

HIGH LANE U3A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2017

1. Margaret McDermott welcomed everyone to the 2016 Annual General Meeting.
2. Pam Curley read the minutes of the previous AGM which were agreed and accepted as a true record: proposed by Sheila Flitcroft and seconded by Agnes Ring. There were no matters arising.
3. **CHAIR'S STATEMENT FOR 2016**

High Lane U3A is well established and has continued to attract new members during the year, keeping our membership at 468. Monthly meetings have been well attended and our committee member Sheila Harrop has arranged some interesting and entertaining speakers. We had a record attendance of 150 members at the August meeting when William Wragg, MP for Hazel Grove, came to talk about his experience as a new MP and who could forget the belly dancer at the October meeting.

However, the most important part of any U3A are the interest groups of which we had 36 in 2016, but unfortunately, two of these have had to discontinue. We thank all the group leaders for their commitment to our U3A.

We held four social events in 2016: the Annual Lunch was held at Hazel Grove Golf Club which was a new venue and we were able to welcome Pam Jones, the new Chair of the National Executive as guest speaker. In July a different type of event was organised by the Shakespeare group with some of their members reading extracts from a selection of plays and dressed for the part. Another new venture was the Wine Tasting evening in September and finally the Christmas Party in December. All these events were capably organised by committee members to whom many thanks are due.

Our Newsletter, edited by Diane Saxon, is full of information both for our U3A and for local and national events. We thank her for all the work she puts in preparing the newsletter and keeping the website up to date.

And last, but not least, our thanks to those members who come early on Wednesdays to set out the chairs and to the tea ladies who organise the refreshments very efficiently every time. Without these volunteers our meetings could not take place.

4. **TREASURERS REPORT**

At this point of the meeting I would like to advise you that anyone found snoring during the treasurer's presentation will automatically become the treasurer for the next two years.

Similar to last year the accounts have been checked by Mike Clarke from Glossop in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Commission and U3A. Overall, balances are just over £6,100 which equates to 18 months running costs and roughly in line with the Third Age Trust.

Starting with income, membership numbers in 2016 were in line with 2015 and after payment for the U3A newsletter, the income was marginally down at £1,200. We did, of course, have other events like the luncheon, summer social, Christmas party and even a wine and cheese evening. The first three events were very well attended, however, the number of attendees for

the wine tasting is not known as those who attended can't remember. A possible explanation is in the amount of wine they consumed: I did here that there was a lot of cheese left over.

Total income from all sources stood at £3,902, however, my ambition to answer one of Diane's quiz questions remains firmly on my bucket list.

OUR EXPENDITURE

The main expense, of course, is the payment to the main office, to them in the manner to which they are accustomed, which was £1,610, which is equivalent of £3.50 per head, the same as last year and the Third Age Trust have also confirmed it will not increase until after 2017.

The Village Hall have held rental levels for some time now so the cost is the same as last year's annual cost of £48. Speakers cost £485 and refreshments provided by our good ladies was a modest £75. All totalling £3,118 leaving £748 to meet other expenses such as the newsletter, group assistance, PAT testing, website etc, which cost £883, leaving a deficit of £99 before receipt of interest from the Building Society of £62 leaving a small overall deficit of £37.

As you know our subscriptions have increased by £1 to £6, however, it has been as high as £7 in the past. We could have put entrance fees up but that would probably slow down getting people through the door because of people needing change etc. Speakers alone are expected to be another £100 overall coming in at around £60 per speaker and for obvious reasons our speaker organiser has to go further afield to find them which means greater expenses. However, to put it into perspective the U3A started back some 35 years ago when you were more likely to hear about Adam and the Ants, Shaking Stevens or Don McLean singing American Pie than the U3A. One of the first three U3As was in Cambridge and their annual fee then was £20 per year, it is now £74, Oh how time flies.

All in all it has been a very good year financially. A small deficit is acceptable and despite the small increase to £6 per year we are still probably one of the cheapest if not the cheapest U3A in the country.

5. COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Sue and I have completed four years as Chair and Vice Chair, which is the time allowed by our constitution, so we are both standing down in these roles but are prepared to continue as committee members. Pat Christopher and Meg Humphries are leaving the committee but the other present members have been nominated to continue for another year.

Diane Saxon has been nominated as Chair and Paul Kenneth as Vice Chair and Les Birks as Treasurer.

Therefore the committee for 2017 will be:-

Chair - Diane Saxon
Treasurer - Les Birks

Vice Chair - Paul Kenneth
Secretary - Pam Curley

Committee members - Pam Andrew, Maureen Christian, Linda Dale (new member), Sue Harlin, Sheila Harrop, Barbara Kenneth, Trevor Kinvig, Andre Lister, Margaret McDermott and Doreen Scotte (new member).

I hope this meets with your approval.

6. GROUP LEADERS' REPORTS

Group Leaders' read out their annual reports.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

David Burke asked that the historical information relating to the various groups since High Lane U3A began, could be reinstated on the website: This will be put on the agenda for the next Committee Meeting on the 13th January 2017.

The meeting closed at 3.25pm