

**Minutes of the 24th Annual General Meeting of York U3A
held on 16th November 2013 at 11.40 a.m.
at the Friends' Meeting House, Friargate, York**

94 members were present and 7 apologies for absence had been received.

1. Welcome

Members were welcomed by the Chairman, John Goodsir.

2. Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting held on 17th November 2012

The Minutes of the AGM held on 12th November 2012, having been circulated previously to all York U3A members, were taken as read. John Jessop proposed and Carolyn Jaques seconded that they be received and signed as a correct record.

3. Annual Report

John Goodsir reported that the York branch is thriving, with over one hundred courses and activities and around 1,500 members despite the increase in subscriptions this year. He said that the branch is indebted to all committee members, group leaders and office volunteers for their support, and also included thanks to those members who offer their homes for group activities. He then thanked Lynda Doughty who is stepping down after three years as joint secretary.

John said that we have continued over the past year to benefit from the Henry Mills fund, a large part of which is being used to help the Friends refurbish their premises. This will benefit us as we will have the use of a suite of rooms on the ground floor, with improved kitchen and toilet facilities. It is hoped that this refurbishment work will be completed by the end of April 2014.

Our U3A is a vibrant organization which has an important role in York, and now has an opportunity to take part in an increased number of activities being organized by the Yorkshire and Humberside Region. Our branch will celebrate its 25th anniversary during 2014. John ended his report by saying that we are constantly looking for new group leaders, helpers and committee members.

4. Annual Accounts

Margaret Bland, Treasurer, was unable to be present, and the accounts for the period ending 31st August 2013, having been satisfactorily audited, were presented by the Assistant Treasurer, Brian Frodsham. Brian thanked John Jessop who had examined the accounts, and reported that the new accounting system has been fully in place this year. Subscriptions over the past year were £5 a head and subsidised from the Henry Mills Fund at £10 per head. This has resulted in a reduction in gift aid over the year. Subscriptions for the current year are now £15 per person. The branch is in a healthy financial position, with reserves of over £100,000.

Thanks were recorded to Brian, and John Goodsir said that it is hoped that subscriptions can remain at £15 next year, although they will have to be increased in the following year when the Henry Mills Fund runs down. In the meantime, we are making good use of the money in that Fund by refurbishing our premises.

There were no questions on the accounts raised from the floor, and acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Jenny Pugsley and seconded by Judith Nicholson.

5. Election of Officers

Jean Haywood was nominated for the post of Secretary (proposed by John Goodsir and seconded by Elizabeth Dobie) and was duly elected.

6. Election of Committee Members

A nomination had been received for David Copeland to be elected to the Committee as Publicity Officer and, having been formally proposed and seconded, was duly elected.

7. Examination of Accounts

John Jessop had acted as external examiner for the accounts this year, and John Goodsir reported that the committee has decided to ask a firm of accountants to look at next year's figures professionally.

8. Any Other Business

No requests for any other business had been received.

In recognition of her work, a presentation of a Marks and Spencer gift voucher was made to Veronica Pearson who has acted as a group leader for the past ten years.

The meeting ended at 12.00.

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