

Barmouth U3A

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8 May 2013

Arts Room, Dragon Theatre, Barmouth

In the Chair: Alan Vincent, who welcomed all members present.

Present: 29 members

Apologies: Wendy and Rod Bramley, Patricia and John Percival, Jaqui Puddle, Rhiannon Roberts, and Maggie West.

Minutes:

The minutes (attached) of the AGM held on 9 May 2012 had been made available prior to the meeting. Val Vine proposed that they be accepted as a true record; Peter Leyden seconded the motion, which was accepted by a show of hands..

Chairman's Report

Alan, reporting on his first year in office, said he had enjoyed the challenge immensely. At the end of March membership stood at 116, close to its highest ever. The new Needlecraft and Discussion groups had small but enthusiastic members, and the Table Tennis group, which started in September, now has two, sometimes three, tables in use at any one time.

We said a reluctant goodbye to George Mandow, one of our founder members, who has moved to New Zealand, but who passed on much information and advice before he left. George has renewed his membership to an eye on what we are up to. We also have to thank Sylvia Vannelli, whose health has forced her to retire from the Committee, although she continues to be a member. Both George and Sylvia are great losses, as they are two of the small group who established the Barmouth U3A and whose enthusiasm helped to make it grow. Alan thanked them on behalf of the Committee for all their efforts.

He was pleased to say that Mary Howell has joined the Committee and taken over part of George's work with the Walking Group, and part of Sylvia's role with the groups generally.

Evelyn, though retiring from the Chairmanship, still plays a central role by organising the monthly meetings, which are so well supported they have moved from Parlwr Mawr to the Arts Room, a more comfortable and relaxing setting.

Highlights for Alan personally have been the Walks and Strolls, both well supported and enjoyable. He also remembers the trip organised to Theatre Clwyd to the Flintshire Study Day, which was an interesting day out despite the presentation and organisation being not as good as ours, partly because the venue was not ideal. The next Study Day, organised by Bangor U3A, will be held in Llandudno on 23 October. The plan is to organise a trip as soon as full details are available.

Finally, discussions are in progress about the re-creation of the Writing Group and a History Group. Please contact any member of the Committee if you are interested in either, or any other subject that could be considered as a potential group.

Treasurer's Report

The annual report (attached), independently inspected by Denise Bott of Communities First, had been circulated with notice of this meeting. Christina reported that there was a deficit this year of £115.62. The increase in postage costs is because we now pay for the Third Age Trust magazine to be delivered direct to members' homes – one copy per household. We were also able to provide transport for the Flint Study Day for those who wished to attend.

Val Vine thanked Christina for her work as Treasurer and proposed that the report be accepted. Bronwen Dorling seconded the motion which was passed by a show of hands.

Election of Committee

Re-elected by a show of hands for a further 3 years:

Bronwen Dorling
Peter Leyden
Evelyn Richardson
Norma Stockford

Existing members willing to continue their terms of office:

Rachel Cleaver	(Re-elected 2011)
Christina Cook	(Elected 2011)
Mary Howell	(Elected 2012)
Danny Jones	(Re-elected 2011)
John Percival	(Re-elected 2012)
Patricia Percival	(Re-elected 2012)
Marie Thomas	(Re-elected 2012)
Alan Vincent	(Elected 2011)

Election of Officers

The following had agreed to continue in office and were re-elected by a show of hands:

Chair:	Alan Vincent
Vice Chair:	Peter Leyden
Secretary:	Bronwen Dorling
Minutes Secretary:	Marie Thomas

Vote of Thanks

The meeting seconded the Chairman's vote of thanks to George Mandow and Sylvia Vannelli for their contribution to the success of the Barmouth U3A. The Committee had marked George's departure with a gift of wine, and it was agreed to send a gift of flowers to Sylvia to mark her retirement from the Committee.

Sales Table

Members attention was drawn to the table which provided a useful contribution to funds.

The meeting closed at 2 p.m. and members enjoyed refreshments followed at 2.30 p.m. by home-grown entertainment provided by several members, on the theme of Growing Old With Attitude.