

## **U3A Llandrindod Wells and District**

### **Minutes of the Annual General meeting**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 10.30pm at the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells.**

Members were welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman, Berwyn Woolnough.

#### 1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual General meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 had been published on the website and were available on the notice board. It was proposed by Robert Bevan and seconded by Alan Quincy that the minutes be approved and this was unanimously agreed.

#### 2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

#### 3. Chairman's Report 2017-2018

Chairman Berwyn reported on the year as follows (verbatim)

"It's quite tempting, when putting together a report like this, to look for inspiration in the efforts of previous chairpersons and simply change names and numbers. This I've tried to avoid. However, one thing all my predecessors have said in one way or another is that Llandrindod U3A has had another successful year, and since this is absolutely true on this occasion too, I am happy to echo their words.

Membership stands at 264, exactly the same as last year, and the average attendance at our monthly meetings, at which we have been treated to a really wide ranging and stimulating programme of lectures, has been 130.

We have 28 interest groups, and I'd like to record my special thanks to the group leaders who put in so much effort to ensure that this vital part of our activities continues to flourish. Just a couple of statistics for you: 174 members belong to interest groups and on average there are 387 attendances each month. One member attends 8 different groups. New this year are the Armchair Exercisers, the Charabanc Club, which made its first fun-filled trip to Chester Races in May, and the Rail Riders who have been down to Swansea on the Heart of Wales line and across to Kidderminster for a trip on the Severn Valley Railway. In addition, two groups have become so popular that they have had to form parallel sets — Singing for Fun 2 and Sunday Lunchers 2. The Theatre Group went to see Julius Caesar in Stratford and Flashdance in Aberystwyth; the Recorder Group played in concerts and held its annual workshop with Ludlow U3A while The Singers for Fun have entertained at the Arlais Road Day Centre.

Martha Wooldridge has recently retired as Groups Co-ordinator. Thank you Martha for your help and your willingness to attend area meetings on our behalf.

In October we again entered two teams in the U3A Mid Wales Quiz, the Diehards and the Wise Owls. Out of a field of six, they finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Our Christmas meeting was disrupted by snow and we had to decide whether to go ahead, knowing that some members would be prevented from travelling, or postpone the event. Both options had drawbacks, but in the end the former prevailed. On the day nearly 60 people attended. At the last minute the speaker, who had previously been determined to reach us, had to cancel, and the morning was rescued by Nick Talbott, who kept us entertained with a challenging set of quizzes. Eventually 78 members enjoyed our traditional lunch, and those who couldn't get to us

were almost fully reimbursed thanks to the generosity of the Metropole's owner, Justin Baird-Murray.

Each year, local organisations are invited to display an appropriately decorated Christmas tree in Holy Trinity Church. I know that quite a few of you were able to visit and appreciate the superb U3A themed entry designed and executed by Penny, Sue and 'Kathy.

At the 2017 AGM three key officers retired, and we were most fortunate to find worthy successors; Alun and Chris Thomas taking over our finances, Sue Parsons and Eleanor Cuddy sharing the secretarial work and Sue Turner booking our speakers. They have all done splendid jobs on your behalf. Sadly, Eleanor has to stand down for family reasons. Whoever takes over from her will find the membership sector in perfect order. Special thanks go to Nick Talbott, not just for his highly professional appearance as impromptu quiz master, but mainly for his IT wizardry and seemingly endless technical know-how which he so generously puts at our disposal. Unfortunately Sue Havard had to resign from the committee early in the year.. Although she was only with for a short while, she made her mark in the team and we were sorry to lose her.

I'm going to finish as I did last year by mentioning those who, although not on the committee, work quietly in the background — Margaret and Kathy who provide us with four beautifully produced editions of "Borderlines" each year; Fay, whose happy face greets everybody at the door; Helen and Patsy, who look after new and potential members and Clive, who has been writing our press releases for many years. You are all an essential and much appreciated part of our U3A.

So, there we are, another year ends. But the good thing, of course, is that a new one is just beginning. I hope you all continue to enjoy what Llandrindod U3A has to offer."

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

Alun presented the audited accounts for 2017-18 with copies available for all members (see attached)

Alun reported that membership stood at 264, the same as last year.

He was asked if gift aid was rolled forward year on year and he advised that once the gift aid declaration is signed it continues until revoked by the member. He noted that £800 had been received from HMRC as gift aid this year.

It was proposed by Alan Quincy, seconded by Penny Everett and unanimously agreed that the accounts be received and approved.

#### 5. Election of Officers and Committee Members for 2018/2019

Chairman	Berwyn Woolnough
Vice - Chairman	to be agreed by Committee
Treasurer	Alun Thomas
Asst. Treasurer	Christine Thomas
Committee Secretary	Sue Parsons
Programme Secretary	Sue Turner
Membership Secretary	Roger Malvern
Committee Members	Penny Everett
Co-opted member - IT	Nick Talbott

These being the only nominations received, no formal election was required and the new Committee members were proposed, seconded and elected unanimously en bloc and were warmly welcomed to their term of office

## 6. Object Clause

Berwyn explained to the AGM that the U3A Trust had requested that all U3As vote on the following issue.

In the past U3As have been encouraged to divide their finances into charitable and non charitable activities and only report the former to the Charity Commission. However we have been informed that all activities carried out by a U3A must be charitable and within the object clause of its constitution.

The Charity Commission accept that this has been a genuine misunderstanding and the Third Age Trust have negotiated a new object clause to rectify the anomaly.

The previous object contained 9 different clauses and can now be incorporated into a single paragraph as follows

*"The advancement of education and, in particular, the education of older people and those who are retired from full time work by all means, including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development"*

If accepted at the AGM, we have to report the adoption of the new clause to the Third Age Trust and join the blanket "opt-in".

It was proposed by John Walker, seconded by Karen Latham and unanimously agreed that the amended clause be adopted and approved.

## 7. Any other business

There was no further business and the formal part of the meeting was closed.