

**TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF FORTH VALLEY U3A (SCIO)**  
**Unconfirmed Minutes of Forth Valley U3A Annual General Meeting**  
**Friday 24<sup>TH</sup> May 2024 at 2.00pm**  
**Holy Trinity Church Hall, Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair, Robert Hough, welcomed 39 members to the tenth Annual General Meeting of Forth Valley u3a.

Apologies were noted from Margaret Hyslop and Sylvia Rumori.

**2. Minutes of the ninth AGM held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.  
Proposed by Sylvia Hay and seconded by Jenny Hough.

**3. Matters Arising**

None were raised.

**4. Chairs Report**

*The Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2024 is annexed to these Minutes.*

The Chair, Robert Hough, opened the meeting with an outline of the highlights of the past membership year. We began in August with two very well attended enrolment meetings at Sauchie and Bridge of Allan, followed by the first Members' Meeting in September. Our speaker was Stuart Campbell, a tour guide and researcher at Bannockburn House, with a talk about the families who have owned the house over the centuries. November saw a visit from Ian Buchanan, a professional magician and children's entertainer, who gave a talk entitled "The Life and Times of a Children's Entertainer". In December we had a very successful Christmas lunch at the Golden Lion, while some groups also arranged their own Christmas get-togethers.

January brought the welcome return of the Edwin Drood Players, who again entertained us with a hilarious selection of sketches and readings. A more serious, but no less popular, event in February was a fascinating talk by Sandra Stuart of the Forth Rivers Trust about flood management and biodiversity on the Allan Water. Our March talk was from Bruce Keith, a retired chartered surveyor and environmentalist. It was based on his latest book "Are We Nearly There", giving us a humorous look at the history of the measuring and mapping of Scotland and charting the mileposts and road signs along the way. The final event of the year was our ever-popular Big Quiz, hosted by George Johnston and once again it was a full house and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Robert went on to outline the steady increase in our numbers over the year - from 468 members to 538, and from around 70 to 80 interest groups.

Robert concluded that FVu3a has proved to be resilient, vibrant and innovative and he is sure that these qualities will continue. He confirmed that he is stepping down from the Board, but he does so confident that he leaves FVu3a in safe hands.

## **5. Financial Report**

*The Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 are annexed to these Minutes.*

The Treasurer, Kate Mason, presented the Financial Report, which showed us to be in a healthy position with sufficient reserves to meet our operating costs.

Apart from hall hire costs the Association's main running expenses have been in respect of the publication of the newsletter and magazine, website, speaker costs and zoom licenses. The charity also pays branch dues to the Third Age Trust, and u3a Scotland, and a membership subscription to the publication 'Third Age Matters'.

The CACH (Cultural Activities in Care Homes) project continued its work during 2023–2024 through funding from the Bank of Scotland Foundation REACH grant. This provided funding for the provision of music performances, reminiscence events and individual life story work in care homes for older people. A further year of funding by the Bank of Scotland Foundation REACH grant has been secured for 2024–2025 and is expected to be received in May 2024.

The total income for the year was £22,408 (2023 £18,514) The total expenditure was £21,572 (2023 £18,075). Up 21% and 19% respectively.

## **6. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2024/2025 accounts**

The Board recommends the appointment of Richard Muir–Simpson as Independent Examiner for the 2024/2025 accounts..

Proposed by Kate Mason and seconded by Robert Hough. The meeting unanimously approved this appointment.

## **7. Approval of Membership Fee for 2024/2025**

The Board recommends that the annual subscription remains at £15 for the full year and £10 when joining from January 2025 onwards.

Proposed by Kate Mason and seconded by Dawn Moore. The meeting unanimously approved this membership fee for 2024/2025.

## **8. Nominations and Elections to the Board of Trustees**

As required by the Forth Valley u3a constitution, all members of the Board of Trustees must retire at the end of each year. The Chair, Robert Hough, advised that he was retiring from the Board, along with Jenny Hough, Margaret Hyslop, Bill Fincham, Sylvia Rumori and thanked everyone for their contribution over the years with a special thank you to Sylvia Rumori who has been involved with Forth Valley u3a since the start in 2004

and advised the AGM that it was the intention of the Board of Trustees to co-opt her to the Board as a Special Adviser. The Chair handed over to the Secretary, Anne Preston.

The following retiring Trustees are willing to stand for re-election for 2024/2025: Moira Fairweather; Neil Fairweather; June Johnston; Mhairi Macleod; Kate Mason; Anne Preston; and Christine Wilson

The meeting unanimously approved the re-election of these members to the Board of Trustees

Five nominations to join the Board of Trustees were received by the deadline of 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024. As there are five vacancies on the Board and there were no other nominations received these are uncontested.

Rosalind Boyd (proposed by Moira Fairweather, seconded by Bill Fincham).

The meeting unanimously approved the appointment of Ros as a Trustee.

Leslie Fisher (proposed by Neil Fairweather, seconded by June Johnston).

The meeting unanimously approved the appointment of Leslie as a Trustee.

Patricia Hall (proposed by Jenny Hough, seconded by Anne Preston).

The meeting unanimously approved the appointment of Trisha as a Trustee.

Kay Ryan (proposed by Bill Fincham, seconded by Moira Fairweather).

The meeting unanimously approved the appointment of Kay as a Trustee.

William Watson (proposed by Kate Mason, seconded by Robert Hough)

The meeting unanimously approved the appointment of William as a Trustee.

Ros, Leslie, Trisha, Kay and William were welcomed to the Board.

A meeting of the newly elected Board of Trustees will be held following this AGM to elect office bearers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer).

## **9. AOCB**

The Chair asked the members to note that the Enrolment meetings will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 at two venues, Sauchie Hall in the morning and in Bridge of Allan Parish Church Hall in the afternoon. More details would be given nearer the time in the monthly Update newsletter

One of the members present asked how Forth Valley u3a members found out information about what was happening at u3a nationally. Forth Valley u3a members are encouraged to sign up to national newsletters through the website as well as the Friends Extra Newsletter in order to receive these directly.

## **10. Date of Future Meetings**

The date of the eleventh Annual General Meeting is provisionally Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025.