

**Kings Hill & District u3a Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held on Thursday 1st June 2023
at 2.00pm at Kings Hill Community Centre**

Chair: Melanie Blewer

124 members in attendance

MB welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. 124 members attending plus 8 guests (83 is minimum required), so she declared the AGM open. She advised that guests could not vote.

- 1. Apologies:** committee members – Brenda Pretty members – SallyAnne Clarke, Bridgette Dawson, Ian McGill, Gaynor Trevett and Marla White

MB thanked Maggie Holmes for standing in to take the minutes.

- 2. Minutes of previous AGM/matters arising**

The minutes of the previous AGM have been circulated to members. There were no questions or matters arising, so a vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

- 3. Annual Report of u3a activities – Melanie Blewer**

MB read her report although it has been circulated to members with the other AGM documents. The main points:-

She thanked everyone concerned in the organisation of certain special events.

- Big Showcase attended by 194 members and the Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling, which coincided with National u3a's 40th celebrations.
- Our 10th Anniversary Celebration party, attended by over 100 members.

Other activities organised by Events team during year – Christmas lunch at The Holiday Inn, Day trip to Weald and Downland Museum, Rock'n'Roll evening with Sebastian Ellis Band, Day trip to Sandhurst and Holiday to Cheshire.

Committee continues to meet regularly followed by email update to members, paying particular attention to broadening approaches to Diversity, Accessibility and Inclusion, including a Hearing Matters talk, sharing knowledge and advice and a Dementia Awareness talk.

New co-opted committee members – Janet McKenner (Business Secretary), Simon Ellis (Diversity Officer) and Margaret Hall.

Elaine Scutt standing down as Vice Chair and Groups Coordinator after many years and MB thanked her for her dedication and support.

Sue Christie is now responsible for booking speakers for monthly meetings.

Attendance at meetings is now regularly over 110.

Current membership is 553 and continues to grow (516 last year), with some sad farewells to dear friends and long-standing members.

Welcome meetings are held regularly and well attended.

New SIGs Rummikub, Family Group 2, Book Group 3, Wine Appreciation Group 4 and Pubs, Pies and Pints.

In conclusion MB thanked members for their positive support throughout the past year and committee will ensure ideals of Learning, Laughing and Living Life to the Full continues to be the backbone of our u3a for now and years to come.

4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts – David Murray

DM read his report to the AGM and the main points are:

Finances remain healthy, although there was a net loss of £1870.10 (not including social income/expenditure) which was expected based on membership fee reduction and also addressing the Charities Commission principle of u3as not holding excessive reserves without cause.

Social activity income up from £12,348 last year to £18,361 this year.

Social activity expenditure has similarly increased from £10,883.64 last year to £19,043.83 this year. This can be slightly misleading from 'balancing' perspective as events can straddle more than one financial year.

He thanked members for signing up to Gift Aid as this generates a good income.

Riviera Travel donate 10% of cost of members' holidays to our u3a if advised prior to trip taking place.

Reserves monitored at committee meetings and based on Reserves Policy implemented two years ago.

He thanked Sue Watson, Deputy Treasurer, the committee and account signatories for their support.

He also thanked members for using the BACS system to pay for events/receiving refunds and the Go Cardless system for membership renewals.

Auditor pleased with processes implemented regarding operation and security of signatories on CAF, cheque and cash accounts and signed them off as being correct.

5. Examiner of Accounts – Vote of Thanks and Appointment

DM asked for the accounts to be accepted. A vote to adopt the accounts was taken and carried. He then advised that Richard Fox is prepared to continue as auditor and a vote to re-appoint Richard Fox was taken and carried.

6. Proposal to increase the annual subscription to £15

Membership was previously £20 and reduced to £10 during the pandemic. A vote to increase membership fee to £15 was taken and approved. This will be implemented with immediate effect.

7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Vacancies to be filled:

The following co-opted members to be elected as full committee members:

Margaret Hall (also proposed as Vice Chair) and Simon Ellis

A vote was taken and Margaret Hall was approved as a full committee member.

A second vote was taken and Simon Ellis was approved as a full committee member.

Elaine Scutt stood down as Vice Chair and MB presented her with flowers and a gift token and thanked her for her hard work over the years.

Margaret Hall was nominated as Vice Chair, a vote was taken and this was approved.

ES is also standing down as Groups Co-ordinator. Kay Towers will work with Elaine as joint job share. MB made another presentation to ES (bottle and garden voucher) and ES again thanked everyone.

MB advised no-one has come forward to take on the role of Business Secretary. She asked if anyone was interested to speak to her.

8. Any Other Business

There were no questions.

MB asked members to show their appreciation to all members of committee and hospitality.

She again thanked the members for attending.

9. Date of next Annual General Meeting – to be publicized at a later date.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm