

Preston and District u3a
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on
Thursday 19th March 2026 at 2.00pm
At Fulwood Free Methodist Church

In Attendance	<p>Kay Harrison (KH) – Chair Janet Nixon (JN) - Treasurer Sue Holder (SH) – Business Secretary Cathy Widdows (CW) - Membership Secretary Sheena Clowes (SC) – Groups Co-ordinator Paul Westwood (PW) – Co-opted committee member Mark Buckley (MB) – Co-opted committee member There were 98 members in attendance in total.</p>
Apologies	Margaret Jones, Carol Martindale, David Parker, Margaret Long, Julie Franklin
	REPORT
Vice Chair	
1.	<p>Kay (Chair) welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Members were reminded to turn off their phones.</p> <p>The committee had received neither resolutions nor questions prior to the meeting. Any questions relating to today's meeting can be put to the relevant committee member via the contacts page on our website.</p>
2.	A number of apologies were received as shown above.
3.	<p>The minutes of the last AGM held on the 20st March 2025 were accepted and signed as a true record.</p> <p>Proposer: Tony Cheetham, Seconder: Betty Stevens</p>
4.	Pat Green queried why a coffee morning/afternoon had not been held. Kay replied that as some committee members thought that it should be held later the committee decided to delay this event. It will now be put back on the agenda for the next committee meeting.
5.	<p>In her address Kay indicated that there are approximately 800 members and almost 70 interest groups. She thanked Group Leaders for all their hard work running these. She also encouraged them to advertise their group's activities as attendance at some groups has fallen recently.</p> <p>Kay detailed the committee changes which have occurred this year. Since the AGM agenda was published the Speaker Organiser and the Assistant Treasurer have withdrawn their nominations for these roles. The former Vice chair has also stepped down for health reasons. Kay expressed her thanks to these former committee members. Next year Janet Nixon will take over the role of Chair and Kay will act as Vice Chair. The committee has recently co-opted another member to take on the role of Speaker Organiser which leaves the role of Assistant Treasurer vacant.</p> <p>Numbers attending the Monthly Social have fallen so as from next month this will be held at St Cuthbert's. Also to save on accommodation costs small groups have been encouraged to move to cheaper and more appropriate venues.</p> <p>Finally Kay thanked all those members who work tirelessly to make our u3a a success.</p>
6.	<p>Janet (Treasurer) explained that overall assets increased from £41123 a year ago to £45970: a surplus of £4847.</p> <p>Re. Interest Groups the income received was just sufficient to cover the accommodation costs and expenses resulting in a surplus of £34. Janet asked for suggestions for other</p>

7.	<p>interest groups.</p> <p>Income from events, talks, quizzes, outings etc. also rose by £1201.</p> <p>Janet re-iterated the need to move the Monthly Social to a cheaper venue due to falling attendance. On a positive note costs for speakers have fallen. She emphasised that contrary to rumour the committee were not trying to close small interest groups merely to move them to cheaper venues.</p> <p>The accounts were approved unanimously. Proposer: Betty Stevens, Seconder: Peter Kitchen</p> <p>Margaret Jones will continue to monitor and approve them annually.</p> <p>The election of Committee Nominees then took place by a show of hands.</p> <p>Treasurer: Nominee: Paul Westwood (proposed by C Dutchman-Smith, seconded by A Martin) For: unanimous, Against: none, Abstentions: none</p> <p>Current committee members who have already served for 3 years were unanimously elected to continue on the committee: K Harrison as Vice-Chair, Sue Holder as Business Secretary and David Parker as Beacon Administrator.</p>
8. Date/ Time Next Meeting	<p>It was agreed that the 2027 Annual General Meeting will be held on:</p> <p>Thursday March 18th at 2.00 pm at St Cuthbert's Church Centre</p> <p>Kay then thanked all present and all other members for their support during the past year and closed the meeting.</p>

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD.....

DATE.....