

**Minutes of the
Eastwood and District U3A
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 5th June 2019**

Master of Ceremonies: Tom Hickingbottom

Chair Person's opening remarks: Chair Person, Chris Niven welcomed all to our 5th AGM and then passed over to Tom Hickingbottom to conduct the meeting.

Outgoing committee present: Chris Niven, Bob Ford, Linda Rothwell, Caroline Winfield, Ian Webster, Andrea Sadler, Barry Seeley, Barry Doran, John Hill, Val Beecham, Chrys Millington.

Apologies from members: Colin McGillivray, Eileen Benton, Tricia Dilley.

To receive and confirm the Minutes of the AGM held on 6th June 2018: Tom Hickingbottom moved that they be accepted and seconded by John Hill. Unanimously agreed. There were no matters arising.

To Receive the Chair Person's Report:

Dear Members. It gives me great pleasure to present my report to you today. Starting with the most important aspect of our U3A, the membership. We began April 2018 with 358 members 100 more than April 2017. We are currently at 362. Attendance at monthly meetings was around 47% on average, this continues to be significantly higher than other U3A's experience.

We have 42 interest groups meeting on a regular basis, 27 centred on education, 3 craft groups and 12 social meetings. We have links with Liberty Leisure at Greasley Sports Centre's.

Several committee members have attended conferences, workshops and meetings and we are still in the process of updating our policies and procedures to ensure we comply with current legislation. I have attended the Notts Network Meetings which has seen an increase in participation and workshops and is currently planning a conference at Nottingham University in October.

Unfortunately we have not had a Social Sub Committee this year. I am hoping that we will be able to restart this popular and valuable group very soon.

Thanks to Val, our Speaker Finder, we have enjoyed some great guests: Peter Hammond talked about Caves and Wells; The Canary Girls talk about bombs being made in Chilwell was very interesting; Barbara Daykin talked about her varied life; John Stirland gave us a gardening talk; and there were many more during the year.

Thank you also

To John my VC who has stood in, often at the last minute if I have not been available. Many thanks. Also, for your role as membership secretary, you survived the enrolment process, well done.

To Bob, our treasurer, who has battled with the finances and is now winning. Well done for persevering.

To Linda, our Business Secretary, who does all our paperwork and is the point of contact for correspondence. Again, this was a new role for Linda and she has tackled it with determination and enthusiasm.

To Chris and Barry who keep us on track with our Welfare and Health and Safety issues. Chris sends out cards and keeps in touch with members who may be having a difficult time. Barry keeps us on track with Health and Safety. He organised the first aid courses and inputted into the disco.

Barry Doran has been managing our membership data base and also survived the enrolment process.

Ian Webster is our webmaster and has been researching some exciting new developments and also suggesting ways to improve our website.

I now want to say some thank you's to some very important people without whom this organisation would not function, our volunteers. To the meeters and greeters, the sign in tables, the members who provide the refreshments, Ray and his team with their technical expertise, members who help set up and clear away and many others who take on ad hoc duties a big thank you and a big thank you to the person who co-ordinates all this behind the scenes. Andrea, Andrea was also part of the team who organised the disco which despite an initial panic was a huge success.

Also, a big thank you to all of you that are group contacts. As I also run a group, I think sometimes members underestimate the work that goes into organising sessions. The groups are the backbone of our U3A and the work that goes into making sure the experience that members have is positive, so a big thank you to you all.

There are two other people I need to say a big thank you to, although they are not on the committee any more, they have played a substantial role in getting our paperwork absolutely spot on. They have also supported new committee members, helped organise events and lots of other tasks. I don't think I have spoken to any other U3As who have their policies and procedures as watertight as ours and this is thanks to Janet and Margaret. A big thank you for the work you have put in, it is very much appreciated.

Now to get a bit more serious for a moment, I want to draw your attention to the Development Plan that the committee put together last July, we had thirteen items on the plan.

Refer to plan. The plan was reviewed at our final committee meeting and I have colour coded it to show what has been achieved. The parts in green are fully achieved and the parts in yellow are there as they are ongoing tasks or initiatives. A big thank you to the committee for all their hard work in achieving so much. If you would like a copy, there are some sheets for you to put your e mail address on and put in the envelope provided.

Now I must turn to those leaving our committee.

Derrick and Chris have decided to stand down as Group Co-ordinators due to their very busy schedule which has increased recently. Thank you for the work you have done over the last year.

Caroline is leaving the committee this time. She has put together the newsletter for us, written articles for the Eastwood and Kimberley Advertiser, distributed posters around the district and made sure up to date information was available to members. As yet we have no one to fill this gap that Caroline is going to leave which means we may not have a newsletter next month. Caroline has been a very knowledgeable and measured member of the committee and she will be greatly missed. Thank you for all your hard work Caroline and I wish you well in your retirement

Finally, I would like to thank you, the members for all your words of kindness and encouragement, the committee for all the help and support they have given me as chair. I couldn't wish for a better team. I look forward to another successful year with a new committee who are ready to help us progress and develop into 2020. – Thank you.

Master of Ceremonies remarks: Tom Hickingbottom thanked the chair for her report and reiterated the need for someone to fill Caroline's job regarding the newsletter.

To receive the treasurer's report including statement of accounts for 2018-2019:

Community Account

This report covers the financial year from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

Income:

Our income mainly comes from membership subscriptions:

Subscriptions 2018-19 collected in £1,477.00, Subscriptions 2019-20 collected in £5572 up until 31st March.

We have been able to claim Gift Aid for 99 people, giving extra income of £620.22. We also received grant income of £100 from Eastwood Town Council.

Outgoings:

The figure shown for hall hire for the monthly meetings reflects the higher cost of hiring the church each month and making 5 payments this year as opposed to four last year (paid on the 31st March 2019). We also now pay a monthly storage cost which is included in the Miscellaneous figure.

The Speaker Fees have risen slightly this year and we have increased the allowance for future years. Approximately £6.50 from each member's subscription goes to the Third Age Trust to pay for Capitation/Regional fees and Direct Mail. Direct Mail pays for the Third Age Matters magazine which you should receive 5 times per year and also the Sources magazine, which is published 3 times each year; the price has increased by 8p a copy this year. We are now in full control of the website; the introductory offer has expired, and we now pay £5.99 a month. The grant from Eastwood Town Council has yet to be allocated but at least 2 groups are looking for funding for equipment to allow easier access for new members to these groups. We eagerly await their submissions.

The remaining outgoings are for stationery, postage, conference fees and committee expenses (We're still quite cheap – less than 3p to each member due to increase in membership numbers).

The Direct Mail subscription has increased slightly, and we have increased the budget for the Speakers at the Monthly Meeting. We therefore recommend that the membership subscription for 2020-21 remains at £20 per person per annum.

Social Account

Sadly, the Social committee has not been resurrected this year and is currently awaiting some volunteers to resurrect it. The account closed with a small surplus of approximately £130.

Social Account B

We have used Social Account B for refreshments, book sales, Christmas fuddle, Christmas lunch and the social dance. The profit from these items will go towards future social events, raffle prizes etc.

The account currently looks better than it should be as the treasurer paid for the Christmas meal out of the Community account. This will be rectified in due course. It will still have approximately £900 after this correction.

It has now been decided that all U3A expenditure must align to the purpose of the charity and the total of all finances must be reported to the Charity Commission. It is not currently thought necessary to merge the accounts as long as the turnover for all 3 accounts is accumulated and reported in the financial statement. This does however mean that we must all be vigilant in reporting all financial transactions which take place in the Groups and Social Events on the Balance Sheets provided.

My thanks to our auditor Robert Radcliffe who has checked the accounts. A very special thanks to Margaret Naylor for her support in helping me grapple with the legality and technicalities of the post; I can't say that I have reached her standard yet, but I will continue to do my best to follow in her footsteps. Thanks also to Val Simons and Janet O'Neil who have been an invaluable help to me on numerous occasions.

Our U3A continues to be a very successful branch, of which I am very proud to be part of, I look forward to the coming year and the opportunity to make my contribution to its success.

Bob Ford
Treasurer

To approve Statement of Accounts: Tom Hickingbottom moved that the report and accounts be accepted, Linda Rothwell seconded the motion. Unanimously agreed.

To Approve the Annual Subscription for 2020-21: Tom Hickingbottom moved that the subscription remain at £20 per annum. Ann McGillivray seconded the motion. Unanimously agreed.

To appoint an examiner of accounts: Tom Hickingbottom moved that we appoint Mr RobertRadcliffe and Barbara Wigley seconded the motion. Unanimously agreed.

To elect the Executive Committee and Officers: Tom Hickingbottom moved that the following nominations be accepted. Janet O'Neill seconded the motion. Unanimously agreed.

Chris Niven	Chair Person
John Hill	Vice Chair
Bob Ford	Treasurer
Linda Rothwell	Business Secretary
Andrea Sadler	Committee Member
Chrys Millington	Committee Member
Barry Doran	Committee Member
Barry Seeley	Committee Member
Ian Webster	Committee Member
Val Beecham	Committee Member

To consider written proposals received prior to the meeting from Committee or Members: There were no proposals received.

Masters of Ceremonies closed this AGM at 10.45am