

BENFLEET



## Minutes AGM 2022

27<sup>th</sup> September 2022

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed 85 members, both Full and SIM, to the AGM

The Agenda for this AGM had been circulated ahead of the meeting to all members and copies of the 2021 Minutes and the Accounts for 2021/2022 have been provided at this meeting.

1. **Committee Members Present:**

Marion Coleman, Shirley Wolfe, Rina Monroe, Sandra Bedwell, Ian Phipps, Denise Phipps, Robert Munson, Suzanne Worland.

**Apologies:** Alan Aldridge, Lee King.

2. **Minutes of Benfleet AGM** - held on 29th September 2020 provided.

3. **Matters Arising:**

The Chair asked members whether there were any questions and there were no matters arising.

4. **Acceptance of Minutes:**

Acceptance was proposed by Janet Davis and seconded by Maria Kelly. A vote was taken and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

5. **Chairman's Report:**

As this was not circulated beforehand the report has been included in full:

At the start of September last year, we had our wonderful 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Tea but as we began to move indoors, concerns about Covid were never far from our minds. Some groups were slower than others to get going but gradually throughout the year activities began to return to normal. I would like to thank Suzanne for the fantastic job she has done in revitalising groups and encouraging new ones. One undoubted success, thanks to Bob, has been our SIMs coffee mornings. So much so, that Barry Sealey is now setting up a new one in the High Road for everyone! See Suzanne for details.

Being group contact and leading activities can be such a rewarding experience and is at the very heart of our u3a movement. So, I would also like to thank all our group contacts for everything they do to provide stimulating activities for all of us. (a note here, we also had another excuse for an afternoon tea in May to thank them all for all they do, which sadly Covid prevented me from joining).

In June we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the u3a movement in the UK with a tea party in Richmond Park, another happy occasion, well supported by members and their families. It was lovely to see so many there and we were blessed by fine weather. Hopefully it is something we will be considering as an annual event. (Then if someone would like to consider entertainment that would be much appreciated by all).

More thanks have to go to Ian and Denise for taking on the organisation of day trips. Maria was a hard act to follow but they have exceeded expectations and are now fully booking coaches on the first day of sale! I would particularly like to mention their relaxed and laid-back approach to potential chaos when Benfleet ground to a halt with yet another burst water main. We managed to pick up everyone and still, two hours late, set off for a great day out.

Membership grew throughout the year but as always dropped slightly at renewal time. Many thanks to Bob for all his hard work handling all the membership information. I am pleased to say though, that we have 2 or 3 new members every month, and must thank you all for helping them to feel welcome at meetings, trips, groups coffee mornings etc.

Thanks too must go to Alan for everything he does in producing our great Bulletin and keeping our fabulous website up to date. If you haven't visited it recently, you don't know what you are missing. I must also thank all the committee who give much of their time to keeping everything running smoothly.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our members, longstanding and more recent, for all the support you have given us this year. We are very much a members group and without your involvement we would not exist.

Thank you.

## **6. Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer pointed out that we had deliberately spent some of the funds to reduce the balance held, following advice from National Office. Additional spending this year included the 2021 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Afternoon tea, Zoom speakers, purchase of flag banners and a new Head Mike. Spending will be monitored during 2022/2023.

## **7. Benfleet U3A Accounts 2021/22:**

**7.1** No queries were forthcoming from members.

Proposed by Sheila Sears, Seconded by - Shirley Wolfe.

A vote was taken and the Accounts were accepted unanimously.

**7.2** *Approval for Clouders to be appointed as examiner of the accounts for 2022/23 -*

Proposed by Sheila Sears and seconded by Shirley Wolfe. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously approved.



8. **Election of Committee Members:**

8.1 ***Nominations for the Position of Chair***

No nominations have been received.

The Chair asked if there was a member willing to take on the role of Chair.

No-one came forward. In line with the rules in our Constitution the committee asked the current Chair if she would stay in post for another year. Marion Coleman agreed but stated that she may be away more often and a new Chair must be found for September 2023.

8.2 ***Nominations for Vacant Position on Committee***

A nomination was received for Jim Wolfe.

Proposed by Mavis Regan and Seconded by Peter Smith.

A vote was taken and it was unanimously approved that Jim Wolfe be appointed to the Committee for a term of 4 years.

9. **AOB:**

Pat Cluness asked to say a big thank you to all the Committee for all their hard work.

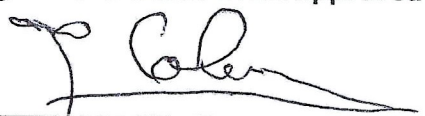
10. ***Questions From Members*** -Pat Cluness asked what would happen if no Chair was found for 2023.

***Answer*** - The Benfleet U3A would have to close.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.25pm

(To be signed and dated when approved by the members at the AGM in September 2023)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



(Chair) Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

26/9/23