

AUGHTON & ORMSKIRK U3A

13th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2nd June 2016 at Christ Church, Aughton

- 1 **Welcome:** The Chairman G Maitland welcomed the 155 members present at the start of the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.
- 2 **Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from Ted Morrell, Paul Thompson, Colin and Jean Will, Mr and Mrs Roger Abel, Maureen Daly.
- 3 **Minutes of the 2015 AGM:** The Chairman read out the Minutes. They were accepted as a true and correct record. Proposed by M Faza and seconded by A Nolan and carried unanimously.

Minutes of the 2015 Special General Meeting: The Chairman read out the Minutes. They were accepted as a true and correct record. Proposed by W Wiechers and seconded by S Watkinson and carried unanimously.

4 **Matters arising from 2015 AGM:**

The Chairman commented that certain issues would be picked up in the Treasurer's Report. He pointed out that D Blanchflower had reintroduced the Gardening Group. A request for more members to volunteer and take on responsibilities had featured in the membership renewal forms and had been reiterated at the meetings for new members. Volunteers had come forward as a result.

Matters arising from 2015 Special General Meeting:

There were no matters arising.

5 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT:**

The Chairman, Geoff Maitland, began his address by reminding all present that 6 new members were elected to the Committee in 2015 and 5 more new members will be elected at this AGM. This means that for 2016-17, the Management Committee will have 11 out of 15 members with less than 2 years' experience on the Committee. This represents an opportunity for new ideas and fresh motivation. At the first Committee meeting following the AGM in 2015, Geoff was elected Chairman succeeding Willem Wiechers. He thanked Willem for all his hard work as Chairman, not least for his dealings with the Charities Commission over the constitution and the establishment of a working party to submit recommendations which were incorporated into the draft constitution. The constitution was adopted at a Special General meeting in November 2015. He pointed out that a final task is to elect 4 Trustees to serve alongside 3 ex officio members of the Management Committee on the board of trustees.

In his address, the Chairman thanked Lily Bunner, Cathleen Barnes, Mia Faza and Stan Livingston all of whom are retiring from the Committee. He thanked Pauline

Jones who has completed 6 years on the Committee and given the Chairman indispensable support over the past 12 months as Secretary. Pauline was presented with a bouquet of flowers in recognition of her great service to the U3A.

The Chairman concluded his remarks by reminding all present how much enjoyment and pleasure is derived from the numerous activities offered by the U3A. He stressed that we must not see ourselves as simply belonging to a group. We all belong to the wider U3A. Unfortunately, support for the U3A wide events has declined. He encouraged all members to participate in and gain enjoyment and fun from U3A wide events.

6 SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Secretary, Pauline Jones, began her report by stressing how much had been achieved over the past twelve months. She illustrated this by itemising the numerous initiatives which had been undertaken and developed by the various sub-committees including the Social sub-committee, the Group and Learning Support sub-committee, the Finance and Resources sub-committee and the Communications sub-committee. She highlighted the excellent lectures organised by Mia Faza as Speaker Secretary pointing out that Mia is retiring from this role and a replacement is required.

Pauline emphasised how much she had enjoyed her 6 years on the Executive Committee. She thanked and congratulated the Chairman on what she believed to have been a good year for our U3A. She wished the Trustees and the Management Committee every success in the future.

The Chairman wished Pauline a long and happy retirement.

7 TREASURER'S REPORT:

Statements for the Main Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 2016 and Consolidated Balance Sheet (31st March 2016) were available at the beginning of the AGM.

The Independent Examiner appointed at last year's AGM, Brian Molloy, resigned a short while ago due to ill health and so the Executive Committee felt obliged to have the Accounts examined externally and JVSA Accountants in Ormskirk agreed to undertake the independent examination. JVSA underestimated the work involved and the Treasurer only received their report on the day before the AGM. The format of the report was not in the usual style and the Treasurer was not able to examine the complex report in detail in the time available. Nevertheless, JVSA reported that "the Income and Expenditure Accounts were prepared accurately and in accordance with the supporting documentation made available to us". The Treasurer stated that the Finance and Resources Sub-Committee will ensure the accounts are put in a form we are familiar with and when ready will put them on the web-site.

Bill thanked Linda Griffiths and Leslie Smith who have provided assistance at Horizons. He thanked Ian Haskell who as Membership Secretary deals with the finances associated with membership renewals and takes responsibility for Gift Aid.

He expressed his gratitude to Dennis Morley, Geoff Roberts and Derrick Fewings who are members of the Finance and Resources Sub-Committee.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Bill for all his hard work and commitment to the U3A.

The Chairman presented the following resolutions for the approval of the members:

RESOLUTION 1: The Accounts for 2015/16 be accepted- acceptance proposed by Pauline Jones and seconded by Mia Faza. Unanimous vote in favour

RESOLUTION 2: That Messrs. JVSA, 20 Derby St., Ormskirk be appointed as the independent examiner of the Accounts for the year 2016/17- Acceptance proposed by Willem Wiechers and seconded by Dennis Morley. Unanimous vote in favour.

RESOLUTION 3: SUBSCRIPTIONS for the year 2017/18 should remain at £15- Acceptance proposed by Stan Livingston and seconded by Ann Roberts. Majority vote in favour with one vote against.

8 ELECTION OF TRUSTEES:

The Chairman explained there were 6 nominations for 4 positions and outlined the voting process. Alan Bonner and his team will collect and collate the voting slips and inform the Chairman of the voting outcome.

Each nominee was introduced in alphabetical order and asked to read their application statement. Alex McMinn read the statement of T Morrell in his absence. (At this point the meeting had to move to the Scout & Guide HQ as there was a ceremony about to start in Christ Church)

Following the count, the Chairman announced that Margaret Gibbon, Ted Morrell, Jeff Roberts and Margaret Wiechers had been elected as Trustees.

The Chairman thanked all the candidates and all who had facilitated the election process.

9 ELECTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

The Chairman stated that as there were 5 nominations and 5 vacancies voting was not required. It was proposed by Margaret Gibbon and seconded by Linda Burden that they be elected en bloc. This was carried unanimously. The nominees were Doreen Baker, Val Bullen, Gerard Latham, Deirdre Slater and Peter Trigwell.

10 GENERAL MOTIONS: None received.

11 OPEN FORUM:

Sue Watkinson asked for volunteers to support Park Praise on the final Saturday in June. She received an immediate response of support.

12 CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS:

There being no other business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and for accepting the transition from Christ Church to the Scout & Guide HQ with such patience and good humour.

The meeting closed at 12.30pm.

The 2017 AGM will be held on Thursday 15th June.