

**Annual General Meeting of
Matlock Area University of the Third Age
Monday 12th April 2021 (via Zoom)**

Minutes

Welcome from the Chair:

Liz Walker welcomed all members to the virtual AGM.

She expressed her thanks to the following:

Hilary Essen (Groups Liaison Officer), for keeping the groups up to date with information on Covid-19 restrictions throughout the year and staying in touch with as many groups as possible in order to retain both groups and members.

The New Ideas subgroup (Tracy Sims, Hilary Essen, Gill Needham, Linda Wilson, Judith Holt and Keith Downing) for providing events and entertainment for members, notably Coffee Mornings and Speakers.

Coordinators, who have adapted and changed the way they meet and for keeping in touch with their group members.

The four Committee members who will be leaving the Committee this year:

Martin Eyre - an original member from 2007 who has served on the Committee in many roles and managed the Gift Aid contributions.

Sybil Dunn, Lesley Shawe and Liz Vincent, who have worked tirelessly every month providing a Coffee Morning at the Football Ground.

There were 46 members present and 128 e-mail responses which together exceeded the 15% of the membership necessary for a Quorum. The meeting was chaired by Liz Walker MAu3a Chair.

Attendees: Stephen Bailey; Trevor Boam; Pauline Briggs; Jane Burgess; Alan & Carolyn Davies; Keith Downing; David Duncombe; Angela Elkins; Martin Emery; Jane Entwistle; Mary Eatherden; Michael & Rosalind Fleming; Mike & Diane Frosdick; Judith Hodges; Bea Jagger; Peter & Susan Jelf; Jackie Jennings; Johanna Lennox; Liz Mann; Malcolm Molloy; Eleanor Porter; Dave & Sarah Puxley; Michael Reuss; Mike Sheeran; Brian Smith; Maura Spencer; Peter South; Ann & John Topham; Pauline Ward; Penny Whitney; Brian Williamson.

Committee members: Liz Walker; John Entwistle; Roger Keeling; Linda Wilson; Hilary Essen; Tracy Sims; Gill Needham; Sybil Dunn; Nick Bristow

Apologies for absence: Lesley Shawe, Liz Vincent

- 1** **The Minutes** of the AGM held on June 22nd 2020 were approved without amendment.
Proposed by Tracy Sims, Seconded by Roger Keeling
There were no matters arising.
- 2** **Annual Report 2019 - 2020**
Tracy Sims thanked everyone for their contributions and their work over the year.
Hilary Essen commented that this year the Annual Report was an electronic version and not the usual printed booklet, due to the current restrictions of Covid-19.
The Annual Report was approved. Proposed by Gill Needham, Seconded by Mike Frosdick.
There were no matters arising from the Annual Report.
- 3** **Annual Accounts** February 1st 2020 to January 31st 2021.

The Treasurer, Roger Keeling, explained that this year had been very different, with very few transactions. The Chair thanked Roger for a very clear and concise report. The accounts were approved. Proposed by Trevor Boam, Seconded by Hilary Essen. There were no matters arising from the accounts.

4 Election of Committee Members - elected en bloc via e-mail & those present:

Proposed by Bea Jagger, Seconded by Penny Whitney

1. Roger Keeling: Honorary Treasurer. *Proposer: B Williamson, Seconder: M Emery*
2. Tracy Sims: Publicity Officer. *Proposer: S Sims, Seconder: L Wilson*
3. Hilary Essen: Groups' Liaison Officer. *Proposer: J Holt, Seconder: L Wilson*
4. Stephen Bailey: Ordinary Member. *Proposer: J Entwistle, Seconder: L Wilson*
5. Elizabeth Mann: Ordinary Member. *Proposer: E Walker, Seconder: J Stanton*
6. Brian Williamson: Ordinary Member. *Proposer: J Williamson, Seconder: J Lamport*

The following Committee members to remain in post:

7. Honorary Chair: Elizabeth Walker
8. Honorary Vice-Chair: John Entwistle.
9. Honorary Business Secretary: Linda Wilson
10. Membership Secretary: Gill Needham
11. Ordinary Member: Nick Bristow

5 Any Other Business

1. The Chair would like to thank the webteam of Dave Puxley, Mike Frosdick and Linda Wilson for their continued support in creating an enlightening and informative website, which is now set up ready to move forward. New Policies and Job Roles have recently been added.
2. Michael Reuss asked if there was a policy for getting back together in members' homes. Hilary Essen responded that the u3a must follow government guidelines, which can at times be a bit vague. The main concern for meeting in homes is that it is not possible to socially distance. Currently most groups are either meeting via Zoom, or in larger open spaces, including gardens. When Matlock Area u3a has clearer guidelines, all group Coordinators and members will be notified of opportunities to meet, whether in hired venues or members' homes.
3. Malcolm Molloy asked whether it would be possible to rent/lease/hire a neutral venue run by the MAu3a, for groups or members to meet, with a scheduled timetable. The Chair replied that while it is a good idea, there may be many complications, e.g. costs, access, toilet facilities, cleaning, etc. and would need thinking about. Hilary Essen commented that other u3a's do run such facilities. Item will be discussed at the Next management Committee Meeting.
4. Mary Eatherden thanked Tracy Sims for providing a Weekly Bulletin with such informative and interesting options.

Message from the Chair.

As we hopefully move forward out of lock-down I would like to thank all those people who have kept us going this year, from the medical staff and key workers who have kept Matlock going, to all those within Matlock Area u3a who have tried wherever possible to keep groups and contact going. I know it hasn't always been possible for some groups to continue, but many groups have done their best, and whilst some u3a's have completely stopped, I believe we have thrived as evidenced by the fact that we continue to get new members and that you have all renewed. I hope that group activities will start up again as soon as allowed, but also hope that we can get some new groups and activities going. We need members to consider what they can do to get involved, by helping with groups or at committee level. The u3a is a 'bottom up' organisation, it is

up to you the members to get groups up and running, not up to group coordinators to organise you. Share responsibility, get involved. We, the committee, can give you lots of support to help get groups running, so come forward with ideas, but ultimately, we can only do so much. Let us hope we can meet again ...after we have given all those friends and relations a big hug!

The meeting concluded at 2.30 p.m.