

Draft Minutes

Of the Fourteenth North Walsham U3A Annual General Meeting Held by Zoom on Friday 5th November 2021

We needed 20% of the current membership of 219 to attend the meeting so 44 attendees were required for the meeting to be quorate. Initially, there were insufficient but a number of phone calls were made and by 2.30pm the meeting was quorate. Steve welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

1. Apologies for Absence: Roy & Eva Tuff, Ray & Gail Westfield, Gill & Barry Moroney, Vera Spinks, Liz Moule and Brenda Tibbles

2. Minutes of the 2020 AGM held on 8th January 2021:

The minutes of the last AGM had been previously circulated.

Acceptance of the minutes proposed by Ralph Edwards and seconded by Mave Edwards
The minutes were accepted unanimously by those present and will be signed by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report:

Steve said it is only 10 months since the last AGM which was delayed due to the pandemic. Covid has had an impact since the last meeting but we are gradually moving forward with fourteen groups now meeting face to face and eleven continuing by zoom so we are moving in the right direction.

Jane Harris-Hall was thanked for organising the Christmas lunch and it is nice to see that a number of members are wanting to join in.

The committee and group leaders have done well in keeping things going. Linda Irving was thanked for her work on the newsletter and website. Richard Nevill was thanked for all his technical help and introduction of the Monday coffee mornings which have been well received. Steve also recognised the new committee members who stepped in when others stepped down and NW U3A was in danger of folding. This was very much appreciated.

Finally, Steve paid tribute to Sonia Thomas who sadly died a month ago. She gave a massive contribution in time and commitment to NW U3A, served a long time on the committee, and is hugely missed.

Steve stressed the voluntary nature of U3As and the essential roles and pleaded for as many committee members or group leaders as possible to keep NW U3A going.

5. Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts:

Clive emailed out accounts which have been externally examined by a new auditor, Ernie Garland. Ernie was thanked by Clive for reviewing the accounts and he also thanked Richard Walker who has done them for many years previously but has had to stop due to poor health.

Clive gave an overview of the accounts and explained that restricted contributions cannot be used for general use and have to be used for a specific activity ie. singing tutor, Christmas meal and august party.

There has been no movement in these due to non face to face meetings.

Clive then spoke about the general income which is mainly membership contributions. It was pleasing that 71% of the membership re-joined last year and he thanked all those members who joined which helped the finances.

Main expense was zoom subscriptions which were funded by the lack of face to face meetings and the fact that we only had to pay for two speakers last year.

We currently have £5061 in the bank account.

Steve thanked Clive for his thorough work and, in a year of lower membership and extra zoom subscriptions, Clive's careful financial management has seen us through.

To receive and approve the accounts was proposed by David Fitzhugh and seconded by Ralph Edwards.

Passed unanimously by the members.

It was retrospectively agreed that Ernie Garland would inspect and approve the accounts for this year and in future. Proposed by Clive Irons and seconded by Ann Marsden.

Unanimously carried forward.

6. Election of Committee:

In accordance with the constitution, the meeting was required to elect up to ten members to serve on the committee. The following members of the current committee are standing down:- Peter Phillips and Gill Moroney.

The following members on the current committee are willing to continue:- Steve Guratsky, Clive Irons, Jayne Potter.

The following member co-opted on to the current committee is willing to continue as a co-opted member:- Marilyn Nevill

Steve explained how the committee is formed according to the constitution.

We can have a minimum of 5 committee members and a maximum of 10 but can also have two co-opted members. The committee serves for 3 years and up to 6 in total.

Due to Covid, no written applications were received prior to the meeting this year so Steve Guratsky proposed that we had nominations at the meeting. This was seconded by Chrissie Kimber.

Other than the current committee, the following people volunteered:-

Ralph Edwards

Mave Edwards

Roger Clarke

Lindsey McPherson

Sara Laughler

Proposal to accept all volunteers to the committee by David Fitzhugh and seconded by Linda Irving.

This proposal was carried unanimously by the members present.

Steve thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting requesting that the new committee stay on zoom for a short meeting to discuss roles and a date for the next AGM meeting.

Signature.....Date.....