

Barmouth U3A

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9 May 2018

Parlwr Mawr, Barmouth

In the Chair: Alan Vincent, who thanked all those present for coming.

Present: 15 members.

Apologies for absence:

Rod Bramley, Glenys Lawson, David and Joan Holloway, John and Jean Hudson, Sheila Walker, Rex and Margaret Wright.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2017 had been provided to members prior to this meeting. It was proposed by Val Vine and seconded by Geraldine Vincent that the minutes be approved .

Chairman's Report

Alan presented his seventh year's report on the work of the Committee --

We had a long review of the status of the branch at the end of last year, including the possibility of merging with Porthmadog. That did not come about but we did manage to get additional members onto the Committee, with John Hudson and Glenys Lawson joining us .Their recent efforts have been much appreciated, with John now taking on the role of Membership Secretary. We also spent time on adopting a new constitution. This was driven primarily by changes in the relationship between the larger U3A branches and the Charities Commission,, something that does not affect us directly,. We did, however, use the opportunity to bring the Constitution up to date The most obvious change is that committee members are now elected for a year at a time rather than for three years as in the past. I hope this change leads to more of our members considering joining the Committee as the commitment is much less.

Membership last year reached a total of 111, which is a bit lower than previously. As always there were some leavers and joiners and, in 2017/18 , we welcomed a total of seven new members. This year 82 members have renewed so so far, so we need to chase up some laggards to maintain our numbers.. This

number includes three members for whom this will be their first year. We welcome them and hope they stay with us for some time. .

The strength of our group lies, not just in the Committee, but perhaps more particularly with our Group leaders, without whom our activities would not happen. So, once again can I mention them and say thank you to them all for the work they put in: Wendy – Badminton and Short Net Tennis, Glenys - Book Group, Christina – Bridge, Peter – Discussion and Walking, Rhiannon – Lunch Group , -Evelyn – Singing for Fun and (with Chris) Let’s Write-, John and Trish – Strollers, Geraldine – Table Tennis.

Thanks also to all the other members who come along to help informally at Group meetings and//or as stand-ins for the Group leaders

Jaqui Puddle stepped down from the Committee in August and Sylvia is stepping down from today. I would like to thank them both for the valuable contribution they made as committee members. My thanks go also to the Committee members who have agreed to stand again for election this year I would also like to say a particular thank you to our Treasurer, Christina, and to Marie who takes the minutes for all our meetings.

On a personal note, I am today stepping down from the office of Chairman after seven years, and whilst I am prepared to serve one more year on the Committee, it will be in a supportive role to ensure a smooth transition to my successor

We do need new committee members, so please think about getting involved to help keep this U3A active.”

The meeting expressed its thanks to Alan for his many years hard work as Chairman. He was given a hearty round of applause.

Treasurer’s Report

Christina presented the end of year accounts which had been independently examined by Denise Bott. The financial position was stable and there was a healthy balance of over £3000 in the bank account. The Savings Account had been amalgamated with the Current Account for administrative convenience, as interest earned was minimal. The bank was in the process of arranging for a second signature to be mandatory.

The final balance from the closure of the Literary and Debating Society, (which had been transferred to the U3A as agreed by the last remaining officers of the Lit and Deb) to the Air Ambulance Fund and the Barmouth Food Bank

(£303.40 p each). Sadly no-one was available who could undertake to mark the centenary of the Lit and Deb in 2019.

The accounts were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

Election of Committee

In keeping with the new Constitution the following were re-elected for one year :
Christina Cook, John Hudson, Chris Kingshott, Glenys Lawson, Peter Leyden, John Percival, Patricia Percival,
Evelyn Richardson, Marie Thomas, Alan Vincent.

Election of Officers

Christina Cook, (Treasurer), John Hudson (Membership Secretary) Alan Vincent, (Business Secretary)

Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship : Posts vacant

Vote of Thanks

Val Vine proposed a vote of thanks to all the officers and Committee members, which was approved unanimously by a show of hands