

# **Draft minutes of 2021 Annual General Meeting of Dulwich and District U3A (for approval at 2022 AGM)**

**Tuesday 18 May 2021 at 2pm using Zoom video conferencing**

**1. Apologies:** Ann & Doug Smith, Helen Robertson, Keith Ball, Olive Allu, Niesje de Boer.

**2. Online Registration.** 80 members of Dulwich & District u3a registered including the following trustees for 2020/21: Angela Brown (chair). Neil Abrahams (Zoom host), David Beamish, Rona Black, Susan Elias, Richard Elliott, Helen Graham (minutes), Joy Harris, Sarah Howell-Davies, Verity Mosenthal (treasurer), Anne Sharpley.

**3. Approval of minutes of last AGM held on 3rd August 2020.**

The following corrections to the draft minutes as originally circulated were reported:

Item 4. Treasurer's Report. Replace "2020/21" by "2019/20"; "chartered accountant" by "independent examiner".

Item 7. Appreciations. Verity thanked Liz Day. David Beamish thanked Roman Bednarz in item 7c.

With these corrections the 2020 minutes were approved and accepted: proposed by Sandra Tait, seconded by Pat Verity.

**4. Trustees' Annual Report presented by the Chair.**

Angela Brown reported that subscriptions were suspended from April 2020 to March 2021.

During the lockdown, 76 of 99 groups continued on Zoom or other electronic means, and a few new groups started up. The number of open meetings doubled in some months and some talks were recorded and subtitles added. On Zoom the turnout increased. The Dulwich & District u3a website and the Newsletter were updated and upgraded with a new Trust style. Some Group Convenors are now accessing their own web pages for updating. Dulwich & District u3a joined Beacon which helped to ease the workload of the Membership Secretary and Treasurer. The Diversity and Inclusivity group was formed and their recommendations were acted on.

Angela Brown thanked the committee members who were standing down: Susan Elias (6 years), Verity Mosenthal (3 years as Treasurer), Joy Harris (3 years as Membership Secretary), Rona Black (1 year), Sarah Howell-Davies (1 year) who had moved out of London.

**5. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2020/21 and 2021/22 accounts**

Nick Merriman agreed to act as independent examiner for both the 2020/21 and 2021/22 accounting years. He is a retired barrister and QC and a Trustee of several local charities. The appointment was unanimously approved: proposed by Verity Mosenthal, seconded by Anne Sharpley.

**6. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Annual Accounts**

Verity Mosenthal presented the accounts for year ending 31 March 2021 and compared these with accounts for 2019/20. Total receipts for 2020/21 were £2,673.94 and for 2019/20 £18,445.96. There were no receipts for subscriptions in the current year because subscriptions were suspended for 2020/21. Income from Gift Aid this year was £2,594 based on subscriptions paid for 2019/20.

Interest Groups were encouraged to apply for funds to enhance their offering and one quarter did so. However, due to lockdown group activities ceased so many had yet to spend the money.

Regarding expenses, there were no room hire fees but these were replaced by Zoom subscriptions to allow on-line meetings at a cost of £716.18. Increased overheads included copyright license fees and the licence fee for the Beacon system. An update was given on membership subscriptions for 2021/22: so far over 500 members have renewed.

The accounts were adopted: proposed by Jenny Thomas, seconded by Carrie Andrews.

## **7. Election of Officers and new Trustees for 2021/22**

The following nominations were received:

**Chair:** Angela Brown, proposed by Mary Fyfe, seconded by Caroline Goffe

**Secretary:** Richard Elliot, proposed by Margo Sheridan, seconded by Roman Bednarz

**Treasurer:** Ruth Colvin, proposed by Caroline Knapp, seconded by Mike Colvin.

### **New Trustees:**

Keith Ball, proposed by Roman Bednarz, seconded by Mary Fyfe

Jane Coupe, proposed by Susan Milton, seconded by Martin Sheeter

Caroline Knapp, proposed by Ruth Colvin, seconded by Mike Colvin

Helen Robertson, proposed by Bernard Victor, seconded by Veronica Knight

Maggie Smith, proposed by Carol Abrahams, seconded by Jon Hunter

These were unanimously accepted.

**Continuing Trustees:** Neil Abrahams, David Beamish, Pam Cohen, Di Deudney, Helen Graham, Anne Sharpley, Sandra Tait. The number of trustees for 2021/22 is 15, the maximum allowed.

## **8. Resolution for amendments to the Constitution**

Anne Sharpley summarised the proposed constitution changes, which have already been approved by the Third Age Trust. These reflect fully how Dulwich & District u3a is run and cover on-line meetings. The full text of the proposed changes amendments and the reasons for making them have been available to members on the Dulwich & District u3a website. There were no questions. The constitution changes were unanimously accepted: proposed by Anne Sharpley, seconded by David Beamish.

**9. Thanks.** Angela Brown thanked all who worked on the Trustee Executive Committee in 2020/21, with a special tribute to Neil Abrahams for facilitating the speakers and Zoom meetings.

The meeting closed at 2.40pm.

The AGM was followed by a Quiz, chaired by Sue Elias