

**Draft Minute of Paisley and District u3a 7th Annual General Meeting  
6 March 2025  
Salvation Army Halls, Mill Street, Paisley**

**Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Rod Ferrier, Mr and Mrs Phillips and Jeanette Mitchell.

In order to be quorate for the AGM a minimum of 15% of members should be present. The Chair noted that with an attendance of over 60 this had certainly been achieved. She informed the meeting that pictures would be taken at the event and that these might be used for press coverage, newsletters and u3a website. She asked that anyone who did not wish their photograph to be taken or used make themselves known to the photographer.

**Adoption of Minute of 6th AGM 7 March 2024**

Minutes of the meeting of the Paisley and District U3A 6th AGM had been circulated to members by email. The Chair hoped that all members had taken the opportunity to read these and asked if they were a correct record. The minutes were proposed by Irene Keith and seconded by May McFadden. The meeting passed the minutes with a show of hands. There were no matters arising.

**Motions**

The Chair had not received any motions to be considered at the AGM. Members had been requested to submit these to her by 25 February.

**Chair's Report**

Kathy O'Donnell, Chair of Paisley and District u3a gave her address. She thanked everyone for attending this 7th Annual General Meeting. As an organisation that promotes learning amongst folk who are retired or semi-retired, the u3a is unique. Over the past year the u3a membership had continued to grow and had reached 163 members.

Monthly meetings were well supported with average attendance over 70 members, enjoying a diverse range of speakers from Barbara Graham on Agatha Christie, to Graeme Smith on the Theatre Royal and Dr Allan Leslie on how the Antonine Wall was built finishing the year with a sing-a-long with Stephanie Strachan. She thanked Irene Keith for arranging these interesting speakers and Allana Parker Dymock for getting press coverage for the events.

She thanked Allana and Chris Dykes for their work on the u3a newsletter and Ellen Bailie the web manager who had transferred the Paisley and District u3a website to a new web platform. The u3a groups had continued to flourish thanks to the time and motivation of the group leaders and there was a newly established singing group.

Members of the u3a had enjoyed day trips to Culzean Castle, the Falkirk Wheel, Linlithgow and the Kelpies. Undeterred by the inclement weather they had also braved steamship on Loch Katrine. In November members had ventured further afield to Castle Howard and enjoyed some Christmas markets. Finally in January to chase the blues away there was a lunch and quiz at Gabriels in Paisley.

With all this activity there were lots of folk to thank from the group leaders who share their time and talents and to the dedicated Committee members who work behind the scenes. A particular thank was due to Betty and Irene who were stepping down from the Committee. Finally thanks were due to the folk who lend a helping hand whether with the tea, setting up the room and collection of money Ellen, George, Katrina, Alison, Libby, Pat, Lamont and Mary.

Hopefully over the year ahead the u3a would continue to offer an opportunity to learn and make new friends and have fun. As Abraham Lincoln said 'In the end it's not the years in your life that count but the life in your years.'

### **Financial Report**

Alex Smith, Finance Officer Paisley and District u3a gave his financial report for the year ending 30 September 2024. The accounts had been signed off by himself on behalf of the committee and the auditor. Unfortunately due to technical difficulties, he was unable to show the accompanying slides that he had prepared.

Receipts for the year totalled £13,576.32 and payments £12,820.69 resulting in a balance of £755.63. The restricted fund account had been incorporated into the current account, so £221.24 of the balance was restricted funds and £534.39 unreserved.

The majority of income and expenditure was from Trips, Christmas Lunch and Picnic. However Alex noted that income from membership had increased to £3810.00. National Capitation (our payment to the national u3a) had increased in line with membership. New items of Group Income and Group Expenditure had been added to the accounts. This reflected money for various interest groups received and paid through the Bank of Scotland business account.

The closing balance in the accounts at 30th September was £2,079.54 of which £390.44 was restricted funds. £230 of membership fees for 2024/5 had been paid in advance of the 2024 year end. A further £3,886 had been paid in advance for the Xmas Market trip. Alex reported that the group had managed to keep its reserve at a minimum of 50% of annual income in line with recommended levels.

In light of the current financial position the Committee recommended that there be no increase to Membership fees and that they should be maintained at the same level for the year ahead.

George asked about funds received and paid within groups. For example the Bridge Group had spent £25 they had all put in £3 to cover this. Alex confirmed that when groups pay for items themselves this was not recorded in the accounts. A number of other groups pay for halls from money they collect themselves such as the Games and Pickleball groups.

The Accounts were approved by a show of hands.

### **Election of Executive Committee**

Allana Parker Dymock read the nominations for committee members:

Ellen Bailie

Patricia Brown

Chris Dykes

Allana Parker Dymock

Andy Fairley

Jane Fraser

Rod Ferrier

Candy Millard

Kathy O'Donnell

Alison Page

Alex Smith

The Nominees for Committee Membership were approved by a show of hands from the meeting.

### **Presentations by Members**

Due to the technology issues the meeting was unable to see the presentations. Therefore two of the speakers, Colin Dykes and Ronald Vogt will be invited back at another time. Kathy apologised to those members who had prepared talks but had been unable to present them in full today.

Bob McNair gave a talk on "Memories of a career in Railways" which covered his career from 1972 onwards. He was thanked for his very full account.

### **Any Other Business**

The Singing Group performed some songs. Members were encouraged to join in. Kathy asked that anyone who fancied getting involved make themselves known to her after the meeting closed.

Kathy thanked Douglas, her husband for his continual support, and members of the Committee past and present for all their hard work.

The next Paisley and District monthly meeting will take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> April and the speaker will talk about 1930s Architecture.

The AGM came to a close.