

Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting of Dulwich and District u3a (as approved at the 2024 AGM held on 21 May 2024)

Tuesday 16th May 2023 at 2.15 pm at the Herne Hill Baptist Church, Half Moon Lane, SE24 9HU

The meeting was attended by 120 members, including the following trustees: David Beamish (Chair), Richard Elliott (Secretary), Ruth Colvin (Treasurer), Julia Bairstow, Keith Ball, Karen Chessell, Jane Coupe, Christine Hensby, Caroline Knapp, Helen Robertson.

1.W Welcome and apologies for absence

David Beamish welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Dave Bell, Anna Collins, Gerard Dickinson, Janet Gates, John Grimwood, Tim Pagan, Anne Sharpley, Margaret Sheenan, Kay Smith and Ruth Watson.

2.A Approval of minutes of last AGM held on 26th May 2022

The 2022 minutes were approved and accepted unanimously.

3.T Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31st March 2023, presented by the Chair

David Beamish presented the Annual Report, which had been made available to members in advance, and reported that Dulwich and District u3a has survived the pandemic very successfully and continues to be a thriving organisation, with 719 members at the end of March 2023 and some 90 interest groups.

4.A Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2023/24 accounts

Nicholas Merriman, our Independent Examiner for the 2022/23 accounts, had resigned due to ill-health. Ruth Colvin told the meeting that no one had yet been found to succeed him. The Chair asked the meeting to allow the Trustees to appoint a new Independent Examiner in due course. This was proposed by Mike Colvin and seconded by Dilys Gane and agreed unanimously.

5.T Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Annual Accounts

Ruth Colvin presented her report and the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023, which had been made available to members in advance.

A question was raised as to why the accounts did not show any income from Gift Aid on members' subscriptions. The Treasurer explained that we had to re-register for

Gift Aid and were waiting for confirmation from HMRC, following which a claim would be made. They were adopted unanimously – proposed by Caroline Knapp, seconded by Margaret Ham.

6. Election of Officers and Trustees

The following nominations had been received:

Chair: Tim Pagan, proposed by George Crosbie, seconded by Maggie Smith

Secretary: Christine Hensby, proposed by Maggie Smith, seconded by Charlotte Grinling

Treasurer: Ruth Colvin, proposed by Rona Harris, seconded by Elizabeth Wakely

Trustee for re-election: Anne Sharpley, proposed by Katy Shaw, seconded by Lynn Whyte

New trustee: Alistair Dey, proposed by Anjali Biswas, seconded by Joy Harris

New trustee: Neil Abrahams, proposed by Pam Cohen, seconded by Maggie Smith

An additional nomination was made at the meeting: Sheila Northover, proposed by Maggie Smith and seconded by Yvonne Levy.

In response to a query from Liz Day about the nominee for Chair, Tim Pagan, who was not able to attend the meeting, David Beamish and Maggie Smith spoke in support of his nomination. Richard Elliott commented that it was usual for biographies of new officers and trustees to be published in the monthly newsletter.

It was proposed by Rona Black and seconded by Sara Jane Spratt that all the nominees for officers and trustees be accepted. This was unanimously agreed and all nominees were duly elected.

It was noted that Julia Bairstow, Keith Ball, Karen Chessell, Jane Coupe, Caroline Knapp and Helen Robertson would be continuing as trustees.

There were still two vacancies, as the maximum number of trustees permitted was 15. The trustees have the power to co-opt to fill vacancies.

7. Any other business

Richard Elliott said that there were additional copies of the latest Directory of Interest Groups available. David Beamish reminded members that the Directory is for members only as it contains personal contact details of convenors.

David Beamish drew members' attention to the various Interest Group stalls around the room and mentioned that there would be some presentations from Interest Groups before tea and biscuits were served.

The AGM was followed by presentations about the Sub-Committee on Inclusivity and Diversity and the new Diversity and Inclusion Visits, Walks and Talks Group; a proposed new Wine Group; the Maths for Fun Group; and performances from the Singing Group and a Ukulele Group.