



Buckingham and District U3A

Minutes

For the Annual General Meeting held at 2:30 pm Wednesday 27
November 2019 in the Buckingham Community Centre

1. The Chairman welcomed the members and opened the meeting.
2. Apologies: Carolina Kenealy
3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting, copies of which were available in the Hall and had been posted on the Association's website, were approved by a show of hands by the members.

4. Chairman's Report

The chairman reviewed the year. Membership in the Association is holding up, with 750 paid members and 49 new members since July.

The Association is the largest voluntary association in Buckingham. There are 75 active groups.

The Committee is complete and the Chairman welcomed Lilia Bogle who replaced Dusty Roades, who was unable to continue as ViceChairman.

John White is retiring as the Technical Resources person and Derek Morgan, the Webmaster, has agreed to replace him.

Beryl Carr, who has organised visits for many years, is stepping down in January.

The Association has two long-standing goals. The first is to develop links with outside organisations, particularly the University of Buckingham. The Medical School gave a presentation to the Association in May.

The second is to open up the Committee so members can see what it does. Group Co-ordinators are invited to attend committee meetings to observe and to explain what their group does. Helen Preston, the Group Co-ordinator for the Recorders Group, attended the October meeting.

Group Co-ordinators are also invited to give a presentation about their group at the beginning of each open meeting of the Association.

The Christmas Social will be on 18 December. Two groups will perform: Recorders and Poetry. There will be a quiz.

There will be a New Year's Lunch at the Villiers Hotel on 12 January 2020. The Secretary is organising the lunch and he announced that the charge will be £22 for a two course meal, main course and pudding, with tea and coffee. The deadline for applications is 31 December.

The Chairman expressed the Association's thanks to Ginny Booth, to Karen Burton and Jo Taylor for catering and organising the Summer Social, to Di Procter for organising theatre trips, to Beryl Carr and to all of the Group Co-ordinators.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Association enjoyed a surplus for the year.

The accounts have been examined and copies are available in the Hall. Diaries for 2020 are available.

The Treasurer asked the members to approve the accounts as presented.

Proposed by Pam Tonge

Seconded by Barbara Willis

The accounts were approved by a show of hands by the members.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

The Membership Secretary reported that she had taken over the position during the year. There are 750 fully paid up members, with more subscription payments being received. There are 161 lapsed members.

She will send a note to all of the Group Co-ordinators asking them to check that all the members in their group have renewed their membership.

There was a new members coffee morning in October.

The Membership Secretary reported that a new Russian language group is being formed and she will be guiding it as it starts up.

7. Group Liaison Officer's Report

The Group Liaison Officer reported that there are several new groups and they are going well, including Antiques and Collectibles and Calligraphy.

Members are trying to start a table tennis group. There are two singing groups and several language groups, including a new French for Beginners Group and a Spanish Beginners Group.

8. Speaker Secretary's Report

The Speaker Secretary reported that speakers for all of 2020 have been booked and he is already booking speakers for 2021.

He urged members to inform him of any suggestions of good speakers.

9. Webmaster's Report

The Webmaster requested that members who notice any errors or omissions on the Association's website should bring them to his attention. Many e-mails are bouncing back and members should ensure that their contact details are correct.

He asked that Group Co-ordinators keep him up to date on any changes to their groups.

10. Vice-Chairman's Report

The Vice-Chairman reported on strengthening relations with the University of Buckingham. The Medical School wants local people's input on curriculum matters and to sit on committees as lay members. In addition, it seeks patient participation, e.g., members could talk with medical students or be examples. The first cohort of the Medical School (45) will graduate in June 2020.

11. Election of Officers and Committee Members

The Chairman announced that all of the current officers of the Association are willing to be re-elected and that nomination and seconding forms have been received for all four officers.

Chairman: Martin Paul

Vice-Chairman: Lilia Bogle

Treasurer: Paddy Collins

Secretary: Clifford Dammers

The members voted to elect all four officers by a show of hands.

[Due to an oversight a formal confirmation of Clive Cowdy as president was omitted at the meeting. He has indicated that he is happy to continue. Although this is not strictly needed constitutionally as the role of president is normally for 3years, nevertheless the Committee subsequently unanimously agreed that Clive be asked to continue in the role as president.]

The Chairman announced that the Committee must be elected. The current members are willing to continue serving. The Chairman announced that nomination and seconding forms have been received for all the Committee members.

Derek Morgan—Webmaster and Technical Resources

Steve Heywood—Group Liaison Officer

Carolina Kenealy—Newsletter Editor

Roland Simpkins—Speaker Secretary

Lorna Joy —Membership Secretary

The Chairman asked for a proposal that the Committee members be elected to the Committee.

Proposed by Mike Westin

Seconded by Dorothy Morgan

The Members voted to elect the nominated members to the Committee by a show of hands.

12. Any Other Business

The Chairman reported that the newsletter is now being published semi-annually. He asked that contributions be submitted on a timely basis.

There will be a Third Age Trust workshop in Milton Keynes on 28

November 2019 on improving the working of groups. The Association will pay the reasonable expenses of members who attend.

13. Open Forum

The Chairman opened the meeting up to comments and questions from the members. He reported that the Third Age Trust runs summer schools in August and September and members who have attended in the past have found them very good.

There will be a national U3A Day on 3 June 2020. Lorna Joy is looking into it.

A member pointed out that research has shown that music helps people suffering from dementia and suggested that the singing and music groups could visit care homes.

The meeting was closed at 3:05 pm.

Charity No. 1177534

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