

DEVIZES & DISTRICT U3A
Minutes of the Fifteenth Annual General Meeting
held on Friday 20th May 2011 at 2.30pm in the Wyvern Club

Apologies for absence

Leslie and Jane Francis, Henk Meijer, Bob & Joyce McMurray, Peter and Penny Goodliffe, Anne Bennett, Frances Bull and B Hopkins.

Present

107 members and one visitor attended.

John Weller welcomed everyone. He thanked Barbara Horrocks for making a gavel for the U3A. He also announced the sad news that Patrick Morris, a former chairman, had passed away last Tuesday; the committee will pass on condolences from the whole of Devizes U3A.

The minutes of the AGM held on Friday 21st May 2010 were agreed, proposed by Bill Tivenan and seconded by Peter Warren.

Chairman and Trustees' Report

The trustee's chairman, John Weller, read his annual report (copy attached to master minutes only). There are currently 563 members, of whom 472 have paid up. There are 45 thriving groups covering a wide range of activities and a plea was made for more group leaders especially for groups which are full. Bi-monthly meetings, coffee mornings and two Group leaders' meetings are well attended as well as occasional informative talks, first aid courses and computer courses. Production of the newsletter has been streamlined by outsourcing printing and distribution at a marginal extra cost but resulting in a more professional looking magazine; special thanks were given to the production team especially Barbara Crisp. Changes to the committee were outlined and thanks and welcomes given as appropriate. The committee continues to liaise with other local U3As via the Bath and Wilts Forum. Finally thanks were given to all who have helped to make Devizes U3A so successful. There were no comments except an enquiry about the re-opening of the Crown Centre for which no date has been set.

Treasurer's Report & Approval of the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2011

The treasurer, Diana Tighe, read out the treasurer's report (copy attached to master minutes only) for the year ended 31st March 2011. There is an apparent excess of income over expenses of £1815. As explained last year a tax rebate for 2009/2010 of £854 was not included and is therefore shown in this year's accounts. The true excess of income over expenditure was therefore £961.

The accounts were accepted, proposed by Jan Campbell and seconded by Jane Bull.

Appointment of Examiner for the Accounts for the coming year

Brian Gatward agreed to continue in this role, proposed by David Greenwood and seconded by Willie McCormick. Brian Gatward expressed his thanks to the treasurer, Diana Tighe, for the clear maintenance of the accounts.

Resolution

To make the following changes to the Constitution:

4.1 (i) *The Committee shall consist of at least five and not more than fourteen members (including those who are co-opted) including the principal officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer. The principal officers shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting.*

4.1 (ii) *Co-opted members shall have full voting rights and their term of office shall expire at the next following Annual General Meeting.*

4.1 (iii) *Delete this paragraph entirely.*

The chairman explained the need for more committee members as the number of members increases. Willie McCormick asked for clarification on the total number of committee members; this is that there is no limit on the number of co-opted members up to a maximum total committee size of 14. Derek Henry made the point that no extra expense is incurred by having more committee members. Proposed by Jenny Kingsland and seconded by Bill Tivenan.

Election of Officers and Committee

The following nominations had been received without contest.

	Candidate's Name	Proposer	Secunder
Chairman	John Weller	Bill Tivenan	Ann Cocking
Vice-chairman	Derek Henry	John Weller	Catharine Sharples
Secretary	Catharine Sharples	Ray Roberts	Jennie Warren
Treasurer	Diana Tighe	Lena Mullins	Wendy Weller
Committee	Barbara Crisp	Margaret West	Jean Volpi
Committee	David Greenwood	Jacky Bird	Patricia Mayhew
Committee	Anne Bennett	Judith Samuel	Diana Tighe
Committee	Jeannie Bradley	Barbara Horrocks	Thelma Collins
Committee	John Simpson	Marlene Lewis	Livvy Ainge
Committee	Peter Warren	Jean Thomson	Graham Houlden
Committee	Jeanette Smith	Francesca Crook	Susan Houlden

The officers and committee were elected en bloc, proposed by Barbara Hart and seconded by Pat Bruce.

The business meeting was closed at 3.00pm.

John Weller gave out a warning about scam telephone calls and a member mentioned an HMRC email scam. Members were asked if they found the U3A News of interest, most did although adverse comments have been received. He congratulated the ten members who have been awarded First Aid certificates and mentioned that another course could be arranged; members are to contact Don Moss if interested.

Jan Campbell spoke on behalf of Jill Ross mentioning the displays and lists to sign up for the Seniors Come Dancing and Art Appreciation groups. Derek Henry reminded members about the website and asked Group Leaders to keep their contributions up-to-date. For security reasons, no personal information such as addresses and telephone numbers are given on the website and members are advised to destroy the name and

address page of the newsletter before disposing of it. Margaret Henry announced that the Using Your Voice group are giving a free recital at the Nursteed centre at 2.30pm on 24th July.

There were displays by the Embroidery and Handicrafts, Mah Jong, Art, Sketching for Improvers, Art Appreciation and Seniors Come Dancing groups and presentations by Comedy Corner and Using Your Voice. John Weller and Derek Henry had set up a rolling presentation highlighting Devizes U3A activities. Refreshments were provided courtesy of the Poetry and Reading Groups and excellent facilities had been provided by the Wyvern Club.