

Preston and District u3a

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on
Thursday 21st March 2024 at 1.45 pm
At Fulwood Free Methodist Church**

In Attendance	<p>Tony Cheetham (AJC) - Chair Janet Nixon (JN) - Treasurer Sue Holder (SH) –Business Secretary Peter Kitchen (PK) - Membership Secretary Sheena Clowes (SC) – Co-opted Groups Co-ordinator David Parker (DP) - Beacon Administrator Kay Harrison (KH) – Vice Chair Margaret Clark (MC) – Assistant Treasurer</p> <p>There were 139 members in attendance in total.</p>
Apologies	Sheila Finch, Malcolm & Penny Craig, Carol Martindale, Ben Humphries, Christine Campbell & Alan Smith
	REPORT
Chair	
1.	<p>Tony (Chair) welcomed everyone, thanked them for attending and then pointed out the fire exits. He announced that any member wishing to attend the next Meet and Eat gathering on 3rd May at Guys' Thatched Hamlet should speak to Margaret Clark. In addition anyone needing to pay their annual subscription should speak to Peter Kitchen.</p>
2.	The committee had received neither resolutions nor questions prior to the meeting. Any questions relating to today's meeting can be put to the relevant committee member via the contacts page on our website.
3.	<p>The minutes of the last AGM held on the 16th March 2023 were accepted and signed as a true record: Proposer: Patricia Hesketh Sullivan, Seconder: Pat Green</p>
4.	<p>In his address Tony highlighted the full programme of events that are planned for the year. This includes a Members' and Group Leaders' coffee morning on Tuesday 30th April in the Northumbria Hall. This is a good opportunity for new members in particular to discover what is going on in our u3a. It will be followed by a Group Leaders' lunch. Tony went on to thank the following for their hard work and support during 2024: Margaret Clark (formerly assistant treasurer) and Sheila Finch (formerly members' representative) who are standing down from the committee after 9 years of service, Wendy Tyson (formerly speaker organiser) who stood down in September 2023, all Group Leaders, Ken Youde (Newsletter Editor), Norman Green (Website Administrator), Barbara Long (Good Times Editor) and Betty Stevens (Sound & Vision Coordinator).</p>
5.	<p>Janet (Treasurer) explained that there was a deficit of £905 last year, much less than the previous year. Preston and District u3a gradually recovered from the pandemic: attendance at interest groups and all member events grew during the year. Nonetheless Preston and District u3a is still spending more than it is earning particularly where interest groups are concerned. Venue charges have increased in line with inflation. Fortunately St Cuthbert's did not increase its charges until September 2023. This year, however, it has been necessary to increase the cost of attendance at interest groups by 50p to cover all costs. There is also 6 months 'operational money' in the reserve account which is a Charity Commission requirement.</p>
6.	<p>The Chair thanked Janet for her report. He then thanked Margaret Jones for reviewing the accounts this year.</p>

<p>7.</p>	<p>Tony proposed that Margaret Jones be reappointed as examiner of the accounts. This was put to a membership vote by a show of hands: For: unanimous, Against: none, Abstentions: none. The accounts were approved by a show of hands: For: unanimous, Against: none, Abstentions: none.</p> <p>The election of Committee Nominees then took place by a show of hands.</p> <p>Groups Co-ordinator: Nominee: Sheena Clowes (proposed by C Dutchman-Smith, seconded by J Dougherty) For: unanimous, Against: none, Abstentions:none</p> <p>Assistant Treasurer: Nominee: John Savage (proposed by C Abram, seconded by D Bonser) For: unanimous, Against: none, Abstentions:none</p> <p>Speaker Organiser Nominee: Tony Cheetham (proposed by S Mason, seconded by: A Gingell) For: unanimous, Against: none, Abstentions:none</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Re: Members' Representative</p> <p>Tony explained that by the deadline of 31st January no one was nominated for this position. Since then Laura Mole, a relatively new member, has stepped forward and she will be co-opted onto the Committee at its next meeting on 5th April.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Re: Chair</p> <p>There is no nominee for this position. Tony has now been the Chair for 3 years. In this situation the constitution allows the Chair to ask the meeting if anyone is prepared to volunteer for the role which he then did. There were no volunteers. The constitution then permits the committee to request that the Chair stay on for the next 12 months while a new chair is sought and can shadow the existing Chair. This will be considered at the next committee meeting.</p>
<p>Date/ Time Next Meeting</p>	<p>It was agreed that the 2025 Annual General Meeting will be held on: Thursday March 20th at 1.45 pm at Fulwood Free Methodist Church.</p> <p>Tony then thanked all present and all other members for their support during the past year and closed the meeting.</p>

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD.....

DATE.....