

**Minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting of York U3A
held on 12th November 2011 at 11.30 a.m.
at the Friends' Meeting House, Friargate, York**

One hundred and ten members signed in for the AGM, which followed the monthly meeting, with 2 apologies having been received.

1. Welcome

Members were welcomed by the Chairman, Alwyn Taylor.

2. Minutes of the 21st Annual General Meeting held on 13th November 2010

The Minutes of the AGM held on 13th November 2010, having been circulated previously to all York U3A members, were taken as read. Judith Webb proposed and Betty Hollingsworth seconded that they be received and signed as a correct record.

3. Annual Report

The Chairman, Alwyn Taylor presented his annual report, a copy of which will be included in the next newsletter. He opened by thanking those who are retiring from the committee and are not seeking re-election this year – John Jessop and Brenda Fazikas who are retiring as Treasurer and Groups Coordinator respectively. He also thanked the other people who are continuing to serve as committee members. The new timetable for office opening hours is working well and Alwyn thanked all volunteers who man the office. He said that, even before the windfall from the Henry Mills bequest, the branch was in a good financial position, which allowed us to reduce both our annual subscription and the charge for the Saturday morning monthly meetings. New members' meetings had again been well attended and were a useful means to get to know what new members want from the branch and what they are able to give to it. Alwyn then mentioned the large bequest from Henry Mills received by the branch during the year. Details have been included in newsletters and members have been invited to suggest ideas as to how the money might best be used to benefit all members. The committee is now working on the various suggestions and members will be kept informed. One of the problems, however, of the receipt of such a large sum of money concerns the responsibility of the committee members as trustees of the branch's finances as, in the unlikely event of financial loss through malpractice, the committee members are liable for the recovery of that loss. We have been advised by the Treasurer of the Third Age Trust that we should change the branch status to one of a company with limited liability, and the committee is consulting solicitors to see what is involved. If we progress down this route, an extraordinary general meeting of branch members will need to be called, and members will be advised in due course.

4. Annual Accounts

The accounts for the period ending 31st August 2011, having been satisfactorily audited, were presented by the Treasurer, John Jessop. After dealing with one or two points raised from the floor, acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Elizabeth Dobie and seconded by Lily Rowe. It was clarified that the committee's decision with regard to rental subsidies was that groups could request that half their rental charges be met by the branch, and this decision has come into immediate effect.

5. Election of Officers

Margaret Bland was nominated for the post of Treasurer (proposed by Alwyn Taylor and seconded by David Miller) and was approved *nem con*.

6. Election of Committee Members

Nominations had been received for Joan Stoney, David Miller and Elizabeth Dobie to be elected to the Committee as Groups Coordinator, Newsletter Editor and Social Secretary respectively and these, having been formally proposed and seconded, were approved *nem con*. Elizabeth will be assisted by Michael Cruchley, who will not serve as a committee member.

7. Examination of Accounts

Colin Henderson has agreed to continue as the External Examiner of Accounts and was thanked for his willingness to help in this capacity.

8. Any Other Business

In response to a query about the refurbishment of the Woolman Room, Alwyn Taylor reported that the Friends have appointed an architect to look at the site and we can report no further progress as yet.

One member expressed his appreciation of the newsletter being available in large print.

It was queried whether a limited company can have charitable status, and John Jessop confirmed that this is the case.

In recognition of the hard work done by our office volunteers and group leaders, a presentation of a Marks and Spencer gift voucher was made to sixteen group leaders and four office volunteers who have served for a minimum of ten years. The group leader are Monica Nelson, Dee Boyle, Hella Reissman, Marc Schatzberger, Hilary Merino, Alwyn Taylor, Douglas Mumford, Elizabeth Jewitt, Peter Lidgett, Elizabeth Atkinson, Elizabeth Dobie, Alan Makepeace, Judith Nicholson, Evelyn Gadsden, Leslie and Rosalind Wacey; the office volunteers are Jean Frost, Yvonne Fountain, Susan Johnson, Anne Mackrory and Anne Makepeace.

The meeting ended at 12.00.