



Registered Charity No. 290670
www.saffronwaldenu3a.org.uk

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 5TH SEPTEMBER 2022 AT SAFFRON WALDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

The meeting, which began at 2.30 p.m., was conducted by Jim Dwyer, Acting Chairman, who thanked those attending Saffron Walden u3a's AGM.

In accordance with the Constitution the committee will be standing down.

Present

The meeting was quorate with 74 members attending.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were registered from Martin Hugall, Christine Greet, Jennifer Capper and William Brown.

Minutes and Approval from the last EGM and AGM

The minutes of the 2021 EGM and 2021 AGM which have been made available on our website and distributed to members by email were not read by the Secretary.

No questions were raised from the membership.

Graeme Cowling proposed and Brian Kerrison seconded that the minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting 2021 be adopted as a true record.

Agreed Nem.con.

Kevin Fitzpatrick proposed and Hilary Price seconded that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2021 be adopted as a true record.

Agreed Nem.con.

The Acting Chairman signed both the 2021 EGM and AGM minutes.

Acting Chairman's Report

This is the second AGM where I have been the Acting Chairman due to very sad circumstances. In 2020 it was due to the sad passing of then Chairman Janet Pearson and today in 2022, it is due to the very untimely passing in May of our Chairman Ann Treglown. Ann was a real driving force and she is, and will be, greatly missed. Our thoughts are with her husband Tony who, of course, currently serves as our Secretary

This last year, which incidentally is the 40th anniversary of the founding of the u3a, has seen our u3a opening up again after Covid with classes re-starting and members gradually getting back to a new normality. We all hope that this continues.

One of the most important advances we have made during the last year is getting to grips with the u3a's new computer system Beacon. John Trueman, our Membership Secretary and Steve Messenger, our Treasurer have worked tirelessly on the system which now allows us to communicate so much easier with the entire u3a membership, allows payments for membership and classes to be made by direct bank transfer and maintains a complete up-to-date record of our membership.

As well as John and Steve, I would also like to thank the other Committee members too for their support and hard work over the last year: Tony Treglown our Secretary of course, Hilary Price our Activities & Venues Organiser and Alex Reeve and Mary Curtis our two co-opted members. And a big thank you too to our many wonderful coordinators who play such an important part in our organisation.

We now look forward to an exciting new year and a bright new future for Saffron Walden u3a with a growing membership eager to carry on the u3a ethos: learn, laugh and live.

Treasurer's Report

The annual accounts and financial statements have been prepared using applicable Accounting Standards and have been examined by an Independent Examiner, in accordance with the Charity Commissioners' requirements. We have seen group and theatre and travel activities return to pre-covid levels this year. My thanks go to Brian Linford who offered his services to examine the accounts.

Income for the year totalled £8,469.33, which consists of membership fees, Gift Aid and bank interest (such as it is). Expenditure was £10,185.27, resulting in a loss of £1715.94. Expenditure included the purchase of a new laptop at £429 to replace an old and ailing one. The loss was planned as reserves were running high, consequently we reduced membership fee from £12.50 to £10. Both TAT membership (the amount we pay to the central TAT) and the fees for the TAM magazine were significantly higher this year (c. £800 and £1000 higher respectively). Nevertheless, we remain in a strong position, with about £13,000 in the bank and building society, of which about £800 belongs to various groups.

New class fees, excluding Theatre & Travel, totalled £12,429.55 with expenses of £13,656.98. £2,047.15 was brought forward from the previous year, so there is a net balance of £819.72 which will be carried forward into 2022/23. These figures are almost back to pre-covid levels.

We trialled payment of class fees via BACS, using the Pilates6 group, run by Jude Forster. Although there were some teething issues, and I think Jude was pulling her hair out at times, I believe the trial was successful, and quite a few other groups are now also using BACS. Many thanks to Jude for her patience and commitment in getting this up and running. Thanks also to all coordinators for starting up the groups again after the covid epidemic.

Theatre and Travel trips have also bounced back, with about 20 trips taking place. T&T received £25,669.25 and spent £23,695.89. Two trips (Columbine and Witness) straddle the financial years, so the T&T account stood at £4,100.96 at the end of the year.

There were no questions.

I would like to propose the adoption of the accounts.

Keith Patmore proposed and Kevin Fitzpatrick seconded adoption. Agreed Nem.con

Appointment of Independent Auditor

Brian Linford examined and approved the accounts for this year. He has agreed to continue as examiner for 2022-23 if adopted.

Ann Banks proposed and Jean Little seconded his appointment.

Agreed Nem.con

Election of Committee

The Secretary reported that the following candidates had correctly completed nomination forms in accordance with the Constitution

NOMINEE	PROPOSED	SECONDED
Susan Brown	Hugh Herdon	Graeme Cowling
Mary Curtis	Rose Peram	Julie Ball
James Dwyer	Jean Pattenden	Ian Lawson
Marilyn Hemmings	Diana Walters	Monica Denn
Brian Kerrison	Jo Trueman	Val Hoenes
Stephen Messenger	Pamela Mugliston	Christine Duffy
Anthony Treglown	Derek Ayres	Beryl Avis
John Trueman	Anthony Lye	David Stone

Ann Banks proposed and Grahame Wilmott seconded that the candidates be accepted en bloc.
Agreed Nem.con

Any Other Business

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 2.55 p.m.