

TUNBRIDGE WELLS u3a

Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting held Thursday 17th June 2021 at 2.30pm virtually via Zoom due to government guidelines for meetings during the Covid pandemic.

1. Welcome and Procedure

Sue Brimlow welcomed everyone and explained the procedure for a virtual meeting.

2. Welcome, Apologies for Absence, Number of Attendees, Proxy Votes

The Chairman, Eryll Fabian, welcomed everyone. 162 members attended the virtual meeting.

13 proxy votes were received, all of whom appointed the Chair. List attached below.

The Secretary, Fiona Findlay, read out the list of members who had sent proxy votes.

Apologies were received from 18 members. List attached below.

The meeting was therefore declared quorate. Total of 175 members.

The Chairman mentioned that we will continue to use proxy votes in the future and recommended that members unable to attend future meetings should request a proxy voting form.

The meeting was opened.

3. Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

Copies of the Minutes of the 2021 AGM had been distributed prior to the meeting. Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by Christine Dove and seconded by Di Brown.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Eryll Fabian, read out her report, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes and which also appears on the website.

The Chairman congratulated the membership, the volunteers and the committee members for their active and dynamic approach to the challenges of the Covid pandemic. We were one of the first u3a groups to obtain a licence for Zoom and hold virtual meetings and there is now an extensive and popular programme of virtual talks in place. There has also been an expanding use of virtual meetings enabling many members to keep in touch with their interest groups.

Some members have managed to continue to meet outside and many have kept in touch by phone or via social media.

We have also been able to strengthen contacts with other local u3as, inviting and being invited to interesting virtual events.

We have joined the national programme for recruitment and retention of members and established our own Publicity Team to promote TWu3a locally. We are updating our website and opened a new social media page on Facebook.

The Chairman thanked all the TWu3a volunteers and retiring committee members Ruth Johnson and Jean Brushfield.

6. Treasurer's Report

Presented by Sue Brimlow in the absence of David Brimlow.

The Statement of Accounts was presented. Copy attached below.

Sue Brimlow stated that the anticipated decline in membership and income as a result of the Covid pandemic had taken place. Nonetheless, we are in a strong position financially, partly because there have been fewer outgoings than normal.

We are retaining the Zoom licence as it has proved successful.

We are keeping a reserve in case of any future shortfall.

We end the 2020/2021 year with a surplus of £4281.00.

The accounts were signed off on 10th May 2021 by Mr James Shah of Meakins Shah.

There were no questions.

7. Vote to accept accounts.

The Chairman proposed a single vote to:

a). accept the accounts

b). thank the external examiner

c). reappoint the external examiner (James Shah of Meakins Shah Accountancy Ltd) for 2021/2022.

To be voted at Point 9. The motion to accept the accounts was proposed by David Britton and seconded by Marilyn Smart.

8. Election of Officers

There was a requirement for the election of 1 Trustee.

Nomination was as follows:

Role: Membership Secretary

Judy Horwood was proposed by Christine Roberts and seconded by Leonie Kidby.

9. Voting on Items 2, 7 and 8.

Details of the items to be voted on were displayed on the screen and attendees were asked to vote electronically.

10. Results

The Chairman confirmed that all items were voted for unanimously.

The Chairman thanked the retiring committee members and all members for attending.

11. Close of Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting and introduced a talk by member Erik Brown, Group Contact of the Four Seasons Bird Watching Group.

The next AGM will be held on Thursday 16th June 2022.

Attachments

a). 13 Proxy Votes received from:

1. Ethel Christie
2. Tom and Anne Guy
3. Robby Holmes
4. Kay Johnson
5. Graham & Elaine McNeilly
6. Marguerita Morton
7. Aileen Muir
8. Mary Pendaries
9. Jim Robertson
10. Alan and Yvonne Spencer

b). 17 Apologies for absence received from:

Judi Best

Celia Brown

Di Brown
Carolyn Clifton
Mair Davies
Chris Drury
Jean Hamilton
Reyn Hauff
Ann Lovering
Richard Martin
Angela and Adrian Moss
Wendy Nice
Gillian Penny
Pam Royle
Vivienne Sharp
Carole Stritch
David Brimlow

c. Chairman's Report (attach later)

d. Treasurer's Report (ditto)