter has exercised the committee at every meeting for over a year, and strenuous efforts have been made to address this issue. A campaign to phone all the members registered as 'non-electronic' (171 in April 2020) was surprisingly successful. Very few of those contacted reported that they felt that they were being excluded and almost half of them were willing to register their previously undisclosed e-contact. Now we have only 87 members who do not have a registered e-mail address, and 4 members have specifically requested to have no electronic communication at all even though they have an email address. Efforts are being made to get newsletters to these 87, and discussion about further measures will take place at future meetings.

On a similar subject the committee were asked if internet access should be a requirement for membership? The unanimous decision is no, there are a number of members who have been with South Lakes U3A for a very long time and we should not penalise them or potential new members who do not use the internet. The computer group within our membership have been and still are willing to help any member with IT queries.

There being no other business, the AGM finished at 14.58.

Summary of votes cast at the South Lakes U3A AGM August 2020

South Lakes U3A					
Annual General Meeting 19 August 2020 at 2.00pm					
Summary of votes cast					
Total number of votes received (202 electronic, 11 postal)					213
Duplicated votes eliminated					15
Total valid votes					198
	for	abstain	against	blank	Total
Approve minutes of last AGM	173	17	1	7	198
Approve financial statement	176	12	1	9	198
Approve appointment of independent financial examiner	174	9	2	13	198
Committee appointments					
Chair	188	2	1	7	198
Vice Chair	188	2	1	7	198
Secretary	187	2	1	8	198
Assistant Secretary	186	1	1	10	198
Treasurer	185	2	1	10	198
Assistant Treasurer	189	1	1	7	198
Membership Secretary	187	2	1	8	198
Assistant Membership Secretary	188	2	1	7	198
Minutes Secretary	188	1	1	8	198
Webmaster	187	2	1	8	198