

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – DATE: 17 MAY 2018

MINUTES OF MEETING

ITEM

1. Welcome from the Steering Committee Chair - Gill Simon.

Gill welcomed 147 people to the Meeting, of which 145 were members, with 2 visitors. Since we had officially reduced the requisite attendance for a quorate meeting from 20% to 10%, we comfortably exceeded the target of 86 member attendees.
2. Treasurer's Report – June Burton

In the absence of our Treasurer, Sidney Baginsky, his report was read by June Burton (see Annex 1 for the report). Mill Hill U3A is in a sound financial position for 2018-19.

In a show of hands, the Membership voted unanimously to accept the Financial Statements and the proposal to appoint Baginsky Cohen (Chartered Accountants) as the Examiner for the year 2018-19.
3. Chairman's Report

In her Report (see Appendix 2), Gill listed the many achievements in our second year of existence including:

 - A membership approaching 900;
 - About 50 Interest Groups;
 - Very well-supported Groups including MOTO, Outings & Travel and Theatre;

She finished by saying that we had had a fantastic year with lots of learning & fun and by inviting more members to join the active band of volunteers assisting the Committee and Interest Group Leaders.
4. Election of the Executive Committee – Richard Driscoll, Secretary

Firstly, the membership unanimously agreed the draft Minutes of the 2017 AGM.

Richard explained that the entire membership had been invited to nominate for a position on the Executive Committee. Two candidates had been nominated for the position of Chair and so a ballot of the membership was required. Referring to the 2017 AGM at which members has strongly endorsed the decision for ALL members to be able to vote for positions on the Executive Committee, he thanked Andrew Knowles, our Webmaster, for having successfully put in place a secure, confidential e-voting procedure that had

been emailed to 827 members; a further 33 members without email had received a paper ballot for posting.

The result of the ballot for Chair was:

Gill Simon – 152

June Burton – 64.

After showing the audience slides of the proposed EC for 2018-19, with new members Charles Follows (Interest Groups Coordinator) and Roz Redbart (Membership Secretary), the members unanimously voted to accept the Committee.

5. Consideration of any Resolutions from the Membership.

No prior written items had been forthcoming.

6. Closure of the AGM

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and invited them to enjoy refreshments while awaiting the guest speaker Amalia Michaels, to talk about “The Royal Society & the Royal Institution”.

DRAFT

ANNEX 1

Treasurer's Report

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2018

I have pleasure in presenting the Financial Statements of the Mill Hill U3A and I am sorry that I cannot be here today in person.

The Trustees' Report is shown on pages 2-4 and contains further information about our organisation.

This is our second year of operation and the previous year's figures are shown in the accounts on pages 6-8.

The accounts have been independently examined by Chartered Accountants and their report is on page 5.

These accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis which means that they reflect the actual receipts and payments for the year without adjustments for activities outside the year.

Our total receipts amounted to £56,017 of which £17,426 related to our general funds and £38,591 to group activities.

Receipts of £17,426 in general funds include £11,298 of subscriptions received in advance for the year 2018/19. Other income of £1,686 related to three events run for all members from the general account and the event costs of £1,593 are shown under the payments on page 6.

Total costs of running the organisation amounted to £14,182 giving a surplus for the year of £3,244.

The Balance Sheet on page 8 shows assets of £23,936 on the general funds of which £591 represent the written down value of our assets and £23,345 was our bank balance at the year end.

Funds held by groups in separate bank accounts are shown in the accounts and amount in total to £4,485.

A budget is prepared each year in order to set our membership subscriptions. These were £18 per annum for each member in 2017/18 and 2018/19. The reserves on the general account after deducting the 2018/19 subscriptions received in advance were £12,047 against total actual payments of £14,182. The trustees consider this to be more than adequate to meet anticipated expenditure for the year to 31 March 2019 and this will be taken into account together with gift aid still to be claimed when setting the subscription for 2019/20.

In summary we are financially sound and able to meet our expenditure as it falls due and we can look forward to the future with confidence.

Finally I wish to thank Victor Brilliant who has worked tirelessly as assistant treasurer as well as dealing with membership, maintaining the membership data base and a number of other ad hoc matters with great efficiency which has contributed so much to the well being of the organisation.

I propose the adoption of these Financial Statements.

Sidney Baginsky
Treasurer

11 May 2018

ANNEX 2

Chairman's report

Since our last AGM, we have both achieved and surpassed our expectations. We are now approaching 900 members.

It has been an eventful year. Jean Gillett our original and delightful Group Coordinator resigned early in the year having set up appx. 50 groups and masterminded Mill Hill U3A's Got Talent, a phenomenal achievement. Jean has now been replaced by a subcommittee of 10 people. That tells you something.

Charles Follows will be our Groups Coordinator, Roz Redbart will be our Membership Secretary and, tho' not on the Executive Committee, Barbara Lenton will help new groups as they come forward, and we have 8 liaison officers who will keep an eye on our GLs to identify any problems.

All our groups leaders come from within the membership. We don't pay them. We have a wealth of experience within this room, and another 600 members who are not here today.

You don't need a qualification to run a group, and there are benefits. We host an appreciation lunch for all our GLs and some of our volunteers. This year it will be held at the Hendon Golf Club on June 6th. We expect an attendance in the region of 70.

Our largest groups include our Travel Group, just back from a delightful week in Holland. Our Outings Group is very popular. Then we have the MOTO Group, members on their own. There's about 150 in that group. Our theatre Group and lots of other smaller groups which offer so many of you the opportunity to learn something and meet up with local people with similar interests. So much going on.

We have been aware that enquiries coming into the website have not always been answered. Stephen Sands will now make sure that any queries are passed on and receive a reply.

We are also trying to get our GLs to allow their phone number to be on the website so if you have questions you can go directly to the GL.

Clearly this is not possible for our larger groups as they could be inundated. Obviously, that is not fair, we all have lives outside of U3A. If you don't like something, you are welcome to speak to me at the end of each mm and see how you can offer help to put it right.

Victor has unfortunately resigned. Victor was our Assistant Treasurer, he handled our membership, printed the cards, dealt with renewals, understood our beacon computer system, was manning our telephone enquiries, set up our scanner, understood the constitution and we will be looking for a team of people to replace him.

Thank God he has offered to carry on doing what he does off the committee. Victor has been absolutely invaluable in the setting up of MHU3A and we sincerely hope he will continue to give us the benefit of his knowledge. It was also Victor who painstakingly redesigned our application forms to allow for GDPR, the new data protection rules.

During the year we've had some excellent speakers, the highlight being John Bercow. Just short of 400 people attended that meeting.

Another resounding success has been the new members meetings. Each month I invite new members for a casual get together and introductions. This has proved to be very popular. If you would like to be included, please drop an email to Richard Driscoll and he will add you to the next month's invitation list.

DRAFT