

DRAFT

**UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
FERNDOWN AND DISTRICT**

Minutes of the 14th Annual General Meeting held at 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 15 December 2010 at the Barrington Theatre, Ferndown Precinct.

Present:	Sheila Goode	Chairman
	Betty Ford	Co-opted Committee Member
	Gerry Lewis	Social Secretary
	John Mullett	Treasurer
	Laurie Shields	Bridge Co-ordinator
	Edith Stannard	Committee member
	Helen Tremain	Third Age Trust Regional Meetings Representative
	Jennifer Zimmer	Co-opted Secretary

81 U3A members attended.

Apologies were received from Margaret Wilson (Vice-Chairman/Membership Secretary) and David Godfrey (Accommodation Booking Officer).

1. Approval of Last AGM Minutes

The Minutes of the previous AGM held on Tuesday 15 December 2009, having been posted on the Notice Boards and e-mailed to members, it was proposed that these should be agreed and taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

This action was proposed by Hope Rhodes and seconded by Sheila Mawby and the Minutes were duly signed.

2. Chairman's Report

Having already welcomed everyone to the meeting, the Chairman reminded us of the objectives of the U3A as being to promote education and leisure, giving us a great opportunity to develop our interests and to enjoy making new friends. She introduced the various members of the Committee together with their responsibilities. The Chairman reminded us of the sad loss of Brian Ford, our Treasurer who excelled in so many ways and referred to the donation the Committee made on behalf of the membership, to the Humane Research Trust, Brian's favourite charity.

Thanks were especially due to Betty Ford for filling the gap as Temporary Treasurer until we appointed a new Treasurer John Mullett.

The Chairman reported that we had another successful year with membership numbers increasing and now standing at 513. There were 83 courses, of which 17 had waiting lists and another 5 were full.

Thanks were given to all those who lead classes and work on the Committee. All the works is undertaken on a voluntary basis as is that of all those who organise and contribute to the social programme, which includes singles lunches on Saturdays, skittles, visits to various venues, Lansdown College dinner, summer teas and the garden party, holidays etc.

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Several new courses started at the beginning of the year have proved successful, and various others will begin in January.

The most efficient way of communicating with our U3A is via email: ferndownu3a@googlemail.com. The mobile phone is not proving very satisfactory and is expensive to access any messages which are left. The website at ferndownu3a.co.uk has been updated and simplified.

Information on classes, trips and social events is displayed on the three notice boards which are located beside the Hayes Room at the Barrington Centre, one in the Youth Centre and the final one at the George the Fifth. Gerry Lewis also tries to get round most of the classes with information on new classes and social events.

Ferndown is to host a regional meeting of the U3A on 8 April 2011.

3. Treasurer's Report

The new Treasurer began by recognising all the effort put in by the previous Treasurer, Brian Ford, who was also a Tutor and worked tirelessly behind the scenes, and who died under tragic circumstances.

This year's report on the finances covers the year up to 30 June 2010 and detailed accounts are available for inspection at the end of the meeting.

Subscriptions rose by £4,116 due to increased membership and Gift Aid also rose by £485.98 due to increased membership and greater awareness of the benefits to U3A.

Income was raised through subscriptions, gift aid and interest from the investment fund.

A separate account has been kept for social transactions, which are self funded from trips, functions, tea money etc and is not presented for audit.

Capitation fees are applied to all members, which includes the committee and tutors, and it has been increased to £3.50. This pays for insurance, quarterly copies of U3A News, and access to the Resource Centre for our tutors.

Investment in equipment was very low this year, the only expenditure being a net for badminton. An inventory and inspection of equipment will be carried out to ensure all is fit for purpose.

Printing, postage and stationary expenditure rose by £300 against the previous year due mainly to increased prices for printing, postage and sundry supplies.

The cost of accommodation rose slightly, but as this is an expensive item it is ensured that we make full use of the rooms due to the Committee members' efforts.

Reserves stood at £13,733 at the end of our accounting year, this represented 57.8% of current expenditure and is in line with the recommended reserve of between 50% and 100% of costs.

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All receipts have been received and there is nothing outstanding from last year.

By law the Balance Sheet, this report, the Chairman's report and details of Trustees are presented to the Charity Commission annually.

Finally, the Treasurer thanked Mr Edward Whittingdale, our accounts examiner, who reviews in details, and audits both the Business Account and the Social Account.

The Treasurer also thanked all the tutors who give time and expertise for the many and varied U3A classes.

4. Adoption of the Annual Accounts

Edward Whittingdale, our accounts Examiner, reviews in details and audits both the Business Account and the Social Account. He declared that both were in good condition.

Mr Whittingdale was thanked for his efforts on behalf of Ferndown U3A.

A proposal to accept the Accounts was made by George Y.....^{Y... ..} and seconded by Betty Ford.

5. Election of the Committee

There being no new Committee members being suggested, the present Committee list was adopted having been proposed by John Gooch and seconded by Enid

6. Election of Honorary Accounts Examiner

Mr Edward Whittingdale expressed a willingness to continue in this position.

Margaret ...^{Hart}..... proposed and Tricia Pope seconded.

7. Any Other Business

No other items were put forward for discussion.

The meeting closed at 14.20.