

## U3A Cranleigh & District Area

### Minutes of the Nineteenth Annual General Meeting held in Cranleigh Village Hall on Monday 30 October 2017 at 2.00pm

**Present:** Committee – Jane Barker (Chair), Margaret Anderson, Keith Atkins, Maggie Atkins, Hilary Ball, Brian Birchall, Martin Hayton, Jennifer Marty. Members – approximately 60 members were present in addition.

**Apologies for Absence:** Committee: Nigel Sloman. Members: Richard Bennett, Derek Bonham, Janet Buck, Edwina Burton, Peter and Sylvia Dulley, Christine Gimber, Marion Glasper, Alan Goldsmith, Angus and Jennie Henderson, Tony Hodge, Diana Martin, Barry and Sandy Mursell, Barbara Piper, Pauline Thakore, Aileen Weale.

#### 1. Minutes of AGM held on 31 October 2016:

The minutes were approved and accepted (Proposer Jean Bonham, Seconder Sue Fleeson).

#### 2. Chairman's Report for the year to 31 August 2017:

Chairman Jane Barker welcomed all present to the AGM and then introduced her fellow Committee members.

She reported that the year had been a successful one with 951 members registered. Following their election at the AGM last year Martin Hayton and Maggie Atkins had quickly settled into their roles as Treasurer and Outings Group Leader respectively.

Despite initial difficulties with our bank, Martin Hayton had streamlined the payments system with most suppliers now being paid by bank draft, which saved on both time and postage. Since this time last year the Outings Group had recruited several new outings organisers which had resulted in 13 interesting visits.

In January 2017 Christine Gimber who had edited our newsletter for 7 years had decided it was time to “pass on the baton”. She was thanked for always producing an interesting newsletter and for her thoughtful contributions to Committee meetings. Fortunately Hilary Ball had volunteered to become the new Editor, and to date had produced two excellent Newsletters.

Due to lack of support the Committee had decided last year not to continue with regular Speaker Meetings, but would consider holding one-off events if a suitable speaker or topic arose. In June, Gary Jordan, an excellent guitarist and guitar teacher, was invited after recommendation to give a presentation and over 60 members were present at an enjoyable and informative afternoon. Members were urged to contact any member of the Committee if they had any suggestions for future talks or performances.

Several Group Leaders had decided, some after many years of leading a group, to retire at the end of last year. In most cases a new Group Leader was found within the group. However new leaders were not found for two of the groups – *the Garden Club* and *Opera*, both of which had existed since the formation of Cranleigh & District U3A in 1998. It was to be hoped that in the near future a new *Garden Club* could be started up again.

There were currently 918 members enrolled, 89 of whom were new members, and 54 groups were offered. A new venue had been added – The Rowley Centre, and meetings were now held in nine venues in and around Cranleigh.

Open Day had been a success again, and gratitude was expressed to Group Leaders for manning their stalls. Thanks were given to all Group Leaders, those continuing and those retired, to all helpers who assist Group Leaders, the volunteers who help with delivering and “stuffing” envelopes and the ladies who make tea on Open Day and this afternoon.

Also singled out for thanks were Roy Glasper who audits the accounts, Chris Barker who produces the Handbook and maintains the website and Richard Chaundy who provides his technical expertise throughout the year.

### **3. Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 August 2017:**

*(A copy of the accounts had been circulated to members by email the previous week and further copies were available at the AGM, as well as a copy of the Outings Group accounts.)*

Treasurer Martin Hayton presented the annual Statement of Accounts, pointing out that Income from Subscriptions was down as expected because of a 10% drop in the cost of subscription, and also there was a 1% drop in the number of members and a subsequent drop in Gift Aid. The Income from Activities was down mainly because the *Garden Club* had one less outing. Total income was therefore down by approximately 12%.

There was a reduction in Expenses because there had been one less outing, and a big increase in Administration Costs mainly because there had been a change in the way the sending out of the Handbook was accounted this year and this would be a “one-off”.

Overall there was a net surplus of £236, and it was expected to make a small loss in the coming years in order to reduce Reserves from the previous year’s 11 months down to 6 months’ expenditure, as recommended by the Charity Commission. Total Reserves at the end of August stood at £27,787.

The Treasurer ended his report by thanking his predecessor Jane Barker for the excellent handover and Roy Glasper who audited his accounts with such care.

The accounts were accepted by all present (proposed by Sue Kariuki and seconded by Gail Delamare).

### **4. Election of Members of the Management Committee for the coming year:**

Eight members of the existing Management Committee were willing to stand for re-election:

Margaret Anderson (Group Leader Co-ordinator & Publicity); Keith Atkins (Membership Secretary); Maggie Atkins (Outings); Jane Barker (Chairman); Brian Birchall (Open Day signage); Martin Hayton (Treasurer); Jennifer Marty (Secretary) and Nigel Sloman (Outings Group Accounts).

They were proposed by Roy Glasper and seconded by Diana Littlewood and re-elected unanimously.

In addition Hilary Ball who had been co-opted onto the Committee was elected as Newsletter Editor (proposed by Margaret Franklin and seconded by Jean Bonham).

### **5. Any Other Business:**

It was announced that some U3A diaries were available for sale.

Roy Glasper thanked the Committee for all their efforts, and all present applauded in support.

The meeting was followed by a most informative and interesting presentation by volunteer Charlotte Abraham of the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance, after which members stayed on for tea and biscuits.

Jennifer Marty

Hon. Secretary

30 October 2017