

MINUTES of the Street & Glastonbury u3a AGM held in Glastonbury Town Hall on 28th April 2022 at 10.30 am.

1. Apologies: Linda Wilson, Andrew Woodward, Malcolm Walsh, Jessie Henderson, Phil Bond, Wendy Howiantz, Pat and Steve Cousins, Julie Hillman, Stephanie Lewin.
2. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 27th May 2021 were agreed to be correct. Proposed by Cynthia Rayes and Seconded by Paul Vernoum then signed by Helen Hickman.

3. Chair's Report: -

Welcome everyone to the 2022 Street & Glastonbury u3a AGM.

It's so nice to be able to welcome you all in person, rather than via Zoom as we have done for the last two years. This last year, and indeed the last couple of years, haven't been easy; not just for our u3a but for everyone in general. As we are seeing the end of restrictions enabling us to travel again, I'm sure we are all aware of the need to look out for one another. It's this feeling of camaraderie and concern for others that is the mainstay of the u3a movement. I know that when I step down as Chairman at the end of this meeting the Committee and the new Chairman, whoever that may be, will continue the good work of u3a.

We have recently welcomed Linda Wilson onto the committee, but she had already booked a holiday when she joined the committee, which unfortunately meant she is unable to be here today. However, Cynthia Rayes is stepping down as Groups Coordinator and Linda Wilson has agreed to take on that role. Cynthia Rayes will be staying on the committee and moving from Groups to Venues Coordinator. The other members of the committee remain the same.

All in all, we have a very hard working and energetic committee which will take Street & Glastonbury u3a forward with gusto. I'm sure you'd like to join me in thanking them all for their enthusiasm and commitment to u3a.

4. Financial Report: -

This is the report for the financial year 2020/21. The accounts were published with the March Newsletter and also posted on the website.

Points to note:

- a) This is my first year in this role and like last year, not a normal year.
- b) The classes that continued were held via Zoom as were the Monthly committee meetings.
- c) This year there have been no coffee mornings or visits and because of the Covid situation the decision was made to cancel the Christmas party.

d) We have 3 sources of income: membership Fee £10, Group fees (mostly £6 per term) and Gift Aid.

e) We ran at a loss this year, incurring the cost of the Zoom licence and the drop in attendance.

f) The printing of our own S&G Newsletter and posting it out to members is very expensive, this year costing £787 and I would encourage more to access this via the website.

g) The bank have implemented charges, even for charity accounts like ours, and charge us for every single cheque paid in, so would encourage all of you to pay your membership by bank transfer and your group fees to the group leader, in cash or cheque payable to the group leader (with their agreement).

h) To cover the current situation the committee are going to put forward a membership increase to £12, on which there will be a vote by attendees at the AGM.

Details for online payments can be found on the Membership Form which will be reinstated on the Website following the vote taken under AGM Agenda item 7. We identify as a Business Account for the purposes of online banking.

5. Group Liaison's Report:

After a cautious start to our 2021/22 programme most of our groups carried on but, overall numbers were down. Illness and a general drop in attendance due to nervousness surrounding Covid were cited as reasons.

We have lost a few groups altogether, Racketball, Digital Photography, Singing for Pleasure, Upwords and Rummikub, Painting for Pleasure on Tuesdays and Mah Jong.

We look forward to September, starting our new programme and hope these groups will restart, perhaps with a new Group Leader. Please let us know if you are interested in leading any of these groups or even a new group.

As you know we have supported all groups regardless of numbers if they have wished to carry on.

We have 15 groups in our summer programme.

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members:

Existing Committee members were re-elected as a block vote, the results of all voting is recorded below.

Chair-person: - Sue Thurgood	Proposed by Andy Pickford. Seconded by Cynthia Rayes The vote was unanimous
Secretary: - Martin Kennard	Proposed by Malcolm Allen. Seconded by Elaine Robertson. The vote was unanimous.
Vice Chair: Malcolm Allen	Proposed by Andy Pickford Seconded by Jennifer Zimmer
Treasurer: Gill Donkin	Proposed by Malcolm Allen. Seconded by Elaine Robertson. The vote was unanimous.
Groups Co-ordinator: Linda Wilson	Proposed by Malcolm Allen. Seconded by Elaine Robertson. The vote was unanimous.
Venue Manager: Cynthia Rayes	Proposed by Malcolm Allen. Seconded by Elaine Robertson. The vote was unanimous.
Members' Secretary: Paul Vernoum	Proposed by Malcolm Allen. Seconded by Elaine Robertson. The vote was unanimous.
Newsletter Editor: Andy Pickford	Proposed by Malcolm Allen. Seconded by Elaine Robertson. The vote was unanimous.

Event's Organiser: Position Vacant

Publicity: Position Vacant

7. Changes to the Constitution: -

Helen Hickman read out the proposed change which had been emailed or posted to all members well before the AGM and also posted on the website.

Our membership is below pre-Covid numbers, thus group sizes have also decreased, so reducing our income. We are faced with increases in our Banking costs and dues to the u3a central office. It is clear that we will be faced with increased hall rental costs by the start of the next season. While our reserves are strong, we cannot ignore the pressures from rising costs. The Committee has thought long and hard about this as we have monitored the increases. The current fee of £10 has been unchanged for at least the last 10 years and a

proposed increase of the Membership fee to £12 does not seem out of the question to the Committee. Therefore, I propose **'To increase the membership fee to £12 per annum'**

As we have a quorum at the meeting Helen Hickman called for a vote on the proposal. A heated debate ensued putting forward a number of possible alternatives, all of which had been reviewed in one form or another by the Committee. Sue Thurgood proposed a vote on the motion.

The members attending at the time of the vote was 50. The motion was carried by 45 votes for and 5 against

8. Any Other Business:

Malcolm Allen raised a question as to the adequacy of the investment of the reserves and another member asked if the investments were with sustainable and environmentally friendly organisations. Helen Hickman asked the Secretary to ensure this was covered at the next Committee Meeting.

Cynthia Rayes was presented with a gift in appreciation for her work and efforts as Groups coordinator.

Sue Thurgood proposed a vote of thanks for the outgoing Chair Helen Hickman.

9. Helen Hickman finished by thanking everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 11.17am.