Registered Charity No 516502

HUDDERSFIELD AND DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
Aspin House, Block B, Station Road, Huddersfield HD2 1UT

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026
Wednesday 28 October 2026 at 2.00 pm at Moldgreen United Reformed Church

PRESENT

Isabel Foster (chair), Joan Connally (Treasurer), Jenny Eaglestone, Janet Forde, Moira Marshall, John May, Sue May, Monica Plested, Diana Wilson and 74 members.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received

2 MINUTES OF THE AGM 2025 held on Wednesday 29 October 2025

These had been published in the Autumn Newsletter and were accepted as a true record.

3 MATTERS ARISING

There was a question from the floor about the minutes.

Q: What has been done to progress affiliation with the Third Age Trust as agreed by the committee in July, in particular what has been done to resolve problems with the letter of intent.

A: There have been several changes to the committee which have caused delay. It is one of a number of issues the committee has to consider in the coming months and has not been forgotten.

4 CHAIR'S OPENING ADDRESS

The chair reported that this has been a year of change, and it takes time to adapt and adjust. She thanked those volunteers who had retired or resigned during the year and wished them well. Changes in legislation and Charities Commission requirements have necessitated slight amendments to our Constitution. In the coming months we need to update our policies and procedures, develop our approach to dementia and include details such as emergency contacts in our membership records.

Membership at the end of the year was slightly down on the previous year, although new members were slightly up, and the number of groups on offer stood at 81.

The Spring Talks were again very interesting, but the venue was less accessible and we are looking for a more suitable venue for the next series.

We continue to try to promote the organisation and ask all members to spread the knowledge of what we offer. We also ask members' help with some new ideas which can be found in the Autumn Newsletter.

One new area is a Directory Project co-ordinated by Diana Wilson – see the Autumn Newsletter under "Stop that Dripping Tap". Please contact Diana if you would like to participate.

Suggestions for more social events/activities are also in the newsletter and we need your help to plan and organise if they are to go ahead.

The chair concluded by thanking group leaders, office staff, trip organisers and committee members for their contribution during the year.

5 CONSTITUTION CHANGES

The committee has recently reviewed our Objects in the Constitution to ensure that it accurately reflects current requirements.

SECTION 2: OBJECTS

Change from

The objects of the Group are to advance the education of the public and in particular the education of middle aged and elderly people in HUDDERSFIELD and its surrounding locality.

To

The objects of the group are to offer to participants in Huddersfield and its surrounding locality a range of options providing knowledge, recreation, company and sporting activities. In particular these are targeted at those in their 'third age' such as (but not limited to) the retired or semi-retired.

Resolution: Members are requested to approve minor amendments and updates to the constitution as described

The changes to the constitution were approved.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Annual Accounts, the Notes to the Accounts and the independent examiner's report had been made available on the website, and printed copies were available at the meeting. The Treasurer pointed out a significant improvement to the finances mostly due to the increases in membership and enrolment fees.

Questions from the floor on the financial report:

Q: Why has gift aid dropped?

A: There had been an error in the previous claim in that gift aid had inadvertently been claimed on some members who had not actually renewed their membership. The treasurer informed HMRC of the error and completed the necessary paperwork to correct the error.

Q: It appears that membership fees are subsidising the costs associated with delivering classes, thus providing a personal benefit which would disqualify in part claiming gift aid.

A: The treasurer and the questioner did not come to an agreement about the interpretation of the figures. The treasurer pointed out that the claim had been verified by HMRC.

Q: In the notes to the accounts it is stated that no trustee received any remuneration or benefit during the year. Some of the trustees are also office volunteers and receive travelling expenses.

A: This needs clarifying.[1]

The meeting voted to accept the accounts.

6 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jenny Eaglestone, Isabel Foster, Moira Marshell and Diana Wilson were proposed, seconded and re-elected.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business had been submitted by 17 October 2026.

[1] It has since been confirmed that only expenses received as trustees count, not those received by trustees while undertaking other duties.