

Street & Glastonbury U3A
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18 May 2017
Glastonbury Town Hall 10.30am

Stephen Wright, the Chairman, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

There were 66 members present and 17 apologies.

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5 May, 2016, having been circulated previously, were taken as a true record
Proposed: Gudrun Bromfield
Seconded: Peter Griffiths
The motion was carried.

3. **Chairman's Report:** Stephen stated that we now have 528 members and the number is significantly increasing year on year. The previous year was 456 and the year before that 414.
Your committee has had a very active year with several new projects. The new committee members worked well together in their respective roles.
Our treasurer, Andy Pickford has made the accounts much easier to control and understand and we now have a much more detailed view of income and expenditure. Our accounting year is now in line with the membership year, as was voted at the Special General Meeting last December. Our finances are robust and there will be no increase in fees this year.
Our Secretary, Helen, who joined the Committee last year, has been a steady controlling factor and has brought both reliability and stability to the role thereby strengthening the structure of the committee.
Our Venues Manager Nicky Hockey, who also joined the Committee last year, has produced a bookings calendar which is available on the new Street & Glastonbury U3A website, enabling Group Leaders to check that bookings are correct.
Nicky is currently busy booking the venues for next year.
The new website is now live and includes excellent design work by Andy.
The old website was cumbersome and we believe that the new website will be easier for members and prospective members to navigate around. Stephen thanked Tony Martin for all his work over the years maintaining the old website.
Our Publicity Officer, Andrew Boatswain, has been very active and has greatly improved coverage of our activities.

Our Membership Secretary, Julie Hillman, as well as maintaining our growing members' database, continues to give valuable input from her extensive knowledge of the committee. Julie is currently heavily involved in next year's groups programme.

Our Newsletter Compiler, Pat Thompson, has done an excellent job with the newsletter and Mike Kellaway is the new newsletter manager, taking over from Geraldine Charles who has decided to step down. Stephen thanked Geraldine on behalf of the Committee for her sterling work.

Vice Chairman, Mike Ellington, continued to be a strong support during the year with Peter Griffiths also assisting.

Street & Glastonbury U3A continues to grow and flourish with an increased membership. We had 55 groups during the past year covering arts, crafts and study groups, some continuing through the summer months.

We will be reviving the monthly coffee mornings from September on Friday mornings. Our FaceBook page has 69 members and Stephen encouraged everyone to become a FB member as this is an excellent way to keep up with news and events.

Stephen summed up by saying U3A is run by the members for the members. Contributing or leading a group or event can be so much more rewarding than merely attending. Stephen concluded his report by saying that the future of Street & Glastonbury U3A is looking bright.

4. **Financial Report:** Andy Pickford reminded everyone that the accounts which were published in March only ran from April to August last year so were not a true reflection of the year's accounts. From now on we will be running accounts from September to August in line with the membership year enabling us to see how we do every full membership year. The accounts will be then published in the newsletter. Andy expressed thanks to Zeyla Alarcon who checks through the accounts and approves them.

Proposed: Bill Wych

Seconded: Andrew Boatswain

The accounts were accounted as a true record.

5. **Election of New Committee Members:** Nicky Hockey had already been co-opted to the Committee as Venues Manager.

Proposed: Julie Hillman

Seconded: Helen Hickman

Nicky was formally elected to the Committee and welcomed by The Chairman.

6. **News from the Groups:** Stephen commented that 55 groups ran during the year including 10 new groups. 19 groups ran on into the summer. We also sourced new venues and are currently finalising new groups for the coming year. The Red Brick Building is a possible new venue.

7. **Special Events:** 2016 was a disappointing year as regarding special events but we seem to have got the organisation right now and 2017 looks to be much more promising.

The talks were generally well received but the attendance was disappointing. Over 100 members attended the Christmas lunch. An art exhibition was held in Glastonbury Town Hall which was popular and yesterday a group of members visited the Hinckley B site.

Last year's Enrolment Day was the most successful ever. At Enrolment Day this year we are looking to alleviate the bottleneck problems experienced last year and the craft groups and membership will be in the Small Hall.

There are just a couple of places left on the First Aid Course.

Planned visits later this year include Dartmouth, a site visit to Glastonbury Festival site, a talk on the restoration of Hestercombe Gardens by David Usher and also a 3D printer exhibition.

We have also planned a trip on the Kennet & Avon Canal and the Christmas lunch in December.

Next week on 23 May we have a talk in Walton Village Hall at 4pm by Ben Kane, who walked Hadrian's Wall in 2013 in full armour and for charity. The talk is entitled "Mud, Sweat and Tears".

From September we will revive the monthly coffee mornings which we will combine with talks. The venue is likely to be Glastonbury Small Hall.

8. **New Website:** Andy Pickford displayed the new website on a screen for all to see. He explained that the old website was based on a template from U3A and a lot of U3A websites look the same. As he went through the new website he said that comments received had been taken account of. A public noticeboard will include events in the area which are not necessarily U3A related as it was thought this would be a useful addition for people to see. There are also photos of groups and Andy explained that by joining U3A members have given permission to have their pictures posted on the website. He added that he would like to encourage more information and photos to be submitted for inclusion.

The new website is now live and replaces the old one. We decided to have 2 web domains as Street & Glastonbury U3A is a lot to type in so either StreetU3A.org or Glastonburyu3A.org will take you to the new website. Andy asked everyone to visit the new website and to bookmark it. He concluded by saying that the cost of the 2 domain names is £1 per week.

9. **Any Other Business:**

At last year's AGM it was agreed that summer groups would be funded in the same way as the winter groups for a trial period of 1 year. Last year the summer groups covered their costs and Stephen said that we needed to confirm this arrangement.

Proposed: Elaine Robertson

Seconded: Pat Thompson
The motion was carried.

Future dates: 23 May talk at Walton Village Hall at 4pm
8 June Group Leaders' Meeting
24 August Enrolment Day

Stephen thanked everyone for attending adding that he was very pleased to see U3A flourish and looks forward to another successful year.

Ann Merritt gave a vote of thanks to the Committee for all the work they do.

The meeting closed at 10.55am and after a break for tea and coffee Bunny Sartin of the Yetties folk group gave a talk entitled Smuggler's Tales