

Llandrindod Wells and District u3a

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, held as a virtual meeting on Monday June 14th 2021

Members were sent papers and voting forms either by email or post. Over 20% of the membership returned voting forms.

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| 1 | Minutes of the AGM held on 10th March 2020 | Approved unanimously. |
| 2 | Matters arising from the AGM Minutes | <i>There were no matters arising.</i> |
| 3 | Chairman's Report | <i>Included below</i>
Approved unanimously.
<i>No comments or questions received.</i> |
| 4 | Financial Statements | <i>Included below</i>
Approved unanimously.
<i>No comments or questions received.</i> |
| 5 | Election of Officers and Committee Members for 2021-2022 | Approved with one abstention.
<i>The Committee elected for 2020-2021 with one exception moves forward for 2021-2022</i> |
| 6 | To appoint Martin Nosworthy as Auditor | Approved unanimously. |

It is anticipated that the next AGM will take place as normal in March 2022.

Karen Latham, Chairman

Kathie Richards-Jones, Committee Secretary

Chairman's Report 2020/2021

The Chairman, Karen Latham reports as follows;

When I proudly accepted the post of Chair of the Llandrindod and District U3A, and stood before you all on a Monday in March 2020 none of us would have imagined that 15 months would pass and we would not be able to meet together again as an organisation. That communication would be via the website, Zoom meetings, e mail and writing to you via Newsletters rather than being with you to share the experience of learning via our speaker programme, with the enjoyment and comradeship of meetings.

This will be an AGM Chairman's report like no other.

There have been no main meetings from which to pick highlights.

No special events, no Christmas lunch, no charabanc outings.

And although a few interest groups, because of their determination or subject matter, have valiantly stayed together meeting via Zoom or email, many groups have just been unable to function under Government restrictions, lockdowns and the safety measures required during the global pandemic..

I also applaud the groups that did try to use Zoom and other technologies in order to function but in the end gave up because it just did not work for their members.

Venues closed so many groups just could not function: the Lunch, Craft, Cinema, Art Groups ... the list goes on. While the groups who travelled ... Rail Riders, Theatre Group, Garden Visiting ... were unable to go anywhere because of restrictions.

Many members have kept up interests working alone or developing new interests and studies, developing new skills, with instruments, cookery, horticulture, DIY and refuse disposal. Although I admit my own motivational levels seem to have dropped as time went on.

I can sincerely echo a statement by our last Chair Roger Malvern *"I had not appreciated the importance of our U3A to its members, and how it has become a central focus for many of our lives"*

It has been a challenging time for everyone. I hear time and again that of all the organisations "on hold" it has been u3a which has been missed the most, which gives me most hope for our future, because we enjoy the social aspects as much as the learning.

The positives

The committee has been a real strength and support. Monthly committee meetings have continued and it is surprising how much work there has been and decisions made so my heartfelt thanks go to:

Vice Chairman, Dr. Karyn Evans who has been the key contact with the Charities Commission and undertaken more than one "communication" with the Third Age Trust on sensitive topics.

Treasurer, Jan Willsher who has kept the books made the payments, and has undertaken without complaint a considerable amount of additional work reimbursing and communicating directly with members.

Committee Secretary, Kathie Richards-Jones who's secretarial and administration skills makes sure all the documentation is up to date and in place. All communications recorded and dealt with, Kathie's comprehensive mastery of the English language ensures that in my communications with you all you are not exposed to my appalling English grammar. Yes she does check and approve everything I write – really above and beyond.

Programme Secretary, Nick Talbott. Nick has had the unenviable job of liaising with cancelled speakers, fielding a raft of speakers who want to go onto the list or provide virtual talks, for a price. While quietly working to ensure our website is kept up to date and the Newsletters sent out to those for whom we have email addresses. Nick has been working on developing a new website with more up-to-date software which will be easier to maintain. It is hoped that the new website can be launched during the summer. A foundation rock of our u3a.

Membership Secretary, Janice Horne. Never a month goes by without the membership and mailing lists being revised, queries answered and members contacted. In the absence of meetings Janice has been our "Welcomer" I can think of no one better.

Committee Members, Cheryl Davies and **Will Francis** who have brought their calm and often very sensible and considered voices to debates making me stop and think twice – more than once.

Also to **Margaret Mason** our **Borderlines Editor** who has attended the committee meetings regularly. Her input to those meetings and help with content for the Newsletter in the absence of Borderlines is very much appreciated. **Stephen Ashley** has been there to communicate with and encourage the Interest Group leaders. **Mary Davies**, with her considerable experience of years in our u3a, has kept her eye on us from a distance.

All the **Interest Group Leaders**, for it has become very clear just how important the Leaders, originally called conveners, actually are to the life blood of our u3a.

All the **members** who have contributed to the Newsletters, provided short stories, book reviews, videos, pictures, or contributed in any way to the website, via quizzes or pointing to free content on line. Helped with press communications or in response to the Third Age Trust Initiatives. There have also been members involved in National projects such as the Retail Project. And those involved in supporting local joint initiatives such as the latest one with the Bracken Trust. Some of the designs and those selected for the Note lets can be found on the website.

I will not continue to add names as I am sure to miss someone but you know who you are: your contributions have been most welcome and so enjoyed by other members. Thank you!

Members who have the technology and are technology "savvy" have been able to access probably more on line than ever before. I have also attended u3a speaker meetings held by other u3as most notably Aberystwyth u3a and the Third Age Trust. This open and free sharing and learning culture has certainly been accelerated during the pandemic.

In the beginning of the Third Age movement, a fundamental objective was about changing the view and perceptions of society in terms of what retired people were, could do and contribute. For many of us circumstances have accelerated learning in regards to the use of new technologies. Our friendships strengthened as "bubbles" often comprise local members coming together and looking out for and supporting each other when families were unable to visit. Humour and laughter, a key component of healthy living, still flourishes even if occasionally the humour is black.

Historically we have been a very successful U3A, with membership growing year on year and although we have, as we always will, due to the age of the people who make up our u3a, lost a number of members, through ill health, relocations etc. The majority of members have stayed loyal over 220 rejoining this year and some members even opting not to cash their reimbursement cheques from last year's subscription.

Your confidence in the future and support in the present is encouraging.

Looking forwards

This is the first year we have not recruited via our monthly meetings. So it is pleasing that we have had any new members join and we intend to "advertise" our presence as we move toward reopening.

When will that be you ask?

Many of the interest groups are starting up again to join those who have managed to keep going throughout the pandemic. So here I will put in the invitation to all the current Interest Group Leaders and to any member who may want to start up a group but is unsure how to proceed.

We will be holding a session for existing and potential Interest Group Leaders on the 24th June so get in touch with myself or Stephen Ashley if you want to attend. More details will follow and information will be put onto the existing website. But we will need to know numbers in advance all, existing and potential group leaders will be most welcome to what will be an informative and enjoyable and confidence building get together.

As to the Main meetings we are considering a number of options and ways we might proceed.

Hopefully the first meeting will be held in September. Obviously dependant on the venue, numbers allowed to meet and updated Government guidelines, and our own very real concern for our membership's safety, physical and mental well being.

Treasurer's Report

The accounts are to our year end which is 31st January 2021 and have been audited by Martin Nosworthy.

As of the 31st January there were a substantial number of partial refunds to members in relation to the annual membership fee and other cheques outstanding.

The Gift Aid cheque is an important contribution to our funds and we thank those who pay Tax and fill in the Gift Aid forms which allow us to reclaim the Gift Aid on their subscriptions.

Llandrindod Wells U3A

Accounts for year ending 31st January 2021 Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("The Act"). You have prepared the attached accounts on a receipts and payments basis and engaged me to undertake an independent examination of those accounts.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in any material respect

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act, or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no material concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Martin Nosworthy

Nethway, Victoria Road, Llandrindod Wells

Date 13th March 2021

Llandrindod Wells & District u3a
Receipts and Payments Account Year Ending 31st January 2021

2019-2020		2020-2021
£	RECEIPTS	£
6899.00	Members' Subscriptions	2690.00
30.00	Day Visitors' Fees	3.00
809.38	Gift Aid Recovered	331.88
25.12	Interest	11.54
76.95	Sale of merchandise	0.00
2640.00	Christmas Lunch	0.00
95.00	Miscellaneous	0.00
0.00	Open Day	0.00
-76.11	Events and Special Interest Groups (Net Receipts)	95.85
10499.34	Total Income	3132.27
	 PAYMENTS	
	 Lectures	
3939.00	Hire of Rooms	620.00
772.00	Lecturers' Fees	30.00
180.50	Hospitality	18.55
2705.74	Christmas Lunch	0.00
987.00	U3A Trust Capitation	1071.00
686.00	"Third Age Matters" Periodical	734.70
575.00	"Borderlines" Newsletter Printing	130.00
0.00	other U3A/sponsorship	0.00
0.00	Open Day	0.00
82.50	Purchase of merchandise	0.00
2701.90	May Day Medley	0.00
0.00	Gifts to retiring officers	32.00
149.60	Other Printing Costs	229.00

	Administration	
0.00	Secretary's Expenses	113.44
50.00	Treasurer's Expenses (incl audit fee)	0.00
21.60	Postage	137.80
33.10	Website	74.25
0.00	Computer Services	0.00
510.38	Miscellaneous	0.00
13394.32	Total Expenditure	3190.74
-2894.98	Net +Receipts/-Payments	-58.47
9572.11	Opening Balance 1st February	6677.13
6677.13	Closing Balance	6618.66
	Balances held as	
310.94	HSBC Lecture Account	1145.08
842.40	HSBC Events Account	938.25
5523.79	COIF Deposit Account	4535.33
0.00	Petty Cash in Hand	
6677.13		6618.66
	Other Assets	
	laptop	
	digital projector	
	laminator	
	sound system	
	earphones	
	merchandise stock	
	botany group stock	

All funds are unrestricted