

**MINUTES of Blackbourne U3A's Annual General Meeting  
held at New Green Centre, Thurston - at 10am on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Present:** 176 members and one visitor, which is 28% of the total membership (20% being required for a quorum).

**Apologies for Absence:** received from Alan & Sallie Crouch, Paul & Jill Peachey, Sara Wright, Sandra & Graham Mack, John & Felicity Stemp, and Peter & Jill Gradwell.

**Minutes of the previous meeting, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017:** These had been circulated to all members, and there were printed copies available in the hall. Acceptance of these minutes as a true record was proposed by Brenda Last, and seconded by Colin Avis; being approved by a unanimous show of hands (none against and no abstentions), and were duly signed by Chairman Derrick Haley.

**Chairman's Report:** Derrick Haley presented his 2017-18 report – a copy of which is on file.

**Treasurer's Report:** Pete Seager displayed on the screen and explained the Income & Expenditure Statements and Summary of Interest Group Reports 2018, copies on file, which had been approved by Chairman Derrick Haley and all committee members. Peter thanked Grant Elliot for examining the accounts, and there were no subsequent questions. Derrick thanked Peter for his report, and the Treasurer's Account was proposed for adoption by Deidre Dobson and seconded by Bob Mountfort; approved by a unanimous show of hands, with none against and no abstentions.

Peter also explained about the perennial problem of approximately 50 members (often the same ones each year!) who do not pay their annual subscriptions by the notified due date by any method available to them, which has meant a huge and disproportionate task for him and past Treasurers in chasing up these members. Therefore, he read out his statement (copy on file) stating that this 'chasing up' would no longer happen and that members would be advised of the renewal deadlines in the usual way, with absolutely no further reminders being made. This means that those non-paying members would have their membership automatically cancelled, they would not be able to continue attending any interest groups, and their place would be offered to the next name on our Waiting List.

**Appointment of Account's Examiner for 2018-19:** Derrick thanked Grant Elliot for auditing the accounts and for agreeing to continue for another year; this being proposed by Nick Chamberlin, seconded by Pat Munday, and approved by a unanimous show of hands, with none against and no abstentions.

**Election of Chairman, Officers and Committee:**

Committee: standing down this year are John Sutton, Stella Chamberlin, Chris Ives, and Howard Chandler.

General Secretary Stella Chamberlin explained that all members of the new proposed committee had been correctly proposed and seconded in writing (copies of nomination forms on file). She also explained that, in accordance with our constitution, the four main Officers need to be voted in by name at the AGM. These were as follows:-

**Chairman** Derrick Haley, **Vice-Chairman** Peter Lester, **General Secretary** Helen Taylor, and **Treasurer** Peter Seager. These four posts were jointly proposed by John Marshall and seconded by John Sutton.

The following eight full committee members (plus two co-opted) were proposed by Don Picking and seconded by Brenda Picking - Alan & Sallie Crouch, Mary Dunbavin, Diana Finney, Teri Carpenter, John Light, Paul Peachey, and Maureen Morris, plus co-optees Maxine Wilde and Mary Balmer.

Having received no other nominations, all the above were duly elected by a unanimous show of hands, with none against and no abstentions.

There being no pre-advised **Any Other Business** items, the meeting closed at 10.20am.

**Date of Next Meeting:** 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5<sup>th</sup> March 2018

## **Blackbourne U3A - Chairman's Report, AGM 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

Well, here we are at the end of another U3A year, my first year as chairman, having served just one year as a committee member, but if you recall we did have a difficult situation arising from the fact that nobody was prepared to take on the role of General Secretary, and it was only by Stella stepping into that role that we were able to continue this U3A, hence my election to Chairman. We owe her a great deal of thanks for stepping in at the very last moment, so a very big thank you, Stella.

Blackbourne U3A continues to thrive, having over 600 members, but still with a waiting list, which shows how highly we are thought of.

However, our U3A doesn't run itself – and I would like to thank the committee for all their efforts throughout the year, especially their support to me. As you know, a number of the committee have served the maximum period of three years and so are having to step down. Once more, I extend a big thank-you to them because they already know how difficult it was before the start of last year to get a committee together.

We also have to thank a number of others who help to keep this U3A running, such as the Interest Group Leaders for our ever-popular interest groups, Sue Prigg who looks after our website, and our Newsletter Editor Bryann Ward. But we must not forget to thank Joan Smith and her excellent monthly Refreshments Team, those members who get here early each month to put out the chairs and get the place ready for our monthly lecture (particularly Brenda & Don Picking and Don Burrell), Howard Chandler and his team of monthly report writers, as well as our Technical Team who set up the sound system and projector. If you would like to join the rota for any of these monthly tasks, please contact any committee member.

Thank you each and every one of you who helps in any way.

I would also like to thank you, the membership, for the support you have shown me in my first year as chairman. Standing up here can be quite daunting, if I'm honest, but there is a wave of goodwill coming from you – at least that's how I interpret it!

Thank you and I know you will all do what you can to give Blackbourne U3A another successful year.

Derrick Haley