

POCKLINGTON & DISTRICT U3A

Minutes of the tenth Annual General Meeting

held at 2.00 p.m. on Thursday 23rd April 2015 at Pocklington Methodist Church

Welcome by the Chair

Steve Fraser, the Chair for 2014-15, welcomed 99 members to the 10th Annual General Meeting of Pocklington & District U3A, saying that to reach the 10th anniversary was a great success story.

1. Apologies for absence

The Secretary stated that 27 written apologies had been received.

2. Minutes of the 9th A.G.M. held on 10th April 2014

The acceptance of the minutes of the previous A.G.M. was proposed by Ro King and seconded by Richard Hawkins. There being no objections from the floor, this was deemed to be carried unanimously. There were no matters arising.

3. Chair's Report on the 2014-2015 year

The retiring Chair reported that during the year our U3A had continued to grow with 793 members and 80 groups currently, with 50% of members coming from Pocklington and others spread from Stamford Bridge in the north to the Hull estuary in the south.

The Chair continued that the interest groups were divided between educational and recreational, with our many group leaders sharing their expertise and that groups are increasingly being run on a more shared approach. She stressed that this follows the true U3A ethos and philosophy.

The Chair said that the Committee were constantly looking at the constitution, the aims of the U3A and the requirements of the Charity Commission. This meant that we had to look closely at how we ran our groups, particularly those with paid tutors, and this may lead to more groups being formed on the self-help principle.

The Chair then paid tribute to all those who had served on the Committee during the year and worked hard for the organisation. She went on to record special thanks to Inger Hawkins, the retiring Treasurer; Bev Austin, David Jamieson and Terry Rogers who were retiring from the Committee; and all the unmentioned heroes, the group leaders and the members, who make our organisation so friendly and active.

The Chair thanked Freda Snelson, Frank Challoner and Ian Snape for organising the planting of trees and erection of bird boxes to mark the 10th Anniversary and the Scrapbooking group for the photographic displays.

She ended by saying a very personal thank you to everyone for the support given to her over the past year which she had found such an interesting and enjoyable experience.

4. Treasurer's report on the accounts for year ending 31st March 2015

The retiring Treasurer, Inger Hawkins, presented the accounts for the year to 31st March 2015 (shown at the end of these minutes). She commented that the finances are still healthy and in good proportion to the current number of members.

In detail, the Treasurer highlighted that the low figure for subscriptions was because of a change of policy with those subscriptions paid in February and March are now being shown in the 2015-

16 accounts. £1,500 had been spent on trees and bird boxes to celebrate the 10th Anniversary. The surplus of £1,772 was not a true figure as the capitation of £2,772 due to the Third Age Trust was now invoiced in April rather than March.

The Treasurer reported that she was leaving the role with approximately the same bank balance as when she took over three years previously, which, she commented to ripples of amusement, meant she had spent all the money collected in that period and she hoped all would agree that it had been spent wisely.

The Treasurer thanked Brian Snelson, as Examiner of the Accounts, and her husband for their valuable support, saying that she had enjoyed being the Treasurer but she was now making way for someone else to contribute and for her to have time to join some groups.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Richard Hawkins and seconded by David Jamieson. There being no objections from the floor, this was deemed to be carried unanimously.

5. Motion to maintain the subscription rate for 2015-16 and 2016-17 at £12.00

It was recommended by the Committee that the subscription rate for 2015/2016 remain at the same level as last year, £12.00.

It was further proposed that the subscription rate for 2016-17 also be ratified by this A.G.M. at £12.00. The rationale behind this was that subscriptions were renewed from 1st February each year, two months before the A.G.M. currently ratified the rate, leaving the possibility for a change extremely difficult to apply. By agreeing the rate a year ahead, the A.G.M. would regain control of the subscription rate.

Acceptance of this motion was proposed by Janet Styles, seconded by Ian Snape and the vast majority voted in favour.

6. The appointment of an examiner of the accounts

The retiring Chair thanked Brian Snelson who had been Examiner of the Accounts for several years. It had been recommended by the Committee that, as the overall turnover still falls just below the ceiling at which an external examiner must be brought in, Terry Rogers be appointed as the Examiner of the Accounts for the year to 31st March 2016. This appointment was proposed by Liz Dearsly, seconded by Ian Wadsworth and agreed by those present.

7. Election of Chair for the 2015-16 year and hand over from retiring Chair

The nominee for the post of Chair was Pauline Carter, proposed by Janet Styles, seconded by Glynis Moorhouse. This appointment was carried by an overwhelming majority.

The incoming Chair, Pauline Carter, paid a huge thank you to the retiring Chair for all her hard work.

8. Election of Officers for the 2015-16 year

Nominations had been received for the following officers:

Vice-Chair no nominees

Secretary Janet Styles

Proposed by Ian Snape, seconded by Alastair Fraser, carried by a large majority vote.

Treasurer Paul Giles

Proposed by Pauline Carter, seconded by Inger Hawkins, carried by a large majority vote.

9. Election of four Committee Members to serve for three years

There were four vacancies for Committee Members and four nominations had been received:

David Bragg - Proposed by Pauline Carter, seconded by Ian Brisco

Frank Challoner - Proposed by Steve Fraser, seconded by Pauline Carter

Ian Snape - Proposed by Janet Styles, seconded by Freda Snelson

Kay Stephenson - Proposed by Freda Snelson, seconded by Julian Tremayne

These appointments were carried by a large majority vote.

10. Incoming Chair's address

The incoming Chair, Pauline Carter, thanked the members present for attending and the retiring Chair for doing a superb job during the year with great tact and leadership. She went on to say that, despite hard canvassing, no-one had come forward to take up the role of Vice-Chair and so the Committee would share those tasks until someone was found.

The Chair said that the success of our U3A was the result of a lot of hard work by the Committee, the group leaders and their army of helpers. As we continue to grow, the Committee had decided to set up a small working group to look at forward planning under the leadership of Ian Snape and that additional members would be welcome to join this group, particularly with project management experience.

She then referred to an article in The Times that illustrated how the U3A movement had taken off - with 350,000 members, 950 study groups providing 15,000,000 hours of learning on 36,000 subjects.

Looking forward to the year ahead, the Chair said that new groups continued to be formed in our U3A, all brought about by the members, helping others to learn and learning themselves, and this is what U3A is all about.

11. Date of next A.G.M. IN 2016

This was arranged for Thursday 21st April 2016.

12. Any other business

No other business had been notified to the Secretary.

13. Closure of the meeting

The Chair informed the members present that there would be a break for refreshments and then Mr. Derek Utley would talk about the work of the Woodland Trust followed by Mr. Ryan Chenery talking about the work of the R.S.P.B.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 2.25 p.m.

Pocklington & District U3A
Accounts at year end **31.3.2015**

2014		2015
£ 9,454.89	Balance at 1st April, 2014	£ 8,570.56
	Income	
£ 9,228.00	Subscriptions	£ 9,085.75
£ 705.41	IT/Computer balance	£ (97.39)
£ 577.04	Tea/Coffee sales	£ 22.00
£ 0.00	Gift Aid Tax repayment 2012/13 & 2013/14	£ 1,078.22
£ 195.00	Bank Interest	£ 0.00
<u>£10,705.45</u>	<u>Total Income</u>	<u>£10,088.58</u>
	Expenditure	
£ 3,962.60	New and Replacement Equipment	£ 1,239.22
£ 2,544.50	Capitation to Third Age Trust	£ 0.00
£ 614.75	RoomHire	£ 847.00
£ 691.47	Group Leaders' Conference	£ 1,036.56
£ 380.00	Newsletter Production & Postage	£ 434.00
£ 1,153.66	Annual Individual Magazine Postage	£ 1,232.01
£ 1,276.04	Administration	£ 1,257.43
£ 60.00	Copyright Licence	£ 60.00
£ 126.13	Broadband Rental	£ 121.13
£ 203.44	Speakers	£ 130.00
£ 479.60	Membership cards and postage	£ 392.29
£ 60.10	UnsoldDiaries	£ 0.00
£ 37.49	Miscellaneous Expenses - 10th Anniversary Tree Planting	£ 1,566.34
£11,589.78	Total Expenditure	£ 8,315.98
<u>£ -884.33</u>	Reduction/Surplus to reserves	<u>£ 1,772.60</u>
<u>£8,570.56</u>	<u>Balance at 31st March, 2015</u>	<u>£10,343.16</u>
	Balance in U3A Current Account 31.3.2015	£10,313.16
	Petty Cash	£ 30.00