Whitchurch and District U3A

Minutes of the AGM held at the Archibald Worthington club on Monday 2nd November 2026.

Meeting commenced at 10.31am.

1. Apologies for absence were received from: Elaine Vine (Membership Secretary), Maureen Rogers, Janet Dillon, John Dillon, Malcolm Monie and John Wilson.

There were a minimum of 46 attendees present.

2. Approval of the 2025 AGM Minutes.
The 2025 minutes were approved, proposed by Linda, seconded by Jane.

3. Chair's report of u3a activities.
Malcolm stated that things are going well and we have a sufficient number of members. However, he also mentioned that more volunteers to join the committee would be welcome.

4. Other activity reports.

Group Coordinator's report.

David has resigned as Group leader of the Naturalists, after many years, and a thank you was made to him on behalf of the committee and all u3a members for his hard work and wonderful presentations. Compliments were made to all the groups for presentations, which have taken place this year, including the new Photography group who gave an insight to their work with a lovely display. The group presentation list for next year is in the making.
The rent has increased for some venues and the Poetry group now meets in member's homes. This reduces the number of members who can attend.
There has been a suggestion for a new Theatre group, but no decision made as to whom would be Group Leader. Due to this it was decided that some members would join Market Drayton Theatre group (not u3a) to show the way and report back later next year. A survey of new members will be carried out next year, to show the various reasons for their interest in joining u3a.

Membership report.

Total current members = 250. Of which:
Associate = 20{8%}
Honorary=7{3%}
Individual=153{61%}
Joint=70{28%}
Out of the 250 current members there are 34 who haven't yet renewed.
There have been 14 online applications including 2 Associate.
In the unavoidable absence of Elaine, this is the report she provided.

Treasurer's report.

The accounts were circulated with the AGM information. The final statement differs slightly as we had an issue with the bank over some cheques. If anyone wishes to see a copy of the statement it will be provided upon request. The Wine group accounts have been forwarded and are all in order. The accounts for 2025-2026 have been audited and approved. Thanks were given to Maurice for his help with the audit and the bank problem. Also a thank you to Linda for collecting the money every Monday.

A request for any questions was made, to which there was no responders.

6. Appointment for an Examiner for the year 2026/27.
Maurice will continue as the Auditor next year.

7. Election of Officers and Members to serve on the Committee for the year 2026/27.
A volunteer to become Vice Chairman {a post currently vacant] and a request for 2 more Committee members was made. There were no responders. Also, a request for replacements for roles of Secretary, Group Coordinator and Membership Secretary was made. This is because u3a rules include a time limit of three years to serve. As nobody volunteered, a vote was taken to waive the rule for the allotted term rule and allow the people concerned to continue, with their agreement. The result of this vote was in favour, so they will continue.

8. Any constitutional changes.
None.

9. Proposed motions.
None.

10. Any other business.
There were nearly 500 more visits to the website and 1200 more more pages viewed so far this year, compared to last year. This is due to the ongoing website maintenance of Gerry and Mark.
A request was made to see a Tick box can be created on the Beacon system, to show whether a new member applied on line to create a poll. This would assist the Membership Secretary with her statistics.
A personal “Thank you” was given by Liza to Geraldine for voluntarily accepting the hand over of the role for booking Speakers.
An expression of interest as to whether to continue to hold a Summer party was taken. This is due to the particularly low number of attendees this year, 24 in all. No one present showed support in it being continued, but a decision is still to be made.

11. The next AGM will be Monday 1st November 2027.

Meetinge ended at 10.49.