

**MINUTES OF THE U3A CALPE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2014
AT THE HOTEL SOL IFACH**

John Pickford, President opened the meeting by welcoming Members to the meeting.

APOLOGIES: None

CORRESPONDENCE : None

MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM (15TH NOVEMBER 2013):

The draft minutes of the last AGM had been put on the website and also circulated by email to members in advance of the meeting. They were proposed by Maureen Dunn and seconded by Manuela van Beever. The minutes were accepted by all present and signed by the President.

Also signed-off at this time were the minutes of the October General Meeting as we would not be holding another General Meeting until January 2015.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- As had been reported at previous General Meetings our postbox will remain at Total Postal due to the charges imposed at Correos
- David Stockton is now our official photographer
- Tricia Adams has kindly taken over the scrapbook and would welcome photos of events etc.

REPORTS: The reports are summarised briefly below and are filed separately from these minutes

Treasurer: Edith Watson presented her report. The final balance this year is €6,100.58 only slightly down on last year. Expenses: social expenses up €870 mainly due to drinks and tapas at the AGM held at the Casa de Cultura and last year's Christmas party. The General meetings held at the Ifach cost us €1,080. The venue is much preferred to the Casa by our members and we are well able to continue holding them at the Ifach at the current level of subscriptions and expenses. Various savings had been made on website, stationery, newsletter and miscellaneous items. The Balance of €6,000 is considered by the Committee to be a reasonable one.

Membership: Val Osborne presented her report. During the year ending October 2014 we had 474 paid-up members, 1 life Member and 1 Honorary Member. We have had 78 new members this year which are included in the figures. We have 187 memberships currently outstanding thus our membership stands at 769 active members assuming of course that the outstanding members renew in the near future. Measures will be taken to tighten up on the membership renewals. Thanks were due to those members keeping us informed of their email addresses. We have a problem with lapsed members still attending group activities and intend to address this as soon as the Groups Co-ordinator returns from the UK. Our new database is up and running now enabling us to offer the option of paying for your membership with PayPal if you are unable to attend the monthly meetings.

Travel: After 4 years of heading up the Travel Group John Pickford has now stepped down and in this role we now have Ellen Mitchell and Penny Brighton as joint leaders.

The Travel Group offered the following trips during the year:

1 day subsidized trip to the new La Zenia shopping boulevard 22nd November

1 day subsidized trip to Alicante 11th December
Pantomime with lunch to Careline theatre Alcalalí 12th January
Day trip to Calasparra on 16th May
Day trip to Valencia 24th June
3-day trip to Cartagena 26/28 Sept to include Romans and Carthaginians festival
1 day visit to Novelda and winery.

All the above mentioned trips were well supported and very much enjoyed by the members who took them. The travel group accounts are in good shape and we have a healthy balance in the U3A travel bank account.

Groups: Diane Putnam presented her report stating that this has been a successful year for our groups, many of whom have regular and high attendance. Some groups have an increasing number of members joining year on year. There have been a few groups which have been disbanded due to leaders gaining full time employment or relocating to the UK. It was a great shock to hear of Nick Green's passing away in June and his running of the Classical Music Group will be very much missed. His knowledge and enthusiasm were second to none. One of those Group Leaders relocating to the UK was Jan Newark and Manuela has taken over her task co-ordinating the Spanish Groups. A request was made for two things: firstly for anyone interested in starting a new group to get in touch with the Groups Co-ordinator and secondly if members cannot attend a group meeting they should out of courtesy phone the leader so they are not waiting in for non-attendees. We will in due course be re-scheduling a do as a thank you to this year's leaders.

Social: Tina Wallis presented her report of social activities throughout the year.

We started the year with an inter-U3a quiz night against Vall de Pop when they came to the Tennis Club in Calpe. Sadly we came 2nd against stiff competition. John Pickford set the questions and Giovanna Wallis was quiz master.

The next event was an informal dinner and dance in May at Restaurante Dracula when 48 members enjoyed the meal followed by dancing to Daniel.

In June after the General meeting 65 enjoyed a light summer menu at restaurante Exotic on La Fossa beach.

After the summer break in October we held our annual quiz night, again at the Tennis Club. 13 teams of 4 took part with Anne Melling the quiz master

Our next function will be the formal dinner and dance at the Hotel Ifach on December 3rd, then there will be a Valentines dinner and dance at the Tennis Club with a disco

Culture and Publicity: Rod Anderton reported that he is continuing to email Members on his 'Cultural Interest group' list and anyone wishing to add their names should let him know. He mentioned a few up-coming events which may interest Members and also asked for photos of events to present to the press to keep us in the public eye would be most welcome.

President: John Pickford had already posted his Annual Report on the website. Members continue to be very happy with the venue for our meetings and happy with the speakers we have included in our programme.

The U3A website and database is continually being updated and improved. One area which still causes difficulties is incorrect email addresses. We suspect that most of these are owned by lapsed members as each meeting when we ask if everyone received their

package of information the answer is always 'yes'. We will of course continue to provide those members without a computer a printed copy of any information.

The Committee is very concerned about members who are overdue in renewing their membership fees some outstanding for many months. A number are being allowed to participate in Group activities and for the sake of the vast majority who do pay on time we feel we must tighten up on these people. We will be sending reminders to the late payers regarding those memberships that are considered to be lapsed.

The Group Leaders have successfully run their groups throughout the past year and thanks on behalf of the Committee were given to them and also to the Helping Hands who take on jobs on an ad hoc basis.

Finally the President thanked his hard working committee which made his job an easier one. Val Osborne stepped down as Membership Secretary and she was presented with a gift for her work over the past few years.

These reports concluded the first part of the meeting. After presentation of the reports those present were asked for comments but there were none so they were all accepted.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dates for General Meetings for the coming year are on the website and Newsletter
- Subscriptions: suggested we keep them at 10€ - a vote was taken and this was agreed
- Change of domain name from u3a.com to u3a.org has been necessary in order to register the website in our name
- Policy changes regarding non/late payers. Some very 'old' non-payers are deemed to have left the U3A and will be removed from the database. They may of course re-join if they wish. We will archive the historic record should it be needed in the future. A vote was taken on this action and agreed by all present.
- Subscriptions: Leave at 10 euros - a vote was taken

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:

Anne Melling had again audited the books and was willing to continue for a further year. This was unanimously agreed. Thanks were given to her in the form of a small gift.

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE:

The following were proposed for each post on the Committee and they were all voted-for en bloc with a show of hands and therefore form the new Committee. The supporting paperwork was available for inspection. The committee was proposed by Anne Melling and seconded by Tricia Adams.

President	John Pickford
Vice President	Tina Wallis
Treasurer	Edith Watson
Secretary	Janet Bond

Membership Secretary	Teressa Pickford
Social Secretary	Tina Wallis
Travel Group Leader	Ellen Mitchell and Penny Brighton
Culture and Publicity	Rod Anderton
Groups Co-ordinator	Diane Putnam
Travel Treasurer/ Asst U3A Treasurer	Jenny O'Neill

AOB:

A number of up-coming events were publicised.

Pat Spencer informed the meeting about various health issues which are also on her Health and Wellbeing page on the website

There is a new 'Pensioner Card' and details can be found on the Calpe town Hall website.

DATE OF NEXT YEAR'S AGM: This will be held on Thursday 19th November 2015 at the Sol Hotel Ifach.

The next General Meeting will be on 15th January when the speaker will be the well-known gardening expert Dick Hanscombe

After the meeting which ended at 11.30 members were invited to wine and tapas.

PROPOSED: Sandra Llewellyn

SECONDED: Graham Hall

SIGNED: John Pickford, President

19th November 2015

Janet Bond
Secretary
January 2015