

**Minutes of Virtual Yorkshire and Humber Region u3a
Special General Meeting, Thursday, 18th November 2021, 10:30 am.**

Present: Margaret Fiddes (YAHR Trustee for the Region); Mick Richings (YAHR Chair/Craven and District u3a); Pat Collard (YAHR Vice Chair/Cottingham), Heather Turner (YAHR Treasurer/Beverley); Hazel Ward (YAHR Secretary/Swanland u3a); Nick David (YAHR Speaker Directory/York); Hugh Bevington (YAHR Management Team/Ilkley and District); Denise Roberts (AWAKE); Adrian Ramsdale. Christine Benson (Beverley & District); Maureen Grace (Bradford); Susan Tong (Cottingham); Helena Tudhope (Craven & District) Diane Woolven (Doncaster); Claire Scott (Easingwold & District); Ian Gray (Settle); Anna Harvey (Sheffield); Janice Shade (Whitby Whaler).

MR welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 10.35am which is being recorded.

1. **Apologies** for absence: Angie Grain, Glenys Atkinson.
2. **Introduction from the chair.** Welcome to this SGM, the meeting will be confined to the reasons already circulated in the notice namely 1). the proposal to change the constitution, The Third Age Trust has produced a model constitution for u3as and networks. and 2). To receive and approve the banking protocol. Although our present one was approved at the 2019 AGM, the Management Team propose to adopt the network version, this version give us access to funding, use of the u3a logo, being fully recognised by the Trust, covered by TAT insurance, and register as a charity

This change was previously mentioned at our last AGM on 28th April 2021 under Item 3: Matters arising, “when a new version is ready it will be put to the membership at either at an AGM or SGM”.

After the official business there will be an update of our proposed activities over the next few months, providing workshops.

Finally, I would like to thank all the YAHR Team for their considerable input in these difficult times whilst still being active with their own u3as

3. **Change of Constitution:** HT (Treasurer) explained that although the present constitution is still fit for purpose, the TAT recommended a change to the network version, the document has been completed, submitted, and approved by the TAT, this will allow us to register as a charity. A question was asked about having sight of this document MR explained that in the “SGM Notice” it directed members to the YAHR website, where all documents have been available for 4-weeks. A vote using zoom polling was taken, HW reminded everyone only 1-vote per u3a is allowed, the result was For 13; Against 0; abstentions 8, (the abstentions are explained by those attended but not voting), the change of constitution was approved.

4. **Adoption of banking protocol:** HT set out the reason for reviewing our banking protocol, this being due to recent changes to Banking Procedures which necessitated a review of the YAHR Banking Protocol to move away from cheques to BACS. However, until YAHR is a registered charity HSBC will not allow on-line banking, as we do not have a registered address. Several comments from those attending was positive regarding their experience using online banking., HT explained that presently YAHR require a second signature to authorise for payment for cheques and HSBC still require a second authorisation when BACS is operating.
Vote was taken by a show of hands and was approved unanimously.
5. **Any other business:** none has been received.
6. **Vote of thanks and close of SGM:** MR gave a vote of thanks to everyone attending, adding that all documents will be updated to reflect the meeting's business and will appear on YAHR website, all YAHR u3as will be notified of the change and when YAHR is a registered charity. MR pointed that The Charity Commission's website lists all u3as and their charity number.

The meeting was closed at 11.10am, the recording was stopped.