

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Coventry Sherbourne u3a
Held on Thursday 4th February 2021 at 2.00pm (via Zoom due to Coronavirus)

Present: Bill Day (Chairman), Maureen Day (Sec), Anne Tithecott, Joy Copeland, Mike Copeland, Ann Karabinas (Treasurer), John Karabinas, Chris Porch, Jenny Smith, Pip Friel, Phil Stebbings, Jill Stebbings, Sue Solomon, Mike Field, Ann Webb, Christine Foxall, Joe Connell, Wendy Scrivener, Janet Lathbury.

Apologies: Tonessa Makepeace, Eric Hodgkins, Marion Hodgkins

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed by the members and signed by the Chairman.

Chair's Report

The Chairman, Bill Day, welcomed the members to the u3a Annual General Meeting.

To summarise the key points:

I never imagined a year ago, that our next AGM would take place under such circumstances. The AGM needed to take place as close as possible to the anniversary of the last AGM, as required by our constitution and to demonstrate good governance of our charity.

In these difficult times of isolation, it has been heartening to hear of the little mutual support networks operating, informally within our u3a. The committee has made communication with our membership its top priority and has continued to meet monthly via Zoom to review the situation. Our monthly newsletter has evolved and expanded into a mini magazine format and I would like to thank Ness Makepeace for doing a wonderful job as editor and to everyone who has sent in content for the newsletter. I would like to also thank those who have contributed to our Facebook page and website, in particular Mike Copeland, Mike Field and John Karabinas. I would also like to thank everyone who has worked to make things happen in our u3a; including committee members, group leaders, and those who help at monthly meetings on refreshments and stalls – your time will come again!

Our restart will be a time to re-energise and make up for what we have been missing so now is the time to think of ideas for new interest groups which you could take the lead in organizing or you could simply try a new activity by joining an established group.

We also need to think about recruiting new members. Coventry Sherbourne has retained the vast majority of its membership despite these trying times, but we do need more members to join us so that we can support a range of interest groups and spread our costs.

Treasurers report not available to view on web site

Voting

Due to the exceptional circumstances, voting was completed prior to the meeting, either digitally through a Google Form, or by post or phone for those members without internet access. 44 members voted digitally, 3 by post and 3 by telephone.

- Chairman's Report – approved unanimously
- Treasurer's Report – approved unanimously
- Audited Accounts – approved unanimously
- Subscriptions paid for 2020 deemed to cover both 2020 and 2021 – approved unanimously
- John Hone to be invited to audit accounts for 2021 – approved

The Chairman put on record his thanks to John Hone for completing this year's financial audit and for indicating his willingness to undertake next year's audit.

Election of Officers and Committee Members

All candidates, having been proposed and seconded prior to the AGM and with only one candidate for each and every vacancy, were duly elected unopposed:

Bill Day was elected as Chairman for a second year and re-elected to the Committee for 3 years; Ann Karabinas was elected as Treasurer for an extra year and re-elected to the Committee for 3 years; Maureen Day was elected as Secretary for a second year and Marion Hodgkins was elected as Vice-Chair for a year and elected to the Committee for 3 years. Anne Tithecott and Mike Copeland were elected to the Committee for 3 years.

AOB

The Committee have agreed that given the unpredictability of the current situation, if we are contacted by new members wishing to join during the year then the subscription fee will be decided at the Committee's discretion. Phil Stebbings wished to offer his thanks to the Committee for the work they had put in during the last year.

The Annual General Meeting Closed at 2.30pm.