

BUXTON & DISTRICT u3a AGM 2025 MINUTES.



Our AGM was on the 14th April 2025 at 10:00 in Buxton Methodist Church.
73 people were in attendance.

1. Welcome: Jill opened the meeting with a welcome to all. She said she wanted to refer to the 3 s's. [safety, suggestion box and sweets]. She informed the meeting that voting was quorate with 109 members voting. Officers were also in place so the meeting could proceed unhindered.
2. Apologies for absence included Tracy Dibben, Margaret Wood, Zena Bishop, Anne Rogerson, Simon Rogerson, Malcom Bradbury, Alan Roberts, Stephen Degg and Janet McMurdo.
3. There was then a 2 minute period of silence in memoriam for members who have died during the year. May they rest in peace.
4. **Chair's report.** Jill thought that much had changed for good and yet in some respects little had changed. She referred us to her report which has been on the website for some time and focused on a handful of additional points.

Jill emphasised the crucial importance of our group leaders. Membership is currently healthy with numbers varying at this time of year and groups supporting them. Beacon, a platform for managing membership and aiding the work of group leaders has been introduced at a cost of £1 per member per year. Jill thanked the Beacon working party and the new tech team for all their efforts in this regard.

Jill updated the meeting with a celebratory list of new and/or additional activities and events. With thanks due to all who are helping with innovation and inventiveness.

In addition we have foundational policies and protocols and are well set for further developments. Jill finished by thanking her committee and the membership whilst forewarning us all that in 2026 we have our 30th Anniversary to celebrate. Watch this space.

5. Treasurer's Report.

Colin was delighted to report that we have money. (please see the attached slides for detail) Colin's report had been on the website for some time but he is happy to take individual questions at any time through the year. Quickbooks has been brought in to enable smoother accounting, better links with HMRC and the Charity Commission [CC]. Quickbooks will also enable a smoother oversight of our change of bank accounts that was brought about by the CC requirement for 2 signatories. We now have a deposit account with the Manchester Credit Union and a Nat West Community [current] account. Colin noted that there is still some uncertainty around the individual HMRC officer and his views regarding gift aid. Colin noted the hard work of his various predecessors and Fiona McIntosh in relation to the status of Gift Aid and u3as. A lack of clarity now exists such that a member of the Third Age Trust central team in working on this for us all. (As you can imagine this is a national issue)

Given this uncertainty, the lack of clarity in relation to our cost base [particularly in relation to venue / energy costs] and the pattern of new membership, discussion followed about the use of the surplus [currently c. 8.5k]. It was felt that keeping the

annual subscription stable at £47 would enable a more gradual analysis and therefore more precise forecasts. This would add stability for members as well as safe and prudent financial oversight by our local trustees.

Finally Colin explained the new accounting years and their alignment.

6. The results of the votes received for all the resolutions.

Resolutions from members: there were no resolutions from members this year

109 voting slips were received online but three were duplicates, 3 were returned by hard copy and so the total vote was 109. 51 members took the option of appointing the chair to vote on their behalf.

| Resolutions from the Committee | For | Against | Abstain |
|---|------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. To adopt the minutes of the AGM held on 13 th May 2024 | 106 | 0 | 3 |
| 2. To accept the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2024 | 108 | 0 | 1 |
| 3. To accept the change of financial year | 105 | 0 | 4 |
| 4. The membership fee for 2025-2026 to remain at £47 with pro-rata quarterly subs for new members | 107 | 0 | 2 |

Committee appointments.

| | | | |
|---|-----|---|---|
| 5. To re-appoint Christine Limb as Examiner of Accounts. | 109 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. To elect Diane Ives as Business Secretary | 109 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. To elect Lindsay Crowe as committee member and to act as new member ambassador | 109 | 0 | 0 |

The following officers were re-elected to the committee : Jill Murphy as Chair, Marge Rose as Web Master, Colin Woodhouse as Treasurer, Jean Brown as Group Leaders' Liaison Officer, Tineke Bosma as Membership Secretary and Jean Evanson as General Meeting Coordinator.

Jill thanked outgoing officers, Alan McMurdo, Business Secretary and Pauline Lowe, Minute Secretary. The role of Vice Chair remains vacant and while there has been an expression of interest, this is a work in progress. Anyone else interested please make

contact with Jill.

There were no matters arising, nor any questions or comment and at 10:35 Jill introduced two PCSOs , Natalie and Joel for their input on personal safety.

After a vote of thanks to them from Jill

The meeting finished at 1135.

Date of next meeting will be confirmed by the committee in due course (aiming for April 2026)