


## Preston and District u3a

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 1.45 pm  
At Fulwood Free Methodist Church

<b>In Attendance</b>	Tony Cheetham (AJC) - Chair Janet Nixon (JN) - Treasurer Barbara Long (BL) - Secretary Peter Kitchen (PK) - Membership Secretary Sheila Finch (SF) - Members Representative Margaret Clark (MC) – Assistant Treasurer Ann Kenny (AK) – Group Co-ordinator David Parker (DP) Co-opted - Beacon Administrator Wendy Tyson (WT) Speaker Organiser  <b>There was a total of 145 members in attendance.</b>
<b>Apologies</b>	Sheila Melrose, Carol Jones, Sheila Chester, Hilary banks, Elizabeth Reid, Charlie & Sue Stephenson, Carol Martindale & Joan Smith.
	<b>REPORT</b>
<b>Chair 1.</b>	<p><b>Tony</b> started the meeting by pointing out the fire exits then welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending.</p> <p>2022 was a challenging year as we emerged from the pandemic, it was the first full year since 2019 when our activities were not cancelled or disrupted. Unlike many other u3as Preston &amp; District membership continued to grow during lockdown, however, we have seen some reduction in attendance at Interest Group meetings during 2022, possibly reflecting an initial reluctance to meet socially after lockdown. Member events were resumed during 2022.</p> <p>Any questions relating to today's meeting can be put to the relevant committee member via the contacts page on our website.</p> <p>2. The minutes of the last AGM held on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were accepted and signed as a true record: <b>Proposed by: Janice Bennett &amp; Seconded by Joan Fishwick.</b></p> <p>3. There were no matters arising from the 2022 AGM minutes, which had been distributed prior to the meeting, questions were not being taken as none had been received by the 2<sup>nd</sup> March as stated in the notices placed in the newsletters prior to the AGM.</p> <p>4. <b>Tony</b> then informed the members that Interest Group attendances were down by 20% compared to 2019 but had improved over the last few months. <b>Tony</b> then thanked <b>Sheila Finch</b>, Membership Rep, for doing the comparison figures of 2019 &amp; 2022 which involved a lot of work.</p> <p>SumUp the new payment system has been a success with <b>Peter Kitchen</b> using it at both monthly and group meetings for membership renewal. <b>David Parker</b> has helped Peter by recording those members who have elected to renew by bank transfer.</p> <p>5. A successful Members Coffee morning/Group Leaders lunch was held in January. In the coming months several events are planned including regular Dave Stevens' quiz events, a Musical Evening with Wine and Cheese, talks on the English Civil War, China, and the Beethoven String Quartets, and a Desert Island Discs afternoon in late October.</p> <p>6. <b>Tony</b> thanked <b>Barbara Long</b> for all of her efforts in the role of Secretary during the past three and a half years and observed that she would continue her work editing "Good Times" and running the rapidly expanded MOTO group. He then thanked <b>Ann Kenny</b> for her role as Interest Group Coordinator, having to liaise with venues, booking rooms and being a sounding board for the Group Leaders. <b>Tony</b> then thanked <b>Eric Fazackerley</b> for all of his efforts in his role of Examiner of our Accounts for the past 6 years</p>

	<p>7. <b>Janet</b> (Treasurer) then explained that we had 2 accounts where the membership &amp; events account was in credit, the Interest Group account had a small deficit. Venue fees are rising.</p> <p>a. <b>Margaret Jones</b> has put her name forward as Eric's successor. This was put to a membership vote by a show of hands:  <b>For - unanimous, Against - none: Abstentions - none.</b></p> <p>b. The accounts were approved by a show of hands:  <b>For - unanimous: Against - none: Abstentions - none.</b></p> <p>8. The amendments to the constitution were put to a vote by a show of hands:  <b>For - unanimous: Against - none: Abstentions - none.</b></p> <p>Election of Committee Nominees then took place;  <b>Vice Chair: Kay Harrison</b> who was proposed by: Stuart Mason and seconded by: Judith Mason. Voted by a show of hands:  <b>For - unanimous: Against - none: Abstentions - none.</b></p> <p><b>Secretary: Susan Holder</b> who was proposed by: Jean Pickles and seconded by: Geoffrey Key. Voted by a show of hands:  <b>For - unanimous: Against - none: Abstentions - none.</b></p> <p><b>Beacon Administrator David Parker</b> who was proposed by: John Gregory and seconded by: Christine Kitchen. Voted by a show of hands:  <b>For - unanimous: Against - none: Abstentions - none.</b></p> <p>9. The Interest Group Coordinator role remains unfilled in the short term but <b>Sheena Clowes</b> has volunteered to take the role. A handover period with Ann will take place and she will be co-opted onto the Committee at its next meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> March.</p>
<p><b>Date/ Time Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>It was agreed that the 2024 Annual General Meeting will be held on:  <b>Thursday March 21st at 1.45 pm at Fulwood Free Methodist Church.</b></p> <p><b>Tony</b> then thanked all present and closed the meeting.</p>

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD..... 

DATE..... 31.5.2024