

Whitwick & District U3A

Chairperson's Report to the AGM 2024

I have written annual reports before in my previous term as Chair but this time is rather different as I have been in post for less than half the year in question. However, much of WAD u3a's activity has carried on throughout 2023-2024 without a hiccup.

Our Group Leaders are the backbone of our organisation and have carried on running group activities in terrific variety. Around three dozen different groups meet to learn and share skills, ideas and fun on a regular basis, or go to see shows and places of interest, and I offer thanks to all Group Leaders for enabling this. The Group Leaders' Manual has been revised and updated and offers a sound guide to both new and experienced Group Leaders. Our talented Webmaster keeps us informed of group activities online and our Update Editor collates monthly information for us all, as well as organising external publicity and recently taking on responsibility for data security.

Other volunteers deserve our thanks too. Many of us take for granted the efforts of those members who put out the chairs and make the tea at General Meetings, but we need to stop and say thankyou. Somehow microphones and projectors appear for our speakers, visitors are welcomed and members are checked in, payments are taken and queries answered. Every month we have a different speaker and thanks go to our outgoing Speaker Seekers and the new one for arranging such a wide range of topics for us.

Membership numbers appear to be steady just below the 300 mark, with quite a few visitors recently at General Meetings, many of whom are joining WAD u3a. However, there are always a few members leaving for any number of reasons so it is important that we all encourage more people to join to maintain our momentum.

Clearer financial guidance for Group Leaders has been introduced and after some initial isolated difficulties these new arrangements now appear to be bedded in and serving us well. Our Treasurer has moved our accounts to a different bank which both avoids some charges and also enables money to be paid in at Post Offices which are rather more convenient than bank branches these days. We have a sound financial reserve in case of unforeseen circumstances but everyday running costs are creeping up and in order to stay in the black we are proposing a small increase in membership fees from next year. Subscriptions have not gone up for quite a while, and indeed we had a free year during Covid, but we cannot avoid inflation.

In December we experienced a crisis when five Committee Members resigned, leaving fewer than the minimum number required by the Constitution. Our Vice-Chair became Acting Chair and deserves our thanks for keeping things going, but he was not eligible to be Chair long-term. Members may not realise how close WAD u3a came to folding at this point. After some thought three members including myself volunteered to join the Committee and one resignation was withdrawn, so from the New Year we have all worked to get things back on track and our u3a can move forward. Many thanks to all the Committee for their hard work behind the scenes.

Pete Johnson

WHITWICK & DISTRICT u3a

Financial Statements

Year ending 31 March 2024

Income and Expenditure Account

Income

Membership Fees	4370.50
Gift Aid (Years x 2)	1332.65
Christmas Raffle	204.00
Sale of Equipment	20.00
Group Cash Income	8801.65
Less Cash to Bank	-7168.91
Group Bank Income	<u>20057.46</u>
	27617.35

Expenditure

u3a Capitation	1064.00
Third Age Trust Magazine	648.65
Speakers	891.00
Website	189.39
WAD Room Hire	1233.00
Postage	121.91
Print/Stationery	88.39
Equipment	182.98
Refreshments	286.98
Bank Charges	110.33
Leics & Rutland u3a	5.00
Calendars 2025	49.33
Publicity	69.75
Donation Christmas Raffle	204.00
Group Bank Expenses	17096.92
Group Cash Expenditure	3670.95
	<u>25912.58</u>
Excess of income over expenditure	<u><u>1704.77</u></u>

Balance Sheet

31/03/2024

Group Cash	289.39
Bank 31 March 2024	10420.87
Prepaid Membership Fees	<u>80.00</u>
	<u>10790.26</u>
Group Cash B/F	2327.60
Bank Balance B/F 31 March 2023	6676.68
Dance Group Funds (Discontinued)	81.21
Excess Income over Expenditure	<u>1704.77</u>
	<u><u>10790.26</u></u>

WAD Accounts 2023-24 Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Whitwick and District u3a for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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.

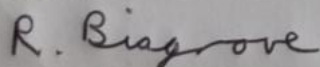
Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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:



Name: Roger Bisgrove

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): formerly member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

Address: Oak View Corner, 2 Batsons Court, Top Road, Griffydam, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE67 8HX

Date: 11th May 2024