

Minutes of the
17th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
PRESTON PARK u3a

Held on Thursday 5th December 2024 at 2.15 pm

At Knoyle Hall, Knoyle Road, Brighton

The Chairman, John Colman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Minutes of the AGM held on 7 December 2023

The minutes of the AGM were noted and, having been on the PPU3a website for many months, these were deemed to be accepted and approval of the minutes was proposed and seconded.

2. Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising from the minutes.

3. Vice Chair's Report

In the absence of a Chair, John Colman as Vice Chair gave his annual report which is available on the website.

4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 October 2024

The Treasurer, John Curwen, had circulated his Annual Report and Accounts in advance of the AGM and invited questions. There were none and the Accounts were duly approved.

5. To approve the report of the examiner of the Accounts

The accounts for the year ending 31 October 2024 have been examined, reviewed and signed off by Jenny Edgell.

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2025

It was agreed that the Committee would appoint an Independent Examiner for next year.

7. Retirement of Officers and other Executive Committee members

At this point all existing Officers and Committee members retired, as required by our Constitution.

3 existing officers are standing down this year: John Colman has served the maximum period as an Officer/Committee member; Philip Haughey is standing down for personal reasons; and Christine Hooper has served 3 years as Secretary. Susan Philip is also standing down as a Committee member and Susan was thanked for her hard work during her time on the Committee.

8. Election of Officers and Committee members

Christine Hooper as Secretary has received the following nominations for Office which have been proposed and seconded. The nomination forms were confirmed as all in order and the nominees have all agreed to stand:

Chair	Liz Rugg
Treasurer	John Curwen
Secretary	Carol Jenkins
Committee	Kevin Thomas
Committee	Charmian Hartley
Committee	Christine Hooper
Committee	Sara Piper
Committee	Sue Barlow
Committee	Julie Frayne

Sara Piper was elected for her first term as a Committee member, having been co-opted half way through the year. Sue Barlow and Julie Frayne are serving for their first term as Committee members.

No other nominations were received for Office so the above were elected for 2025 without the need for a vote.

It was noted that no nominations have been received for the role of Vice Chair. Our Constitution allows for 2 Vice Chairs. However, no names have been put forward for this role. The Committee has the power to co-opt a new Vice Chair from amongst our membership during the year and it is hoped that someone may come forward to fulfil this role. With our membership now standing at over 480 members, it is disappointing that we have had no nominations for Vice Chair. John Colman encouraged members to come forward for the Committee and help to run our u3a.

Our Constitution provides that, in the event of no name being put forward as Vice Chair in advance of the meeting, those members attending the AGM should be asked whether anyone is prepared to come forward for this role. No-one was forthcoming.

John Colman thanked the Interest Groups team for their hard work throughout the year. There has been a vast amount of work involved in producing new policies, starting new groups and supporting Group Leaders, especially those new to their role. Update of policies includes Health & Safety, Risk Assessments, Equality & Diversity, Safeguarding, Data Protection and Privacy Notice, Group Leader Guidelines and Members Guidelines. These have been produced mainly by the Interest Group team, with support from other Committee members.

John Colman thanked Philip Haughey on behalf of the Committee and Preston Park u3a for his contribution to the hard work of the Interest Group team throughout the year and, in his absence today, will write to thank him.

John Colman thanked Christine Hooper for her excellent service as Secretary during her term of office. Christine is remaining on the Committee for a further year.

Terry Careford thanked John Colman for his hard work for many years as a Committee member, Chair and Vice Chair and presented him with a gift voucher. John has been an amazing Chair and led our u3a for the past several years.

9. Any Other Business

Molly Beirne was congratulated on reaching her 100th Birthday 2 days ago and presented with a box of chocolates. Molly is a founder member of our u3a along with her late husband, Tony, and still attends some group and monthly meetings.

The first monthly meeting will be on Thursday 9 January 2025 at 2.15 pm. This will not be our usual Showcase meeting but a speaker meeting when our speaker will be one of our members, Anna Robinson-Pant, who will be speaking on Female Education in Nepal. There will also be an opportunity to renew membership if not already done so.

The AGM next year will be held on Thursday 4th December 2025.

Signed
Chair

Date