

POCKLINGTON & DISTRICT U3A

Minutes of the twelfth Annual General Meeting

held at 2.00 p.m. on Thursday 20th April 2017 at Pocklington Methodist Church

Welcome by the President

The President for 2016-17 Freda Snelson thanked Pauline Atkinson and the Singing for Pleasure Group for entertaining the audience so well before the meeting started and encouraged a round of applause to thank them. The President welcomed 78 members to the 12th Annual General Meeting of Pocklington & District U3A.

1. Apologies for absence

The Secretary stated that 15 apologies had been received – these being: Margaret & Brian James, Val Wosket, Elizabeth Walker, Joyce Turnough, Rosalind Gladstone, Pauline Carter, Anthony & Judith Aydon, Jan & Tony Brooks, Margaret & Clifford Stubbs and Kay & Richard Hart.

2. Minutes of the 11th A.G.M. held on 21st April 2016

The President asked the meeting to approve the minutes of the previous A.G.M. The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Alex Clark, seconded by Ro King and the majority voted in favour by show of hands. There were no matters arising.

3. President's Report on the 2016-17 year

In the absence of a Chair Person, the President explained that she would conduct the first part of the meeting handing over to Paul Giles our Treasurer and that Steve Fraser, a Past Chairman would follow on and conduct the elections for officers.

The President explained that due to unforeseen circumstances we started the year without nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. She expressed that this is not the case for the new year which is good news as operating without a Chair or Vice Chair has been difficult for the committee.

The President commented that during the year we had welcomed Graham Ball who agreed to join us as Vice Chair and that Elizabeth Walker and Moira Laverack, our Membership Secretary, were co-opted later in the year. The following committee members have agreed to continue their roles for another year; David Bragg, Frank Challoner, Eileen Ducker, Ian Smith, Kay Stephenson and Val Wosket – thanks were expressed to those that have served for their contributions and commitment. She continued stating that Pauline Carter and Brian James have also contributed and that members will be asked to confirm their nominations in new roles later in the meeting. Thanks were expressed to Paul Giles, our Treasurer and Graham Gillyon our Secretary who have provided stability in these key roles.

The President commented that Steve Fraser, who has been on the committee for the past 6 years, part of this time as Vice Chair, Chair and Past Chair, retires this year – thanks were noted for Steve who has demonstrated enthusiasm, wise counsel and dedication. The President continued stating that it is comforting to know that Steve Fraser will still be there in the background for advice if needed.

Thanks were expressed for Gerry Hutchinson who helps with our admin, Terry Rogers and his team run our meet & greet desk and our catering team who provide sustenance when needed – thanks are expressed to all.

The President commented that our Group Leaders, some of whom run more than one group and those who support them are a mainstay of our U3A. She continued stating that nothing would

happen without their group leadership and thanked them for their commitment, time and effort.

The President summarised that we have a regular membership of +800 in 76 Groups but as at today 715 members have paid up. She continued stating that in order to sustain our membership we continually need new groups and reminded everyone that the U3A is a self-help organisation run by the members for the members and that without the help and support from its members this obviously will not happen.

The President encouraged members to share their interests and hobbies with like minded members to form a new group, or start a second group where an existing one is full. She reminded all that our committee members will support new groups to become established. Additionally the President reminded members that committee are always looking for members who are willing to help with specific projects – she referred all those who would like to volunteer to see the Secretary.

The President explained that we have been developing a new website this year and told members that they'd learn more about it and how to use it and that she was keen that members would achieve some benefit from using it.

4. Treasurer's report on the accounts for year ending 31st March 2017

The Treasurer, Paul Giles, presented the accounts for the year to 31st March 2017 (shown at the end of these minutes) which had been audited by Terry Rogers. He commented that the balance at 31st March 2017 (£8748) was similar to that of 31st March 2016 however our additional expenses of the 2016-17 year had been off-set by increased membership subscriptions revenue and 2 years value of Gift Aid Tax Repayments (£2004).

Paul explained that the cost of hosting Open Meetings has resulted in some increases in expenditure (specifically room hire, catering and printing). He continued that he supported the motion to lower the subscription rate for 2017-18 as the trend was for the bank balance to steadily increase year on year although expenditure remained fairly static.

Acceptance of the accounts to 31st March 2017 was proposed by Sue Giles and seconded by Janet Styles with the majority present voting in favour by show of hands.

5. Motion to retain the subscription rate at £10 for 2018-19

The Treasurer reminded members that it had been agreed at the 2016 AGM that the subscription rate be lowered for the 2017-18 year with reasoning summarised as being twofold - firstly because of the amount of capital held and secondly the continuing increase in membership. The Treasurer confirmed that it was felt that this reduction was justified given that there was no major expenditure in the pipeline and it was a benefit that could be passed on to all our members.

The Treasurer advised that the reduced membership subscription rate of £10 continue in 2018-19 as our accounts reflect a healthy balance that would meet our anticipated needs of the new year.

The Treasurer Paul Giles proposed this and it was Seconded by Hazel MacDonald and approved by those present with a show of hands.

6. Membership Geographic's

Membership Secretary Moira Laverack presented a brief summary re the geographic spread of the Pocklington & District membership residency highlighting that apart from East Yorkshire itself, we have members residing in the York area, Malton and Leeds spanning 67 cities towns and hamlets! The review of our membership geographic spread highlights that some members are not joining their local U3A and that Pocklington & District U3A has become a popular choice given its size and the variety of groups on offer.

7. The appointment of an Examiner of the Accounts

The Treasurer thanked Terry Rogers, who was Examiner of the Accounts for 2016-17, and for his commitment to the role – the Treasurer explained however that Terry had stepped down from this role and that a vacancy for a new Examiner needed to be filled. Past Chair Pauline Carter proposed Gerry Hutchinson as the incoming Examiner of Accounts for 2017 – 2018 – this was seconded by Terry Rogers and approved by those present with a show of hands.

8. Election's for 2017-18 year

Steve Fraser (a Past Chair) led the election process at the AGM stating that prior to introducing the new committee she would like to thank Freda for not only presenting the Annual Report for the past year but also for the support and advice she has given to the committee over the past year as President of our U3A. She reminded those present that it was 12yrs ago that Freda arranged a meeting at The Arts Centre for those interested in forming a local U3A and thus Pocklington and District U3A was born.

i) Election of President for the 2017-18 year

The committee recommends that Freda Snelson is the President for the coming year
This appointment was proposed by: Frank Challoner, Seconded by Graham Gillyon
approved by those present with a show of hands.

ii) Election of Officers for the 2017-18 year

Chair (1 nomination had been received):

- Graham Ball was proposed by Freda Snelson, Seconded by Brian James and approved by those present with a show of hands.

Vice Chair (1 nomination had been received):

- Brian James was proposed by Graham Ball, Seconded by David Bragg and approved by those present with a show of hands.

3 nominations for Committee roles had been received – these being of Pauline Carter, Moira Laverack and Elizabeth Walker:

Re-elected to Committee (serving 2 additional years):

- Pauline Carter who was proposed by Graham Gillyon, Seconded Ian Smith and approved by those present with a show of hands.

Newly elected (serving 2 years):

- Moira Laverack who was proposed by Eileen Ducker, Seconded by Graham Ball and approved by those present with a show of hands.
- Elizabeth Walker who was proposed Pauline Carter, Seconded by Moira Laverack and approved by those present with a show of hands.

Officers remaining:

- Secretary Graham Gillyon Treasurer Paul Giles

Committee remaining:

- David Bragg, Frank Challoner, Eileen Duckworth, Kay Stevenson & Val Wosket

Steve Fraser summarized that it is good news that we have a full committee for 2017-18 and hopefully we will never again have a repeat of last year (without a Chair) as this put increased pressure on the Committee.

Any Other Business

No motions for consideration under Any Other Business had been notified to the Secretary.

9. Date of next A.G.M. IN 2018

The Chair informed the meeting that the A.G.M. in 2018 will be held on **Thursday 19th April.**

10. Closure of the meeting

Steve Fraser declared the A.G.M. closed at 2.20pm and handed over to Graham Ball who was the new Chair (2017-18)

Graham Ball addressed members by thanking them for supporting his nomination as Chair for 2017-18. He continued stating that our U3A was in good shape – we had managed to hold back from increasing subscription, had increased membership and had some new groups too.

The Chair summarised that our Committee are 'enablers'; relying on the ideas and inputs of our members and then invited those present to put forward any suggestions and ideas they would like the incoming Committee to consider. The Chair continued stating that our Suggestion Box initiative was available at monthly Drop-in's and provided a further channel for members to share their ideas for Committee consideration

The following were presented to the Chair:

- The accounts for the year be available as a hard copy for reference at the AGM
 - The Secretary committed to doing tins for the 2017-18 accounts.
- The purchase of new equipment (specifically laptops) was raised and a question asked re what we do with redundant equipment and also that further courses be available for members to develop their IT skills.
 - The Treasurer commented that only 1 laptop had been purchased during the year (other costs related to purchase of a new card printing machine and projection screens and other equipment available for groups to use)
 - The Treasurer explained that he was conducting an audit of assets and together with the Committee would agree how redundant assets are to be disposed of.
 - The Chair explained that there may be a need to develop IT skills however a member would have to come forward as a Group Leader to host this learning. He continued stating that if there is any further learning requirement that the committee would like to know about this.
- We were asked if there was a Drama group – the answer is no.
 - The Committee would welcome a member leading this and developing the initiative if there is viability.
- A member asked if we have an expert re I phones.
- Concern re Group Capacity was raised and a suggestion that we may need to limit new membership so that we can cater better for our current membership.
 - In reality there is more capacity in groups than some members believe and this needs to be communicated (the committee will be doing this at Drop-in's and via the new website.
 - When group maximum size is reached the committee encourage multiple groups to set up.
 - The Singing for Pleasure group highlighted that they have been trying to recruit a second pianist to support them however there has been no volunteers coming forward. A question was asked re payment of a Pianist to support the group and this would be addressed by the Committee.

The Chair then informed the members present that there would be presentation launching the new Website – conducted by Brian Snelson.

The Chair continued stating that there would be an opportunity to learn more in smaller groups at the end of the presentation and that refreshments would be served in the foyer area.



Freda Snelson 20th April 2017



Steve Fraser 20th April 2017

Accounts for Year Ended 31 March 2017: Pocklington & District U3A

Pocklington & District U3A

Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

	<u>2017</u>		<u>2016</u>
Balance as at 1 April 2016	8255		10343
Sources of Income			
Subscriptions	10272		9768
Gift Aid Tax Repayments	2004		-
IT/Computer	-		60
Surplus from Closed Groups	517		-
Sundry Receipts	<u>12</u>	<u>12805</u>	<u>3</u> 9831
	<u>21060</u>		<u>20174</u>
Expenditure			
New and Replacement Equipment	1886		558
Capitation to 3rd Age Trust	2853		2772
Room Hire & Open Meetings	1110		450
Drop Ins & AGM	615		632
Refreshments	358		193
Group Leaders Conference	579		812
Newsletter Production & Postage	670		495
Annual Individual Magazine Postage	1480		1390
Printing, Stationery & General Administration	1264		992
Copyright Licence	60		120
Broadband Rental	120		120
Speakers	735		375
Membership Cards & Postage	432		249
Donations	150		350
Cost of New Website	-		2399
Miscellaneous	<u>-</u>	<u>12312</u>	<u>12</u> 11919
Balance as at 31 March 2017	<u>8748</u>		<u>8255</u>