



**BROXBOURNE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE**  
Charity no. 1090504

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2026 AT 10.15AM AT THE SPOTLIGHT**

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming members to our 25<sup>th</sup> AGM. She thanked those standing down from the committee for their hard work during a difficult period and also paid tribute to those previous committee members who had recently sadly passed away during their tenure.

1. **Minutes of Previous Annual General meeting** held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 were confirmed, signed and dated. Proposed by John Allison, seconded by Janice Mottram. Carried.
2. **Matters Arising:** none
3. **Chair's Report:** The Chair's Report was emailed and posted to all members and is on the Broxbourne u3a website. The Chair commenced her report by saying she took over this role a year ago, when it was likely Broxbourne u3a would have to close, and set her mission to ensure it continued, going from strength to strength. Moving forward means change and often breaking with tradition, which is not always popular, and this aspect of being chair has been very difficult at times. We are using the Beacon Management System in a small way and this has improved communication with our members who have email. The Chair acknowledged the outstanding support from group leaders which has been invaluable in difficult times. We have been nominated for the King's Trust Award for Volunteering, and we are supporting a number of charity projects, and with members' support Broxbourne u3a will continue to thrive. The report was received, approved and adopted. Proposed by Lesley Harrison, seconded by Margaret Beeston. Carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report was emailed to all members and is on the Broxbourne u3a website. The Treasurer began with an appeal to the membership for someone to come forward and take this role before the Chair gave her proposal but no-one was forthcoming. Membership figures are increasing and so are costs. Membership fees and associated gift aid provide the bulk of our income. The Treasurer emphasised the need for more members. Expenditure has increased substantially this year, the biggest item being our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, albeit a successful event justifying the cost. Broxbourne Council have again granted us a 10% subsidy, but this is largely offset by the increase in hire charges for Spotlight. The Treasurer concluded by urging members to sign up for Gift Aid where possible and to encourage more people to join our u3a. The Treasurer then presented the accounts for the year ending March 2026, details of which were on the screen, and these were received, approved and adopted. Proposed by John Allison, seconded by Steve Geen. Carried. *One of the members asked whether there were any fund-raising events in the pipeline and others gave suggestions with regard to publicising our u3a. A further suggestion was to raise the fee to £20. The Chair said these matters would be discussed by the committee.*
5. **Appointment of Independent Examiner of Broxbourne u3a Accounts:** The Chair asked that this be a joint decision by the committee nearer the time in an effort to reduce expenses.
6. **The future of our u3a:** The Chair explained that at the last committee meeting no member had come forward to take the role of Treasurer, and the incumbent is standing down today, so we would not be able to operate as a u3a following Third Age Trust and Charity Commission Governance. However, the Chair has been speaking with the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission, and a way forward has been found. The proposal, given below, needs approval to move forward.

7. **Proposal:** Having canvassed unsuccessfully for a new Treasurer, the Chair proposed adopting the latest model constitution from the Third Age Trust, details of which had been circulated to all members, although Third Age Trust approval, together with that of the Charity Commission has not yet been received.

The outgoing Secretary then stood and addressed the meeting and declared a vote cannot be taken if the proposal has not yet been fully approved by both of these bodies. The Chair asked if the membership would agree to her proposal in the event of it being approved by the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission. Although not a formal vote there was general agreement by the membership that it would be adopted.

However, the Chair clarified that in our current situation it has been confirmed by the Third Age Trust that in the meantime **(a)** we can continue for up to 12 months until we get a Treasurer, during which time other committee members are tasked with ensuring the work is covered accordingly, **(b)** we can pay fees to a bookkeeper to work on our accounts if necessary, **(c)** due to the time constraints a late nomination would be acceptable, or **(d)** committee members can be recruited without commitment at that stage as to which role they will cover. This would be decided later and members advised. We need a minimum of 5 committee members, and we already have 7 including the 3 principal officers. At the end of the agm we had 7 committee members with only 3 principal officers as the Secretary had stood down.

8. **Election of new Committee Members to fill any vacancies:**

Janet Hack, Vice Chair – proposed by Pam Watkins, seconded by Chris Sutterby. Carried.  
Sandra Yates, Committee – proposed by Myrtle Prior, seconded by Heather Wills. Carried  
John Allison, Committee – proposed by Anthony Crowther, seconded by Paul Davis. Carried.  
Eddie Cordina, Treasurer – proposed by David Pinchback, seconded by Susan Brock. Carried

Eddie Cordina has stepped in at the last minute to take the role of Treasurer. This presents a possible conflict of interest as both Mr and Mrs Cordina are principal officers, therefore only one of them will be a signatory to the bank accounts at any time. Lorraine Anderson and Lesley Harrison have been on the committee, Lorraine for 3 years and Lesley 4 years. They will no longer be on the committee but will remain in their current roles, reporting to the committee when necessary.

**Re-election of existing Committee members**

Barbara Cordina - Chair  
Elizabeth Elve – Membership Secretary  
These were approved with one against.

Meeting closed 11.07am with approximately 135 attendees

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Signed as a true record of the Annual General Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026