

Minutes of the Oban u3a Annual General Meeting, 10th September 2024, 11.30 Corran Halls

A warm welcome was extended to everyone by the Chair.

Present: Chris Adie, Lynn Amos, Helen Anderson, Anne Archer, Karen Aspinall, Bob Batty, Margaret Batty, Sue Barnard, Anne-Louise de Buriane, Graham Cameron, Janet Church, Patricia Collins, Caroline Dalglish, Penny Dixon, Penny Earle, Liz Eaton, Richard Field, Rosemary Firth, Tom Firth, Alastair Fleming, Zöe Fleming, Pat Galbraith, Maureen Gilmour, Robert Gordon, Frances Grant, Phil Hamerton, David Hughes, Anne Humphries, Joan Kemp, Peter Kemp, Daphne MacCollum, Evelyn McManus, Jim McManus, David Marshall, Valerie Marshall, Duncan Martin, Norman Martin, Pat Martin, Winnie Mullen, Kathy Murgatroyd, Ken Oxland, Sue Pollard, Alison Rennie, Susan Rimmer, Robert Ritchie, Linda Robb, Anne-Marie Robertson, Mary Sandilands, Jennifer Shaw, Margo Sim, Joy Sullivan, Neil Sutherland, Annette Tedder, Maurice Wilkins,

1. Apologies for absence: Gordon McNab, Rosemary Power, Richard Bosworth, Michael and Janet Turner, Tony Beckett, Karen Kerr, Maud Marshall, Rosemary Young, Christine Wills.

2. Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of 5th September 2023 was proposed by Margaret Batty, seconded by Anne-Louise de Buriane and carried unanimously.

3. Matters arising. There were none.

4. Treasurer's Report and adoption of accounts. The examined accounts of the past financial year had already been circulated, as had a request for written questions because of the Treasurer's absence from the meeting. No questions had been received and there were none from the floor. The Chair read additional comments from the Treasurer: (1) There are 146 members. (2) Group contributions to venue costs had made a small profit. (3) The cost of the lunch for the visiting Third Age Trust (TAT) Chair had been covered entirely by the TAT. (4) The end of year balance was £2795.68, being over £800 more than for the previous year. The Chair recorded her thanks to the Treasurer and Examiner. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Alastair Fleming and seconded by Zoe Fleming. The motion was carried.

5. Chair's report.

The Chair spoke of a very busy and productive year, including the introduction of Pickleball, Donald Shell's series on Post-war British Politics which was about to air on Online Across Scotland, arts visits during Artmap Argyll week and a fascinating collection of monthly talks on subjects both local and worldwide. Two very successful one-off events were the December Festive Lunch and the visit of the TAT Chair in June.

Two new groups were being planned and the established groups are thriving. She thanked all the convenors for keeping them going in such an interesting and welcoming way.

The committee had worked hard, especially on the updating of all governance documentation, including the new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) policy, the move to a new website and the transfer of membership records to Beacon. Those membership records are now easier for administrators to use and more accessible to members. She thanked those who have already adopted Beacon.

The politics talks have inspired a YouTube channel and groups were encouraged to get in touch about posting items of interest, small or large, to the wider community. Also in the wider community, an eye has been kept on developments by TAT.

The Chair, on behalf of the members, thanked the committee and all those with less formal but no less vital roles for all their hard work, including committee leavers Jo Sutherland, Anne Archer and Bob Batty. She looked forward to another exciting year.

6.Election of the committee. Joan Kemp presided over this section of the meeting. Proposers and seconders for the new committee had already been obtained and, in the absence of other nominations, she therefore suggested that a proposal could be made for them to be elected as a slate. This was proposed by Anne Archer and seconded by Jennifer Shaw. Retiring committee members were presented with tokens. The new committee members are:

Chair	Penny Earle
Vice-chair	Sue Pollard
Vice-chair	Graham Cameron
Secretary	Evelyn McManus
Treasurer	Richard Bosworth
Membership Secretary	Neil Sutherland
Groups Co-ordinator	Joy Sullivan
Speakers Co-ordinator	Rosemary Young
Newsletter	Jim McManus

Penny Earle resumed the Chair.

7.Proposal for changes to the Constitution. It was proposed that the Constitution should be amended as per the document circulated with AGM papers. The amendments, approved by TAT, included adopting gender neutral language and altering the capitalisation of 'U3A' to conform to TAT branding, being u3a. Acceptance of these changes was proposed by Joy Sullivan and seconded by Graham Cameron. The motion was carried.

8.AOCB. An idea for two musical groups was mooted, as a possible offer from a prospective member who may join in the New Year.

The outgoing Secretary asked that members show their appreciation of the Chair's hard work in a very busy year.

No other u3a-related business.