



## Minutes for the Annual General Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Present:** Jim McGough (Chair), Margaret Lloyd (Secretary), Graham Friday (Treasurer), Peter Beckley (Groups Coordinator), Sue Parker (Communications Coordinator), Jacqui Mercer (Members Coordinator), Janet Newson (Access Coordinator) and 87 other members.

**Apologies:** Twelve members sent their apologies in advance by e-mail

### 1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that it was quorate. He introduced the committee members and reminded members of the procedures to be adopted, in particular the requirement for all speakers to wait for the microphone to reach them before speaking.

### 2. Tributes

A minutes' silence was requested to remember all those past members who have died over the past year and especially Mary Russell, who died in April aged 97. Thanks were given to Mary Mayne who has retired as a member after many years.

### 3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2021/22 AGM held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

These were agreed unanimously as an accurate record

Proposed by [Peter Beckley](#)

Seconded by [Gill Cooban](#)

### 4. To receive and approve the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

Margaret Lloyd, Secretary, introduced the Annual Report, which also included the Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

Jim McGough, Chair, gave a synopsis of his report, a longer version of which can be found in section 3 of the Annual Report. He thanked all committee members for their work over the past year and the commitments of the Non-Officer Trustees, Group Leaders and other members who have taken up roles that assist the running of Crawley u3a throughout the year. As a result of the efforts put in over this last year by the Access Coordinator this role will now cease as a Committee Role.

Graham Friday, Treasurer, spoke briefly about the accounts for 2022/23. He stated how important it was that the costs were matched by revenue and that overall this was the case for the 2022/23 years' accounts. The model of individual room-based groups covering the room hire with a small excess to cover other costs, and non-room-based groups covering their expenditure, is essential. The External Examiner has been changed to Tony Neil, who is a new u3a member.

Max Woodward commented that the amount of group subscriptions was dependent on group numbers and that groups with only a smaller number may struggle to be self-financing if they only charge the recommended £2.00.

Jean Elmer asked whether the large amount that was donated to help groups financially could be used to subsidise loss-making groups

Gill Hathaway commented that additional money could support groups that did not use rooms.

Alan Quirke proposed that for now we continue with the current method for agreeing group subscriptions and that we include an item on the agenda for the AGM in 2024 to review whether or not we should return to agreeing them at the Annual Fees meeting. This was carried unanimously.

Maureen Wicks commented that all groups should remain viable

## 5. Questions from the floor

There were no additional comments/questions from the floor.

## 6. To vote on the resolution to amend clause 10(1) of the Constitution so that only membership fees (and not group fees) are covered by the recently instituted annual fee setting meeting in June/July.

Proposed by [Jim McGough](#)

Seconded by?

This was agreed by a majority vote. The wording of clause 10.1 now becomes:

***“The membership fees proposed by the Committee for the forthcoming membership year must be approved by a majority vote of the Crawley u3a members attending a meeting to be held at least one month before the start of the membership year to which the proposals relate”.***

## 7. Election of Officer Trustees

Position	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded	Outcome
Chair	Jim McGough	<a href="#">Dave Hathaway</a>	<a href="#">Isabel Chatterjee</a>	Elected unanimously
Vice Chair	Alan Rew	<a href="#">Colin Tennant</a>		Elected unanimously
Secretary	Margaret Lloyd	<a href="#">Ana Achucarro</a>	<a href="#">Karen Darling</a>	Elected unanimously
Treasurer	Graham Friday	<a href="#">Julie Neale</a>	<a href="#">Maureen Wicks</a>	Elected unanimously

**8. Election of other Trustees**

Position	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded	Outcome
Communications Coordinator	Sue Parker	Wendy Adams	Maureen Bufton	Elected unanimously
Members Coordinator	Jacqueline Mercer	Ann Sole	Stewart Sole	Elected unanimously
Groups Coordinator	Janet Newson	Vera Green	Alison Peters	Elected unanimously

No nominations had been received for the posts of Events Coordinator, Systems Coordinator or Migration Webmaster.

**9. Need for more volunteers**

The Chair explained that there was an urgent need for volunteers to fill the vacant positions, as the breadth of activity, together with the number of venues, are making running the Crawley u3a extremely difficult for the trustees who are having to cover parts of the vacant roles in addition their own. Please consider whether you are able to fill any one of these vacant roles.

**10. Presentations to volunteers standing down**

Presentations were made to Peter Beckley who has been a trustee for 3 years. Thanks were also made to Brenda Ashington for her contribution as Welfare Support.

**11. Presentations of Smart Phone Photographic prizes**

1<sup>st</sup> Reflections by Gill Penny

2<sup>nd</sup> Fruit by Carol Frisby

Joint 3<sup>rd</sup> Autumn by Isabel Baker

Joint 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas by Cherie

**12. AOB by permission of the Chairman**

No other business was raised

Christine Willows, Minute Secretary, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023