

**MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 2018**

**CITY of EDINBURGH METHODIST CHURCH, NICOLSON SQUARE, EDINBURGH**

**WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018 at 3.30 pm**

Committee Present: Bruce Cowan (Chair), Ann Keating, Andrew Robertson, Doreen Barr, Sheila Harvey, Karyn Costa, Jane Garrett (minutes)

251 members in total were present.

A notification was sent a month ago to all Edinburgh U3A members informing them of the proposed motion to amend the constitution (see page 2). A two-thirds majority was required to pass the motion.

The Chair outlined the reasons for the motion, the advice from the Third Age Trust, and explained that failure to pass it might result in accounting and insurance difficulties.

Members were asked for comments. One person objected to the use of the term “education” rather than “learning”.

A show of hands was asked for. Of 251 members present, 250 voted in favour of the motion to revise the constitution with 1 member abstaining. The motion was declared carried.

The meeting closed at 3.45.

Bruce Cowan

Chair, Edinburgh U3A

SCOTTISH CHARITY NO. SC020301

## NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 2018

CITY of EDINBURGH METHODIST CHURCH, NICOLSON SQUARE, EDINBURGH

WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018 at 3.30 pm (preceded by Speaker at 2.30 pm)

### AGENDA

#### **Motion – Change to Constitution (see below)**

At the AGM in June the motion to change the Charitable Purpose clause in our constitution was rejected as it was felt that the proposed clause was poorly worded and unclear. We have since contacted the Third Age Trust and asked them whether we could use what we thought was a clearer version, and here is the reply from the Chief Executive:

*The object clause has been agreed with the charity commissions in the devolved nations and with 744 U3As who wish to change. Unfortunately, we cannot agree a separate version for one U3A. You are however welcome to keep your existing object clause, as long as you are sure that all of your activities fit within its description for legal and insurance purposes.*

We do need to change as our clause only refers to 'education', and so is in danger of not including walking, tennis, lunches, etc. This might mean that those activities are not regarded as charitable by the charity regulator and so would require separate accounting, etc. It would also endanger our insurance arrangements.

The Edinburgh U3A Committee therefore propose that the best option is to simply agree to the TAT-recommended version. We do think that it could be clearer, but meets the requirements and in any case is seldom referred to.

#### **Motion**

The motion is to change the current paragraph in our constitution

**from:**

#### **CHARITABLE PURPOSE**

The charitable purposes of Edinburgh U3A are:

to advance education and in particular the education of older people and those who are no longer in full time gainful employment residing in Edinburgh and its surrounding locality.

**to:**

#### **CHARITABLE PURPOSE**

The charitable purposes of Edinburgh U3A are:

the advancement of education and, in particular, the education of older people and those who are retired from full time work by all means, including associated activities and personal development.

**This motion requires a two-thirds majority of those present at the EGM.**