

2024 REPORT FROM THE TRUSTEES OF WARMINSTER U3A

This report from the Trustees of the Warminster U3A (WarmU3A) complies with the requirements of the Charity Commission and the Third Age Trust and covers the period between January 2024 and December 2024. WarmU3A is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. In 2024 the Executive Committee (EC) had 8 members, all trustees. The EC is supported by a number of members in roles and teams covering specific areas.

Philosophy of WarmU3A

Our U3A is a learning cooperative, and depends on members contributing by participating in groups, open meetings and visits, and by joining supporting roles and/or teams.

Executive Committee

The trustees at the end of the year 2024 were:

Margaret Duggan (Maggie Dee) - Chair

Antony Robson - Secretary

Jo Ellis - Treasurer

Anne Robson - Group Coordinator

Janet Wallis - Membership Secretary

Stewart Buckingham - Social secretary

John White - Speaker secretary

Jon Ellis - Publicity Officer

During the year the Chair, Anne Robson, chose to step down and return to being solely Group Coordinator. Maggie Dee was voted in as Chair. During the summer, notice was given by four committee members (Treasurer, Business Secretary, Group Coordinator and Publicity Secretary) of their intention to step down.

Volunteers were sought from the membership but none were forthcoming. The Secretary proposed to commence wind up procedures and move to an EGM in the October. However, volunteers were found for the key posts of Treasurer and Secretary (the latter role to be divided into separate Committee and Business Secretary functions) less than a week before the scheduled EGM. A new PR Secretary (taking some of the responsibilities of the Publicity officer) also volunteered to stand for election along with the others in the next AGM in February 2025. The EGM was cancelled though the opportunity was taken to advise members of the fragile situation and the need to find replacement committee members. At that point the Speaker Secretary also gave notice of stepping down at the end of the year.

Membership has hovered around 300 members and it was agreed that efforts must be made to encourage new members to join.

Whilst Warminster u3a was saved, the situation remains precarious and we still do not have volunteers to fill the other vacant roles which have been covered by other committee members as a temporary measure.

The annual accounts show a small decrease in the funds held at year end, when the General Fund stood at £10,633 (2023: £10,694). There are also continuing signs of the impact of inflation on our costs, especially printing & distribution which now includes the cost of membership cards. Our income from subscriptions fell by over £2,000 as a result of net reduction in membership numbers but income was supplemented by the claiming of Gift Aid covering a 2 year period. We have a policy of holding a reserve of £3,500. Our projections for the forthcoming year assume that we will continue to be operating as normal.

If the Branch were forced to close at a future point, residual funds would be transferred to other u3as or regional/national offices & cannot be returned to members.

A conservative budget on an 'ongoing' basis for next year indicates a slight decrease in funds at year end (31-12-2025) of around £1,000 (to ca £12,000), with a reserve of £3,500. Our estimated Gift Aid claim will be approximately £1000 lower.

The trend of increasing costs is likely to continue in the short to medium term. Our reserves will support this for the time being but we will need to consider measures to increase our income and/or reduce our costs.

Conclusion

The Trustees continue to meet the aims and objectives of the charity. However, there is an urgent need to recruit new members and to regenerate the management structure of the EC as mentioned above so that we can sustain the life-long learning and sheer pleasure we all, as members, gain from WarmU3A.



Chair, Warminster U3A

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	General Funds £	Group Activities £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts				
Subscriptions to U3A (membership)	6,690	-	6,690	8,716
Charitable Activities	15,912	10,198	26,110	11,434
Other Receipts	564	-	564	2,919
Gift Aid	2,055	-	2,055	-
Donations	76	-		
Total Receipts	25,297	10,198	35,419	23,069
Payments				
Third Age Trust - capitation fees	2,645	-	2,645	1,985
Charitable Activities	18,913	9,973	28,886	11,368
Governance & administration	66	-	66	6,408
Other Payments	1,456	-	1,456	-
Total Payments	23,079	9,973	33,052	19,761
Excess (Deficit) of Receipts over Payments	2,218	225	2,443	3,309

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Cash Funds				
Bank Account (Lloyds)	6,140		6,140	10,694
Reserve	3,500		3,500	
Memberships			-	
Petty Cash Tin		83	83	
Social & Funds held for groups	910	-	910	-
Balance at Lloyds Bank 31/12/24	10,549.40	83	10,632.63	10,694



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

WARMINSTER U3A

On accounts for the year
ended

31 Dec 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1087984

Set out on pages

1 and 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

22 May 2025

Name:

Janet Woodward

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Retired MOD Accountant

Address:

20 Manor Park

Bath

BA1 3RJ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.