

TUNBRIDGE WELLS U3A

Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting held at the Camden Centre, Tunbridge Wells, Thursday 21 June 2018 at 2.30pm

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman, Sue Brimlow, welcomed members to the meeting. The meeting was attended by 129 people and therefore quorate. She announced that there would be strawberries and cream and a glass of 'bubbly' after the meeting, together with a display of TWU3A activities during the year.

The Secretary, Wendy Maher, reported that there had been 26 apologies for absence. These were from Dennis and Alison Turner, Suzette Elliott-Smith, Martyn Bishop, David Smith, Annette Tranter, Patricia Hill, Liz and Dick Bell, Ann Wakefield, Jean Weatherley, Stuart McTavish, Vivienne Sharp, Audrey Cosans, Christine Dove, Joy and Bob Podbury, Marjorie Winch, Pauline Berry, Mike and Mary Duncan, Marion Short, Valerie Apps, Sandra McDonald, Anette Parris, David and Jill Scott and John Sworder.

2. Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting

Copies of the Minutes of the 2017 AGM had been distributed prior to the meeting. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Alison Grace and seconded by Angela Moss. They were unanimously approved by the members present.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Sue Brimlow, read out her Report, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes and which also appears on the website.

She reported that TWU3A currently had over 1031 members and also acknowledged the contribution of the Committee. She reported on new Groups and Study Days and reminded the members of the introduction of the new GDPR. She also reported on the request from National Office on behalf of the Charity Commission to alter the Charitable Purpose in our Constitution as follows:

"The advancement of education and, in particular, the education of older people and those who are retired from full time work, by all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development."

7. Change to the Charitable Purpose section of Constitution

The Chairman then asked the members to approve this change. This was unanimously agreed.

5. Treasurer's Report

The signed accounts, together with a copy of the Treasurer's Report were on the website and had also been circulated by email and by post. They were also available at the meeting. As the Treasurer, David Scott, had been unable to attend to AGM, Mr Joe Croker, the Independent Examiner, gave a presentation:

- He reported that the surplus of £1600 was now within the levels recommended by the Charity Commission
- The subscription level has now returned to the normal level.
- The Beacon system continued to be very successful and the assistance of the Membership Champions was acknowledged.
- He advised that a new external examiner would be required for 2018/19.
- He asked if there were any questions:

One member asked to clarify if the accounts were audited or examined . It was confirmed they were examined. The Chairman, Sue Brimlow, advised that the examiner could not be a member of the particular U3A group whose accounts he was examining and planned to raise this at the next Network meeting in the hope that we could work collaboratively with other U3As..

One member reported that she had been unable to renew her subscription via the Beacon system and had had to send a cheque.

Another member raised the question of the security of giving bank details online The Chairman explained that this information was completely safe as it was held by a reputable third party and no members bank details were held on Beacon. Members were given the option of making an online transfer to pay their membership subscription.

6. The Chairman asked members to

- a) to receive and approve the examined accounts for the year to 31 March 2018
- b) to give a vote of thanks to the Independent Examiner
- c) allow the Committee to appoint the independent Examiner for 2018-2019

The Chairman asked for a single vote to cover all three sections. This was agreed and passed unanimously

8. Election of Officers/Trustees

There was a requirement for the election of 1 Officer and 2 additional Trustees. Nominations for these posts were as follows:

Vice Chairman **Adrian Twiner** proposed by **Tom Guy** and seconded by **Susan Brown**

Hon Treasurer **David Scott** proposed by **Jean Phillips-Martinsson** and seconded by **C. Lynch**

Membership Secretary **Ruth Johnson** proposed by Renee Dewhurst and seconded **Gillian Anderson**

These appointments were passed unanimously. The new Committee members were introduced to the audience

9. Date of next AGM

The next AGM will be held on 20 June 2019