

Annual report of the Executive Committee 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Although the early part of the year saw an increase in VCV activity there was still a concern of a possible fall in membership following the previous two years of restricted activity. However the renewal of membership was up to previous levels and boosted by an influx of new members. There was also the possibility that members would find closer social interaction uncomfortable which would affect the planning of meetings and events. Although some were still cautious the majority were keen to take part in VCV activities as in the past.

The organisers of the events programme were then able to plan ahead with confidence that past restrictions would not adversely impact on attendance figures. Similarly the monthly meetings were set up as in pre restriction mode so that members had the full range of facilities available on the day. To supplement this a sequence of guest speakers were arranged for the year ahead.

Interest groups, which are a key component of the VCV, also went into full operational mode as the year progressed. By the end of March 2023 there were 53 groups providing a wide range of subjects and interests. A review of the groups was set up in order to have a comprehensive record of their individual activity and to establish if any requirements needed to be met.

Communication within the VCV continued to have a high priority with the monthly newsletter and parallel e-news playing a leading role in keeping members fully informed. 95% of the members were contacted online in this way and the Beacon system played a key role in making this possible; the same facility ensured that emails were sent to all members when required.

Publicity is an aspect that continues to receive attention with the aim being to attract new members who can bring fresh ideas and the motivation that ensures the VCV does not stagnate.

By necessity all of the above has been overshadowed by the economic concerns of individual members and the nation as a whole. It is encouraging to report that the attendances at VCV events have not been adversely affected with the general attitude showing a desire to make the fullest use of what is on offer. Event organisers are seeking to enhance this by ensuring that the costs to members are kept as low as possible.

Overall an encouraging year with a membership keen to make the most of what is on offer. This is to be applauded and thanks are due to all of the volunteers who carried out so many key tasks plus of course the Committee who collectively and in their individual roles ensured that the VCV operated effectively in the spirit of the u3a movement.

Ron Fenn, Chair Ver Colne Valley u3a

Committee members for the period:

Ron Fenn Chair.....Nick Photi, Vice Chair and Meetings Manager.....Julia Scott, Vice Chair and Groups Organiser.....Ken Pragnell, Treasurer....Dick Downs, Acting Secretary,,,,,David Collins, Webmaster.....Rosemary Yates, Membership Secretary.....Gill Davies, Speaker Coordinator.....Lynda Maris, Minute Secretary....Denise Rees Events Coordinator

VCV Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2022/23

The General Account is presented in a format that records income and expenditure relating to the financial year. As is customary, the corresponding figures for the previous year are also shown.

Normally, these provide a useful year-on-year comparison. However, such comparison is again of limited value this year, because Covid-19 restrictions applied into the early part of 2021/22. With the exception of *Beacon* and *TAT fees*, most figures in 2021/22 were significantly reduced. The decision was also taken not to charge a membership subscription for 2021/22. As a result, there was an overall deficit of £5,831.62 in 2021/22.

By contrast, the 2022/23 figures show a return to normal levels, subject to the following:

- due to TAT's procedures, the invoice for the bulk of our 2021/22 Third Age Matters magazines arrived in July 2022 and appears in the 2022/23 figure. The amount was £381.30.
- due to late invoicing from GWP, the hall hire for Jan/Feb/Mar 2023 is not included and will appear in the 2023/24 figures. The amount is £383.24.

The current Events balance of £8,747.84 includes £5,231 (eg: venue fees, coach costs) that has yet to be paid out on events for which members have already bought tickets. The true balance is, therefore, £3,516.84. This serves as a float for any costs that may have to be incurred prior to the sale of tickets to members, in the coming year. The income for events that took place during the year was £33,722.59. Once costs have been deducted, there was a surplus of £830.16 (2.5%).

Ken Pragnell
6 June 2023

VCV General Account							
Receipts/Payments			Ongoing Funds				
Income	2022/23	2021/22	B/Fwd from 2021/22	7,018.96	Current a/c at 31/3/23	4,050.01	
Member subscriptions	8,380.00	320.00	<i>plus</i> Surplus	2,075.43	Deposit a/c at 31/3/23	5,044.38	
Book sales	254.00	53.00	Total carried forward	9,094.39	Total at bank	9,094.39	
Other	117.74	20.52					
Total receipts	8,751.74	393.52					
Expenditure	2022/23	2021/22	VCV Events Account	2022/23	VCV Group Accounts	2022/23	
Administration	156.88	196.10	Opening balance	11,238.02	Opening balance	2,017.32	
Asset Purchase	70.94	818.97	<i>plus</i> Receipts	29,053.09	<i>plus</i> Receipts	13,080.07	
Beacon	438.00	443.00	<i>less</i> Payments	31,543.27	<i>less</i> Payments	13,544.65	
Catering	203.14	52.43	Closing balance	8,747.84	Closing balance	1,552.74	
Hall hire (GWP)	1,205.72	962.00	Notes: The General account covers the day to day operations of VCV and is funded by membership subscriptions. It is split between current and deposit accounts, at the bank. The Events account is concerned with events and trips that are funded from payments made by the members participating in those events/trips. Both the above accounts are subject to examination by the person appointed at the previous AGM. Each interest group that involves funding from its members, maintains its own set of accounts. Examination of these accounts is a matter for each group. The figures above are a consolidation of those provided by each group. No monies have been transferred between any of the above accounts in 2022/23				
Herts Network	0	15.00					
IT costs	7.50	151.40					
Miscellaneous	160.10	339.67					
Newsletter	134.80	442.42					
Speaker fees	1,086.60	600.00					
TAM subscription	854.99	38.38					
TAT fees	1,768.00	1,550.50					
VCV-funded events	589.64	615.27					
Total payments	6,676.31	6,225.14					
Surplus/Deficit(-)	2,075.43	-5,831.62					
Receipts adjustment for Charity Commission return			The Income figures above include all subscriptions that relate to the year shown, even though they may have been received in the previous year. They also exclude any pre-paid subscriptions that are for the following year. This is so members can see exactly how their subscriptions for the year have been spent. The Charity Commission return is in a 'Payments and Receipts' form. This means that the figures are determined by the year in which the transactions occur, rather than the year to which they relate. The figures reported to the CC must therefore, be adjusted accordingly.				
Pre-paid subscriptions	6,362.00	0					
Net adjustment	6,362.00						



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Auditors Report:

Reference: **Ver-Colne Valley – (University of the Third Age) U3A**
Registered Charity No: **1156215**
Dated: **11 July 2023**


Dear Trustees

We have carried out an Independent examination of the Accounts supplied by the Ver-Colne Valley U3A. For the year ending **31 March 2023**.

We confirm that the examination of the accounts was carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out our examination we have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145 (5)(b) of the Act.

We also confirm that no material matters have come to our attention in connection with that examination. We therefore have no cause to believe that the accounting records were not kept in respect of Ver-Colne Vally U3A as required under Section 130 of the Act.

For and on behalf of Amber Consultancy


Keith M Manning