

Battle and District U3A
Proposed Constitution Changes March 4th 2024

Reasons for the changes

1. To clarify the position and election of a President.

The current Constitution states that a President may be elected at the Annual General Meeting if such a post has been agreed at a General Meeting, which it has as we have had a President for many years. However, the President, although included in the maximum number of Committee Members the Constitution allows, is then not allowed to be a committee member and will not have any voting rights. Clauses 6(i) and 8(iv).

The proposed changes allow for a Honorary Life President to be elected by members at an AGM. New Clause 13(vii)

2.To Increase the number of Committee Members and to allow the Chair and Vice-Chair to serve for more than four years.

The current maximum number of Committee Members permitted is 8, 4 officers and 4 members.

It is proposed to increase the number of members to 8 to help cope with the increased workload as our membership approaches 300 and the number of groups and activities increase.

Currently the only Committee Members not allowed to serve as long as they can and are then voted for are the Chair and Vice-Chair. It is proposed to remove this restriction at a time when it is increasingly difficult to persuade ordinary members to serve on the Committee. Clause 7(iii)

Proposed Changes

Current Clauses

6. THE COMMITTEE

6(i) Honorary Officers

At the Annual General Meeting of The U3A the members shall elect from amongst themselves a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary and a treasurer who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting and a President if the creation of such a post has been agreed at a General Meeting

6(ii) The Committee

The Committee shall consist of not less than five and not more than ten members being:

- (a) the honorary officers specified in the preceding sub-clause
- (b) not less than one and not more than four members elected at the Annual General Meeting who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting.

7. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

7(iii) Officers and committee shall serve for a period of one year. Retiring Officers may stand for re-election re-election provided that no-one may hold the office of Chairman or Vice-Chairman for more than four consecutive terms without an intervening period of at least one year except that a retiring Vice-Chairman may stand immediately for the post of Chairman

8. MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

8(iv) A President elected by The U3A shall not be a member of the Committee and shall not have voting rights.

Proposed Clauses

6. THE COMMITTEE

6(i) Honorary Officers

At the Annual General Meeting of The U3A the members shall elect from amongst themselves a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary and a treasurer who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting.

6(ii) The Committee

The Committee shall consist of not less than five and not more than **twelve** ten members being:

- (a) the honorary officers specified in the preceding sub-clause
- (b) not less than one and not more than **eight** members elected at the Annual General Meeting who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting.

7. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

7(iii) Officers and committee members shall serve until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting. Retiring Officers may stand for re-election.

13. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING : New Clause

13(vii) Honorary Life President. If the position becomes vacant a Honorary Life President may be elected at a General Meeting, who shall not be a member of the Committee.