**ASHFIELD u3a**

**18h ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Held on 25 April 2024 at the Ashwood Centre**

**1 Welcome**

Wendy welcomed everyone to the 2024 AGM

**2 Apologies for Absence**

David Riley, Hilda Riley, Barbara West, Mike Scott, Val Scott, Susan Cooke, Stephen Cooke, Chris Chamberlain, Colleen Green, John Barsby, Mike Salmon, Jackie Salmon

**3 Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting held 27 April 2023**

Copies of the Minutes had been sent via Beacon to those paid up members on email, hard copies were posted to members not on email.

**4 Matters arising**

a) There were no matters arising

b) David Wilson proposed and Ron Britton seconded that the minutes be approved together with all members present. There were no abstentions.

**5 Report from the Chair**

This year has been very normal as far as our activities have been concerned and I am very grateful that all the trauma and worry of the past few years are behind us, at least for now.

Our group activities and outings, holidays and social events have been enjoyable and I personally have taken advantage of the opportunities available whenever I could. Despite the most miserable, windy and wet winter that I can remember for a while we enjoyed a Halloween Quiz with some wonderful costumes as everyone got into the spirit of the occasion, Christmas celebrations were at the Hostess and at our own informal coffee morning. The weather has been kind for holidays and walks, most of the time, there have been a few frozen and muddy walkers or holiday makers. Our groups have had a variety of visits to various places and studied various topics, too numerous to mention and games, whether indoor or out-door continue to be played. Those who craft, paint, sew, knit or do other artistic endeavors have astonished us with their talent, but none of our activities would be happening if it wasn’t for our quite large group of volunteers who I would like to take this opportunity to thank for all their efforts and hard work. Whatever you do for your u3a it is greatly appreciated.

Our committee will stand down at this AGM, some are standing again and we have a couple of new faces. I personally will be standing down after three years as Chair. I will miss standing in front of you all at the meetings, having to blow my whistle to be heard, but I will be standing again for the committee to support your new Chair. We cannot legally continue without a full committee and certainly not without the four officer posts of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. This year has also been normal in that we have struggled to fill the committee vacancies and as some of our committee members would really appreciate a break I would ask you to please consider if you could offer your services next year.

Wendy Walker

**6 Treasurer’s Report**

Copies of the accounts had been sent via Beacon to all paid up members on email and hard copies were posted to members not on email..

**Financial Report for the year ending 28th February 2024**

You will all have received a copy of the examined accounts for our last financial year.

Our total income for the year was £19,752 and our expenditure was £20,228

Ashfield U3A made a loss of £475 last year- this was not unexpected and was the reason that fees were raised this year.

Our three largest costs are room rental, fees to the Third Age Trust, and monthly speakers. Thanks to the book stall coffee and biscuits at the meetings are paid for – so keep buying the books

Groups and Events are self-funding and should break even each year although funds are carried forward over year end when subs are collected or tickets are sold in advance. You will see that group expenditure exceeded income last year – this is because the collection of subs has not always kept up with payment of rents

I would also like to remind all members that group subs are due whether or not you attend the group that month there have been one or two occasions where members are reluctant to pay their subs as they have not been able to attend for various reasons. Please support your group leaders and pay your subs on time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the group leaders for support in collecting subs and trip organisers for balancing their trip budgets.

If you have read the notes on the accounts you will see that we have not claimed our gift aid. I am sure all of you know what dealing with Inland Revenue is like and so we have tended to leave that in the ‘too hard to do’ box however we would be foolish not to recover the tax paid and this will be done this year and included in next year’s accounts with luck the gift aid will mean subs won’t have to rise again for a while but no promises on that.

The accounts themselves are matched against our monthly bank statements and it is my job to make sure the money I collect and pay out does reconcile every month

As an extra check each year we ask someone to go over the accounts and make sure that everything is as it should be This time our examiner was Geoff Cree and my thanks go to him for doing this this year.

Does anyone have any questions?

 So to finish up could I ask for a proposer and seconder for the 2023/2024 accounts

And those in favour

Thank you

Any questions?’

Jacquie Chapman

Shirley Dawe asked about the income from Riviera Holidays. It was explained that this income was kept for groups to borrow if they needed any equipment for their group. This would then be repaid so it could be used by other groups.

Jill Pullan proposed and Trish Tootell seconded acceptance of the accounts together with all members present.

**7 Election of Committee**

All Committee members stood down in line with our Constitution.

The following officers were elected by all present with no abstentions;

Chair Sue Taylor

Vice Chair Wendy Walker

Treasurer Jacquie Chapman

Secretary Marilyn White

All existing committee members plus new members Els Bradley and Jo Smith were voted in by everyone present with no abstentions. John Barsby, Sue Winning and Helena Selby retired from the committee and Pauline Marsh will be a co-opted member.

**8 Any Other Business**

None

**9 Date of the next Annual General Meeting**

The next AGM will be held on Thursday 24 April 2025