

Wolverhampton u3a

Minutes of u3a Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 1st April 2025 (Issue 2)

Mo Johnson was in the chair. 54 members attended the AGM

1 Welcome and Apologies The chair opened the meeting at 2.15pm and welcomed everyone.

Apologies were received from five members.

2 Introduction of Committee Members. The chair invited each committee member to introduce themselves. Following this she gave thanks to the committee for their support and hard work.

3 Minutes of the 2004 AGM. The minutes of the 2024 AGM were voted on, seconded and accepted as a true record.

4 Matters Arising. None

5 Reports of Officers for 2024/2025

5.1 Vice Chair (Mo Johnson)

Mo began by explaining that although initially there was some concern that we do not have a Chair, the shared role of Vice Chair between herself and Mike Clack had worked very successfully. She went on to say that regretfully much valued committee members, recently leaving us, had resulted in changes to the committee membership, but that we have been delighted to welcome new members.

She gave special thanks to Geoff Williams for his incredibly hard work setting up and maintaining our new website. She urged everyone present to look at the new website and explained that in order for it to be kept interesting and attractive, contributions about groups, including photographs of u3a activities and events, would be welcome.

Mo reported that Mike Clack began looking at our Facebook u3a page last September and was encouraged to see it had grown from 48 followers at the beginning of 2024 to 60 and currently has 80 followers. It has also brought in 6 new members and therefore is very significant to the continued growth and existence of Wolverhampton u3a. The members present were encouraged to 'share' when using Facebook in an effort to reach more new members.

Mo reported that the Pickleball group, instigated by Frank Davis, has been a very popular and significant new group.

Mo urged everyone present to let any committee member know if they would be interested in joining the committee, had any ideas for new groups, could provide contributions for the newsletter or indeed if they had any thoughts or suggestions that they may like considered for our u3a branch.

Finally, Mo concluded that a full membership with a variety of groups and our monthly meetings are the key to what keeps our u3a active and enjoyable and that without them we would not be viable as a branch.

5.2 Treasurer (Yvonne Rickard)

The membership were given copies of the Income and Expenditure Summary for the year ending March 2025 and Yvonne talked through some of the main points. The opening balance was £5,929.90. Overall income £5183.31. Expenditure £4,305.48. The closing balance was £6,807.73. Yvonne said that the improved attendance at the monthly meetings and new members joining, had helped increase income. She also informed everyone of how she had taken measures to reduce the impact of the new bank charges on our u3a account. She explained that she had sought advice from various sources and compared Lloyds charges with other banks. She stated that she will manage the cash situation and that any money she keeps in her house is covered by u3a insurance.

6 Election of Officers and Committee Members

6.1 Nominations for the named posts of 2 Vice Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer were received.

Following a vote, these officers were elected:-

Two Vice Chairs: Mo Johnson and Mike Clack

Secretary: Mary Warwicker

Treasurer: Yvonne Rickard

As no nominations were received for Chair, the committee will continue to serve as an executive committee collectively under two vice chairs.

6.2 Nominations for committee members were received. Following a vote these members were elected:-

Mike Blackshaw: Speaker Secretary

Jean Brookbanks: Meeter & Greeter

Carol Chapple & Mike Clack: Joint Newsletter Editors

Mike Clement: Membership Secretary

John Sheard: Beacon Administrator

Margaret Taylor: Committee Member

The chair invited nominations from the members present for the committee and in particular the role of Groups Co-ordinator.

7 Comments/AOB

7.1 Mercedes Fonfria wished to convey to everyone present how pleased she was that Wolverhampton u3a had picked up and how it had developed during the last year.

7.2 Carol Chapple invited members present to collect Wolverhampton u3a information leaflets before they left, to distribute appropriately.

7.3 David Tordoff gave thanks to the committee and in particular Yvonne (Treasurer) for keeping the accounts in good order.

Date and time of next AGM: Tuesday 31st March 2026 at 2pm

The Vice Chair closed the AGM at 3.20pm

