**Downham Market & District u3a Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**on 11 April 2022 at 2pm**

1. **Welcome by Chairman:** JC welcomed the assembled membership to the AGM and our return to Downham Market Town Hall. He thanked the retiring mebers of the committee: Ruth Mountain for managing our funds; Steve Nunn for his role in maintaining our website; Caroline Hansford for managing agendas and minutes. He reiterated that membership cards will only be issued to those members specifically asking for one, to save work, costs and organisation. Additionally, members were reminded of the need to return membership forms even if paying by bank transfer, in order to maintain accurate records.
2. **Apologies** were received from LL, FB, Mary Painter (currently unwell) and various members.
3. **Minutes of previous AGM** were agreed, after a minor alteration, and signed.
4. **Matters arising:**
5. **Social Prescriber:**Tara Branston spoke of the need to keep people connected to the community, especially during the pandemic, determining *what matters to you.* Social prescribing relies on community support from groups such as the u3a and has been found to result in fewer visits to GP surgeries and A&E. Sarah O’Donnell, the Social Prescriber for Downham Market, will possibly be setting up an office in the town library; JC to be informed when this is up and running. People seeking this service can also make contact through their GP surgery, asking the receptionist to pass on a message to our Social Prescriber who will then, with permission from the enquirer, make contact with the relevant organisation(s). JC urged the members to spread the word.
6. **Chairman’s Report:** the way in which groups had been able to (re)start / continue / develop, the continued production of the bulletin, the management of finances, the website, speakers. Meet and Greet, thoughout the pandemic was thanks to the commitment of group leaders, committee members and the wonders of Zoom. Despite not being able to use the Town Hall, a successful Refreshers’ Fair had been held in Discover Downham. Our Christmas meeting in Denver Village Hall was welcomed and very successful but the Town Hall’s caretaking had been sadly missed. Our u3a is financially sound, so there has been no need to increase subscriptions. Group activities are thriving but there is a serious deficit of committee members which does threaten future activities as well as overloading the present members.

The acceptance of the Chairman’s report was proposed by Roger Gee, seconded by Barbara Foster, passd by a show of hands.

1. **Adoption of the Treasurer’s Report:** RM asked for questions, of which there were none. She asked that Maureen Hibling be asked to audit our accounts again. This was proposed by Tim Stamp and seconded by Janet Burbeck, passed by a show of hands.
2. **Announcements of nominations:** Christine Dawson was introduced to the membership. Barbara Foster proposed that Christine should become Treasurer, seconded by Marion Stamp and passed with a show of hands. There have been no nominations for the role of Minuting and Agenda Secretary or other committee posts. Our u3a committee is therefore now down to 7 members.
3. **AOB -**
4. **Next meeting** to be held in Downham Market Town Hall, all being well.
5. **Meeting ended 2.45pm.**

Signed: …………………………………………… John Cowin

Date: …………………………...