



**Minutes of the U3A Vall Del Pop
General Assembly
Thursday, 7th March 2024.**

**Venue: Murla Polivalent
Start time: 11am.**

As a prelude to the meeting Bill White had been asked to play some music, to include 'Only Love' by Nana Mouskouri, a special piece requested by Bob, in Sandra's honour and love of music. Sandra has left a void within the U3A, she was not only our Secretary for many years, she started many of the groups we all enjoy today. It is without doubt, she will be very much missed.

For the reasons above the meeting was taken by the Vice President Paul Corazzo and Assistant Secretary Sally Ellis.

Introduction: Paul Corazzo welcomed everyone to the General Assembly, with 100 members attending. Thanks were given, to the Committee for all their help and preparation for the meeting, to Bill White for music and Marian White for her scone baking skills.

Paul paid tribute to Bob and Sandra's involvement in the U3A over the passed years, thanking them for all their support, encouragement, guidance and generally creating a fun and friendly Association to be part of.

Paul then read out the following report on behalf of Bob Welham:

President's Report 2023-24

This message will be shorter than in previous years, for reasons that you will all understand. None of us could have anticipated that, as Sandra and I embarked on our final year as Secretary and President, things would turn out as they have. However, Sandra remained interested in the U3A to the end. I apologise for the lack of personal contact during this time but can assure you that all aspects of the Committee work were undertaken with both our involvement and blessing.

The U3A ethos of taking pleasure in doing and learning things together was very important to the two of us and we never once regretted the time and effort that we have both devoted to our Association. Sandra also felt strongly that, if you want to enjoy the benefits of an organisation, you should try where possible to give something in return. I think we can all agree that she did this many times over.

Looking back over the 15 years of our involvement with the U3A, I am proud of the way in which our Association has developed. Of course, this is not just down to my and Sandra's efforts. We have worked closely with the Committees, associates, group leaders and countless other members and made many good friends in doing so. I will always be very grateful for all the

support that we received along the way.

Sandra's personal impact can perhaps best be seen in some of the groups that she helped to establish including 'Ladies at Lunch', 'Let's Sing Together', the Cinema Club and the Goodwill team. The last of these is rather particular to our own U3A and allows us to make a valuable contribution to the wonderful community in which we are all lucky enough to live.

More generally, this has been another positive year in which the U3A Vall del Pop has moved from strength to strength. Importantly we continue to attract new members, recently formed groups are developing well and new groups are already under discussion. Let's not forget the range of trips and events on offer to our members.

Looking ahead to the coming year, I can see that the new Committee is a strong one. I am pleased that so many of our existing Committee members have agreed to remain in post. I feel sure that this will be of great help to Chris Barrett as our new President and Paula Barrett as Secretary. At the same time there is always a place for new faces and the new ideas that I am confident Chris will bring.

For my part, I fully intend to remain an active member of our Association and look forward to meeting many of you at upcoming assemblies and group events.

Finally, I have a small gift for Chris, to help him on his way!

Thank you!

Bob.

AGM Notice:

Paul reminded everyone that an Annual General Meeting would follow straight after the G A meeting where those present would be asked to elect a new President and Committee for the coming year 2024 to 2025.

Minutes of the last meeting February 1st. 2024.

Members were asked if there were any amendments. There were none. The minutes were approved, proposed by Gerry Bacon and seconded by Peter Ellis.

Matters Arising: None.

Correspondence: None.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's report:

Roger Bentley submitted his report to the members. Please find a copy attached.

Membership Report:

Barbara Bentley reported the data showed 491 members. With, today, 31 renewals, and 5 bank transfer renewals plus 7 new members. There were still some members to renew and the next

satellite meeting to held on 19th March at the JVH Animo in Alcalali. The final date fro renewal in 31st March 2024.

Groups Coordinator:

Teresa Tillbrook reported another successful year, with 23 groups currently running and a few more in the pipeline. If anyone has further ideas for groups, please get in touch.

During 2023, five new groups commenced or restarted: Cinema, Chess, Dru Yoga, Allotment and Canasta.

Teresa took the opportunity to thank all the group leaders for all the work that goes on behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly and all the members for their continued support.

TCET Report:

Sonia Higginson welcomed three new members to the team. Christine Owen, Angela Lish and Mary Bacon. The TCET team have a varied programme planned or in planning for the coming year. Please see her full report attached.

The next Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday, 24th April 2024 at the newly reopened El Quixote, Orba. 10.30am.

Goodwill Report:

Paula Barrett led with a tribute Sandra, who set up the Goodwill Team, to organise fundraising events to support local charities. This activity is particular to our U3A and this will continue in Sandra's honour.

There will be some events organised to celebrate Sandra and her love of music in the near future.

Arne Soeten, the President of Project4All is here today to give us an insight into the work he and his team do for the homeless community. Project4All is just one of the charities we have supported this year.

A variety of events are planned:

- Sunday 13th April, Car Boot Sale in Jalon.
- Thursday, 2nd May the Goodwill will hold a plant sale at the GA.
- Saturday, 11th May A 60s/70s night a joint party with U3A and Paws.in Lliber.
- Wednesday 29th May, Vintage Afternoon Tea in Lliber,
- Friday, 28th June 2024, The Entertainers at Los Arcos.

More details in an attachment.

Sharing and Caring:

Brigid Redmond informed us that the next coffee morning for the group will be at The Shack in Xalo on 20th March. Everyone was welcome to join in.

AOB:

Paul thanked Bob again for all his help and support and honoured him with a Title of Lifelong President.

Paul presented gifts to Sonia Higginson for all her help and support for the U3A and TCET. She has stepped down as lead but will still remain on the team to assist.

A gift was also given for Peter Sockett for his help and liaison as Press Officer, he stepped down earlier this year. Peter was not present at the meeting so this would be forwarded on.

The meeting closed at 11.25am.

Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday, 4th April 2024

Venue: Polivalent Murla

Time 11am Doors open 10.30am