



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held Thursday, 15th June 2023 at 2.30 p.m.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair, Eryll Fabian, welcomed members to the meeting.

The meeting was attended by 147 people with 56 proxies having been received and was therefore quorate.

The Chair explained the Agenda for the meeting and how the voting would proceed.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were 10 apologies for absence.

3. Record of Proxy Votes

The acting secretary, Sian Shaw, told the meeting that 56 proxy votes had been received. All appointed the Chair.

4. Minutes of the Last AGM and Matters Arising

Copies of the Minutes of the 2022 AGM had been distributed prior to the meeting.

5. No Matters were raised.

6. Vote to accept the Minutes

Proposed by Di Brown. Seconded by Andy Claxton.

The Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

7. Chair's Report

The Chair, Eryll Fabian, read out her report, a copy of which is below.

This has been a year of consolidation and growth and there are now over 1,000 members.

We have purchased a gazebo for use at local fetes and for the u3a Day when it is set up under the Millenium Clock; it helps to raise our profile in the area.

An EDI policy is now available to view on the Small Print section of our website.

TWu3a is an active member of the u3a Kent network, which provides useful contacts and information.

The Chair thanked the many people who keep TWu3a going, the Committee, Group Contacts, Talks Organiser, AV Team, Tea-Team, Events Team, Group Organisers, Gazebo Volunteers, Jigsaw and Book Exchange Organisers, EDI Specialists, Beacon Administrator and her helper. She particularly wished to thank the Vice-Chair, Sandra McDonald for her hard work and support and made a presentation to her.

The Chair is stepping down after serving for 6 years on the Committee. She would like to express her good wishes for the future of the TWu3a group.

8. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, David Brimlow, presented his report, a copy of which is below.

The Statement of Accounts was presented on the screen. Total income for the year was £44,978. Total expenditure was £41,842. The Surplus was £3,136. He confirmed that the subscription would be held at £16 for the forthcoming year.

A question was raised from the floor about the amount of the surplus. The Treasurer explained that it enabled us to maintain the subscription at the same level.

9. Vote to receive and accept the examined accounts for the year to 31 March 2023

Proposed by Carol Ireland. Seconded by Marilyn Smart.

The Accounts were approved by a unanimous vote.

10. Vote to reappoint the independent examiner

Proposed by Hugh Gorton. Seconded by David Britton

The independent examiner is James Shah of Meakins Shah.

The reappointment of the independent examiner was approved by a unanimous vote.

11. Vote of thanks to the independent examiner

The Chair recorded our thanks to the independent examiner.

12. Election of Trustees

The Chair explained that Trustees are only permitted to stand for six consecutive years in any role after which they must stand down. This year both the Chair, Eryll Fabian, and the Vice-Chair, Sandra McDonald have completed their sixth year and are standing down. The voting took place by asking for a show of hands from anyone who opposed the appointments.

a) For the role of Chair: Chris Woodward

Proposed by Jennifer Woodward. Seconded by Joy Podbury.

The appointment was approved unanimously.

b) For the role of Vice-Chair: Fiona Findlay

Proposed by Valerie Kitchingham. Seconded by Alison Hardwick.

The appointment was approved unanimously.

c) For the role of Secretary: Sian Shaw

Proposed by Maureen Shaw. Seconded by Aileen Muir.

The appointment was approved unanimously.

d) For the role of Groups Coordinator: Lindsay Hasell (re-elected)

Proposed by Alison Thorn. Seconded by Carol Ireland.

The appointment was approved unanimously.

e) For the role of Newsletter Editor: Bridget Sands (re-elected)

Proposed by Ruth Johnson. Seconded by Gillian Anderson.

The appointment was approved unanimously.

13. Speech of thanks to the Chair

The Treasurer made a presentation to the Chair to thank her for all her hard work and meticulous planning during her period of office. The Tunbridge Wells u3a is now going from strength to strength and we are all very grateful to her.

14. Introduction from the new Chair

Chris Woodward made a short speech to introduce himself. He then asked Jason Lower (see next item), the Director of Creative Engagement at Trinity Theatre to say a few words.

15. **Jason Lower** explained that Trinity Theatre are keen to develop more links with TWu3a and can offer facilities in their building. He spoke about the programme and the many and varied events on offer. Questions were then taken from the floor.

16. The next AGM will take place on Thursday, 20th June 2024

17. Closing thanks

After thanking everyone for coming, the new Chair closed the meeting at about 3.30 p.m.