

Aughton and Ormskirk U3A

Executive Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on 20th May 2014

Present. Committee Members: Cathleen Barnes, Lily Bunner, Bill Evans, Mia Faza, Dorothy Harrison, Ian Haskell, Pauline Jones, Stan Livingston, Alex McMinn, Geoff Roberts, Iain Smart, Bill Watkinson, Willem Wiechers, Idris Williams. Geoff Maitland (as an Adviser)

1. Welcome. Dorothy Harrison welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies. Bernie Handford.

3. Election of Chairman. A ballot took place over which Geoff Maitland presided. Willem Wiechers was declared the new Chairman and thanked the committee for their support.

Election of Vice Chairman: This was left in abeyance until the present vice Chairman had been asked if he was willing to stand for re-election. He is, at present, recovering from an operation.

Honorary Secretary: There were no nominations for this role. The newly elected Chairman will look into the matter and endeavour to find a suitable replacement.

Minutes Secretary: Pauline Jones agreed to take this on and was duly elected.

Treasurer: Bill Watkinson was nominated and duly elected. It was agreed that Chris Jones would act as Assistant Treasurer.

Minutes of the previous meeting -15th April 2014 A request was made that one word be altered in item no. 4. The sentence which read **'The Executive Committee members present had a differing perception of the meeting and were unable to concur with the expressed opinion.'** It was stated that this gave completely the wrong impression and it was requested that the first word of this sentence 'The' be altered to read 'Two'. After some discussion it was agreed that the first word should read 'Some'.

Matters arising: Memory Course. Responsibility for the Memory Course has now been passed to Sylvia Dillon and Norma Seddon.

Trustees: Papers giving information on the role of Trustees and the Charity Commission were given to each committee member to take away and read. -
The chairman would write to the Charity Commissioners to inform them of the outcome of the SGM &AGM.

Review of 2014 AGM: It was noted that record numbers of members attended both the SGM and the AGM.

Motions passed at the AGM were referred to.

Motion 1: It was agreed that we should publish committee meeting minutes on the website and that these would be brief and to the point.

Motion 2: WW stated that we must make note that the majority of members wished that a separate body of Trustees be allowed for in our new constitution.

Motion 3: We must set up a working group of no more than 5 people to look at writing a new constitution, which includes the Trustee Body.

It was noted that, in thanking all the retiring Group Leaders, two Group Leaders had, inadvertently, been omitted from the list. The Leader of the Film Appreciation Group June Carrington had retired after seven years and the Poetry Group Leader, Pauline Jones had retired after 5 years.

A vote of thanks was made to the retiring Chairman Dorothy Harrison for all her hard work over the last two years.

Treasurer's Report. The financial situation is as follows. *Deposit Account £38,124 Bonds £20,000 General Account £4,334 Groups Account £25,663.*

It was stated that new mandates would have to be set up to enable the new Treasurer and Chairman to sign cheques. The Treasurer proposed that we move to internet banking as opposed to using cheques. This was agreed.

Membership Secretary's Report. Members renewed – 1591. New members since last Exec. Meeting 27. Membership number now reached 3692.

Sub-committee Reports. No meetings have taken place recently. The Chairman said that he will look at the need to update the list of Sub-committee Chairmen and revise where necessary.

A.O.B. It was re-iterated that the newsletter editor needs some editorial support with the magazine. We now have e-news and it was pointed out that groups should use it more than they do.

A new U3A is being set up tomorrow at Hesketh Bank . This is the 14th U3A that has sprung out of our U3A. The Chairman said that we should pat ourselves on the back but pointed out that our founder Chairman Alex McMinn had been instrumental in setting these up.

North West Regional Meeting. There is a meeting at Lancaster on July 10th and the Treasurer volunteered to attend on our behalf. Alex McMinn, our founder Chairman, will represent our U3A on the South West Lancs. Network.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 17th June 2014 9.30 am. Venue T.B.A.