

**Haverhill and District u3a**  
**Minutes of the Annual General meeting**  
**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in Haverhill Arts Centre at 10.30a.m.**

**1. Welcome**

The chair Barbara Lavender welcomed the members to the Annual General Meeting and thanked them for coming. A count on arrival of members confirmed that a quorum was present.

**2. Minutes**

Minutes of the 2022 A.G.M. had been circulated to everyone either by email or letter and no queries had been received.

**3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

The minutes were accepted and approved by the members as a true copy, proposed by Phyllis Mynott and seconded by Aldine Horrigan.

**5. Report from the Chair**

Barbara Lavender read her report which had already been circulated to all members.

It is difficult to believe that it is now a year since you all elected me a Chair of Haverhill and District u3a. It has been a very interesting year for me and quite a learning curve, which I have enjoyed.

I have been very fortunate in that we currently have a very committed and supportive committee and I could not have done my job without them.

Life seems to be getting back to fairly normal and the number of members attending the Tuesday speaker meetings has gradually risen. This is in no short measure due to the excellent speakers Wendy has booked for us. It is good to see that most of the groups are now getting back to pre-pandemic attendance.

Gerry is continually working on the website to update and improve it and News and Views continues to be very popular. My thanks to all the members of the committee who have given me so much support and to the News and Views team.

I am prepared to stand for another year in the position of Chair and the voting will take place at the A.G.M. on 28<sup>th</sup> March.

**6. Treasurer's Report**

Mark Pollington gave a synopsis of his report which had already been circulated to all members.

2022 at last saw us resume 'normal' activities and we were able to put on some events. The accounts for the year reflect this in that we are showing income and expenditure under the Events heading. The apparent 'surplus' was driven by a grant, higher ticket sales (than expected) and lower costs.

The accounts also show the fact that we are now including Group receipts and expenses in our figures. This change was introduced to bring us into line with other u3as, and special thanks must be given to all the group leaders who have cooperated in bringing this about.

Subscriptions continue to form the bulk of our income and we have kept the rate unchanged. We will endeavour to hold to the current fee for as long as we can, but with costs rising at their present rate we will have to review this each year.

The majority of our expenditure comprises 'fixed' costs, such as fees to the national u3a, hall hire, printing and speaker fees. The committee has done excellent work in keeping these costs as low as possible and we will continue to strive to get good value. We are required by the Charity Commission to hold a surplus to cover any outstanding costs in the event that our u3a ceases to operate.

Finally I would like to put on record our thanks to Angela Beaumont for auditing our accounts for many years, and wish her a very happy retirement.

#### **7. Adoption of Accounts**

There were no questions regarding the accounts so the members were asked to vote to accept the accounts. This was proposed by Ian Johnson, seconded by Frances Armes and accepted by the membership.

#### **8. Appointment of Accounts Verifier**

Barbara reiterated that Angela Beaumont who has been checking our accounts for many years has now retired. David Cook who has been a member of Haverhill and District u3a for many years has volunteered to take over this role. The membership were asked to vote to accept David as accounts checker. This was proposed by Ann Thompson, seconded by Patricia Cappel and accepted by the membership.

#### **9. Adoption of the updated Constitution**

All members had been issued with a copy of the proposed updated constitution and Barbara confirmed that the changes were to clarify the position regarding electronic meetings should we ever need them and the number of people required to form a quorum at the A.G.M. or Special General Meetings in line with guidelines from Central Office. The members were asked to vote to accept the updated constitution. This was proposed by Janet Berriman, seconded by Harry Thompson and accepted by the membership.

#### **10. Election of Officers**

At this point the current committee stood down and Ian Johnson took over the meeting to begin the election of the committee for 2023-2024. He informed the membership that Barbara Lavender was prepared to stand again as Chair and was eligible as this would be her second year and Trustees are allowed to stand for three years. She had been proposed by Margaret Johnson, seconded by Maura Green and the membership duly elected her.

Ian then handed the meeting back to Barbara who informed the meeting that Steve Green was not re-standing as a committee member but the other members were all

prepared to stand again and the voting could be done as a bloc. The proposed committee would be:

Vice Chair and Groups Co-ordinator	Peter Tatam
Treasurer	Mark Pollington
Secretary	Gloria Shersby
Membership Secretary	David Campos
Assistant Membership Secretary	Alan Smith
Minutes Secretary	Mick Smith
Events Co-ordinator	Caroline Choat
Assistant Events Co-ordinator	Wendy Foster
Publicity and Website	Gerry Sexton

Acceptance of this committee was proposed by Helen McFeely, seconded by Sandra Culling and the membership voted to accept the committee.

A new Speaker Secretary was required to take over from Wendy Foster who was going to be part of the Events team and Susanne Dickinson had volunteered for this role. She had been proposed by Janet Berriman and seconded by Marion Senior. The membership voted to accept her.

#### **11.A.O.B.**

There was no other business and Barbara thanked Ian for his help and handed the meeting over to Sue to introduce the speaker at 10.45a.m.

**Signed as a true copy.**