

Original dated May 8, 2006

## **BLACKBOURNE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE**

### **CONSTITUTION**

#### **1. NAME**

The name is the "Blackbourne University of the Third Age". The short name is Blackbourne U3A.

#### **2. OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the Blackbourne U3A is the promotion of educational and recreational activities; in particular for the middle aged and older people who are no longer in full time employment and who live near the Blackbourne River, or in the surrounding area.

#### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

A member is anyone interested in supporting the objective of the Blackbourne U3A and who has paid the current annual subscription, or has been awarded Honorary Membership.

#### **4. MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 The Blackbourne U3A shall be managed by an elected Committee drawn from members of the Blackbourne U3A and shall consist of at least five and not more than twelve members. Any person, with the exception of the Chairman, who has been a member of the Committee for the previous three years, is not eligible for re-election without an intervening period of at least one year.
- 4.2 The Chairman, Vice Chairman and the other members of the Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General meeting. The Chairman for the previous year shall be eligible for re-election as Chairman for one further year only.
- 4.3 The Committee shall meet within one month of the Annual General meeting and at least four times before the next Annual General Meeting. At the first meeting after the Annual General Meeting, the Committee shall elect from among their number, the officers of the Blackbourne U3A, other than the Chairman and Vice Chairman, which must include a General Secretary and a Treasurer. Officers shall continue in office until the first Committee meeting after the next Annual General Meeting.
- 4.4 The quorum for any committee meeting shall be at least half its members.
- 4.5 Nominations for the committee, duly agreed by the nominee, must be proposed and seconded by members of Blackbourne U3A.
- 4.6 The Committee may co-opt two other persons to serve on the Committee until the next Annual General meeting. These persons shall not be entitled to vote.

#### **5. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- 5.1 The annual subscription shall be determined from time to time by the Committee.
- 5.2 The subscription year shall run from 1<sup>st</sup> September to the following 31 August.
- 5.3 New members joining on or after 1 June in any subscription year shall be deemed to have joined until 31<sup>st</sup> August in the following year.

#### **6. FINANCE**

- 6.1 The financial year shall be 1<sup>st</sup> January to the following 31<sup>st</sup> December.
- 6.2 The Treasurer shall keep a record of all receipts and payments and prepare duly examined Annual Accounts for the Annual General Meeting.

#### **7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- 7.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held before the 31<sup>st</sup> March in any calendar year with at least 14 days notice being given to the membership.
- 7.2 The business of the meeting shall include:-
  - (a) The election for the ensuing year of a Committee in accordance with clause 4, if necessary by ballot.
  - (b) The adoption of the annual accounts.
  - (c) The appointment of an examiner or examiners.
  - (d) Any motions submitted by members or other relevant business.

This Website document is a typed copy of the original Constitution document held by the Committee 2011. In May 2006 signatories to it were Bryann Ward, Chairman; Ann Sear, Vice Chairman; Ann Edmondson, Treasurer; Robert Mountfort, General Secretary. For any proceedings, the original signed copy will be used as the definitive document.

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- 7.3 There shall be a quorum when at least 20% of the members of the Blackbourne U3A are present.
- 7.4 Only members of the Blackbourne U3A may vote at the Annual General Meeting. Motions, other than amendments to the Constitution, or proposing Dissolution, shall be passed by a simple majority.

#### **8. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by resolution of the Committee, or upon request, signed by not fewer than twenty members of the Blackbourne U3A. The Special General Meeting shall be called by the General Secretary within 42 days of the resolution, or the request, and each member of the Blackbourne U3A shall be given at least 14 days notice of the meeting.

#### **9. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

All matters not provided for in this constitution relating to the Blackbourne U3A shall be dealt with by the Committee.

#### **10. CHANGE OF CONSTITUTION**

Amendments to the Constitution can be ratified only at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. Notice of such amendments must be given to members in writing not less than 14 days before the meeting. Amendments to the Constitution must be passed by at least two-thirds of those present and voting.

#### **11. DISSOLUTION**

The Blackbourne U3A may be dissolved at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose and the resolution must be passed by at least three-quarters of those present. Any remaining assets shall be transferred to any institution or institutions having similar objects to the Blackbourne U3A, as the Special General Meeting may decide by a simple majority.

This AMENDED Constitution was adopted at a Special General Meeting of the Blackbourne U3A on the 8 May 2006 by the persons whose signatures appear at the bottom of this document.

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