

Lincoln Bailgate u3a Annual General Meeting Minutes 15 April 2025
Held at Our Lady of Lincoln Church Hall, Laughton Way, Lincoln, LN2 2HE

Welcome

1. Angela Pullen, Chair, welcomed everyone and thanked them for their continued support. With 46 members present, the meeting was quorate.

Apologies (Committee Only)

2. Gill Datta, (Groups Co-ordinator), sent apologies.

Minutes of 2024 AGM and Matters Arising.

3. The Minutes of the 2024 AGM had been circulated to the membership. There were no matters arising.

a. Sue Surridge proposed, and Gillian Roe seconded, the motion that they were a true and accurate record of the 2024 AGM.

b. The minutes were accepted by a vote of members.

Chair's Annual Report

4. The Chair thanked all members on behalf of the Committee for their support and working together in setting up and clearing away chairs for each meeting, which enabled the meetings to run smoothly. The Committee would be trialling serving hot drinks at the monthly meetings in future.

5. The Committee had reviewed and updated the Lincoln Bailgate u3a constitution, based on the model constitution, and established policies to ensure compliance with national u3a guidelines: now uploaded to the website. The Chair thanked Baz Aveyard for his work in creating the new Siteworks website by the national u3a deadline of December 2024. Margaret Chegwidden, Business and Membership Secretary, had set up Beacon, the new u3a management information system. Margaret was thanked for her commitment and hard work.

6. The Chair thanked all Lincoln Bailgate Committee members for their time, energy and enthusiasm throughout the year. However, as only five Committee members volunteered for 2025-2026 the membership was encouraged to consider joining the Committee.

7. The Chair thanked all 14 group leaders for enabling and encouraging their members to take an active part in their groups. Suggestions for new groups and/or members willing to

facilitate new groups would receive support from Gill Datta, Groups Co-ordinator, and the Committee.

8. Attendance at the monthly speaker meetings had been excellent due to the interesting and varied range of speakers. The monthly meeting speaker talks had been enhanced by the purchase of a portable PA system. Publicity generated by articles and announcements in the local press had also improved attendance. However, the Committee was exploring why more visitors had not become members. Membership numbers were now 108 compared to 79 the previous year. The Christmas Social had been well attended, and we were particularly pleased to have found excellent caterers for the event.

9. The annual holiday had been enjoyed by all who attended. A member from a neighbouring branch of u3a who joined the trip wrote: 'The Bailgate u3a members are so considerate, friendly and inclusive. We really felt a part of the group straight away.'

10. The membership thanked the Chair for her report.

Treasurer's Report

11. Graem Preston, Treasurer, reported the financial results for the year ending 31 March 2025.

12. **Main Account.** The Main Account balance as at 1 April 2024 was £2,160.23: total income was £2,742.64; expenditure was £2,428.51. The balance as at 31 March 2025 was £2,474.36. Income over expenditure was £312.60. As well as capitation payments and rent, expenditure included refreshments and sundries. There were currently 108 full and 3 associate members. The monthly cost for speakers averaged £56. Sundries included fliers and advertising to attract new members.

13. **Holiday Account.** The Holiday Account had been activated using a dormant savings account, using funds transferred from the previous holiday account that had since been closed. The current balance was £679.08.

14. **Independent Checks.** Both accounts were independently checked by Felicity Robertson 9 April 2025.

a. Peter Elsmore proposed acceptance of the accounts as a true record and Bill Neighbour seconded the motion, supported by a vote of members.

Appointment for the Independent Check of Accounts

15. Felicity Robertson had independently checked Lincoln Bailgate's accounts in the past. It was proposed that Felicity should perform the independent checks again for 2025-6.

- a. Sandra Thompson proposed, and Sylvia Heller seconded, the motion, supported by a vote of members.

Proposal to Adopt the New Constitution

16. The Chair reminded members of the rationale for adopting the u3a model Constitution, which had been circulated in advance to all members, and was available on the website.

- a. Adoption of the new Constitution was proposed by Wendy Parkinson, seconded by Jackie Dean, and passed unanimously, with no votes against, and no abstentions.

Election of Committee Members

17. Five members were nominated, proposed and seconded for Committee appointments. They were Baz Aveyard, Gill Datta, Michele Murphy, Graem Preston and Angela Pullen. Roles would be decided at the next committee meeting, in accordance with the adopted Constitution.

- a. Bill Neighbour proposed the Committee nominations be accepted, and Ruth Drake seconded, with the motion supported by a vote of members.

Any Other Business

18. **Fund Levels**. Peter Elsmore asked how the positive balance on both Accounts was expected to be used. The Treasurer stated that the Committee would organize activities throughout the year to absorb surplus funds in the accounts.

19. **Thanks**. The Chair proposed and received a vote of thanks for Margaret Chegwidan and Chris Elsmore, who were leaving the Committee, both having made important contributions, including that of Membership Secretary.

20. **Refreshments**. The next speaker meeting was to be 'What Can We Do to Save the World?' The Chair explained that the Committee had decided refreshments were to be provided for a modest charge at speaker meetings based on feedback that suggested it encouraged a more sociable environment and greater member interaction. The price might be lower for those who provided their own cup and higher for those who used the cups in the church hall. Bill Neighbour suggested that each interest group could run the hospitality on a rotation basis each month. The Committee would inform members of the arrangements in the usual pre-meeting email.

Date of AGM 2026

21. The 2026 AGM was to be slipped by one month to Tuesday, 19 May. The change was to facilitate the end-of-financial-year accounting and independent check.

Close

22. The meeting closed at 2.25pm.