

ELMSBRIDGE

Registered Charity No. 1071550

20th Annual General Meeting

1.30pm Wednesday, 4 April 2018

Claygate Village Hall, Claygate



After the AGM Keith Smith will talk on

The Air Ambulance Service

TWENTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELMBRIDGE U3A, WEDNESDAY APRIL 4 2018

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth Annual General Meeting of Elmbridge U3A held on 5 April 2017(see Appendix)
3. Matters arising
4. Chair's Address and Adoption of the Annual Report of the Committee for the year ended 31 December 2017
5. Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Resolution 1.

The existing paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 will be deleted and replaced with the objective:

“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 conducive to learning and personal development.”

Resolution 2.

In clause 6.3: ***the words “13 weeks” will be deleted and replaced with “15 weeks”.***

6. Adoption of the examined accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017 (see pages 8 and 9)
7. Membership Fees for 2019
8. Election of the Committee:

The members of the Committee who offer themselves for election are:

Jenny Ayles	Ursula Kent
Andrew Craig	Meg James
Alison Florence	Janet Larcher
Roy Henderson	Tony Wharton
Fred Smith	David Rodway

9. Appointment of the Independent Examiner
10. Any other business

The Elmbridge University of the Third Age

Known as **ELMBRIDGE U3A**

Registered Charity no. **1071550**

Trustees report for the year to 31 December 2017

Legal and Administrative Information

The present Trustees and their Offices, (the committee), who served throughout 2017, unless otherwise shown are as follows:

Trustee Name	Office
Dr Janet Larcher	Vice Chairman and Acting Chairman
Mrs. Meg James	Secretary
Mr. Andrew Craig	Treasurer
Mr. Tony Wharton	Membership Secretary
Mrs. Ursula Kent	Group Co-ordinator
Mr. Roy Henderson	Editor
Mrs. Jenny Aylen	Social Secretary
Mrs. Alison Florence	Publicity Secretary
The following resigned during the year	
Mr. Philip Johnson	Chairman 11 July 2017
Mrs Anne Brown	Secretary 5 April 2017

The registered address is:

The Sanctuary, 21 Matham Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0SX

Agents and Advisers:

Bankers: National Westminster Bank plc. 60 High Street, Esher, KT10 9TX
COIF, Charity Funds, 80 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DZ

Independent

Examiner: Adrian Searle FCA ACMA CGMA

Chartered Accountant

122 Thorkhill Road

Thames Ditton

Surrey KT7 0UW

Structure and Governance

The governing document is a Constitution dated 26 March 1998, and as amended 21 March 2003 and 2 April 2014.

Background to Resolutions 1 and 2

Resolution1.

As a result of information from the Third Age Trust regarding their discussions with the Charity Commission, we are proposing changes to our constitution to bring this into line with the updated recommendations of the Third Age Trust. The proposal is to delete the existing object clause 2.1 of the Constitution of Elmbridge U3A which states:

2.1.1 To advance the education of the public and in particular the education of middle age and older people who are not in full time gainful employment in the Borough of Elmbridge and its surrounding locality

2.1.2 The provision of facilities for leisure time and recreational activities of persons mentioned in 2.1.1 above in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving their condition of life.

This will be replaced by Clause 2 which states

“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 conducive to learning and personal development.”

NB. This will not change the nature and activities of Elmbridge U3A

A further change to the constitution is required. Clause 6.3 of the Constitution of Elmbridge U3A states that

“the financial year of the U3A shall end on 31 December in each year, and not more than 13 weeks later the Annual General Meeting shall be convened for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report and examined accounts.

It has been the practice for many years to hold the AGM on the first Wednesday of April, prior to the monthly meeting, However, that is more than 13 weeks after 31 December, so in the absence of this change we will continue to be in breach of that clause.

Resolution2.

The following amendment to clause 6.3 is proposed: to delete the words “13 weeks” from this clause and to replace them with “15 weeks”.

Management

Your committee continue to work towards meeting the aim of providing educational and leisure activities for all retired people in Elmbridge who wish to participate via monthly meetings, an ever increasing range of regular group meetings, coffee mornings, outings, reports on regional and national activities all notified and reported on via bi-monthly email bulletins and regular newsletters.

Regular calls go out for new group leaders and committee members and where an unfilled gap is identified individuals (particularly new members) are approached and asked to undertake the role.

Objectives, Activities and Performance

Members of the committee have been working hard, throughout the year, to maintain those aspects of the organisation that we think are working well, making administrative changes, preparing for changes in legislation and seeking to improve on any issues causing concern.

Membership

At 31 December 2017 our membership was 1362 (2016: 1336)

We have been concerned that we lose about 10% of our membership each year. We conducted a telephone survey of people who did not renew their membership, which suggested that non-renewal was largely due to change in circumstances – illness, house moves, over-commitment – however we were still concerned by the number of people who joined mid-year and who did not renew. We therefore co-opted a relatively new member, Lesley Johnson, to focus on the needs of new members. She has instigated regular new-members' coffee mornings, a greet team at monthly meetings, and a specific area at monthly meetings where new members can sit and chat to others who will be new to the organisation. While we have not, as yet, noticed a change to numbers not renewing their membership, we have received very positive feedback about these additional activities and have been described as a very friendly organisation.

Meetings

We continue to hold successful monthly meetings, with an outside speaker, which cover a wide variety of subjects. Following the closure of Hersham Village Hall in June 2017, after much searching for an alternative venue, we are now using Claygate Village Hall.

Aware that members have few opportunities to meet each other, other than at their specific group meetings, we have instigated what is planned as a series of coffee mornings at various locations within our area which will be open to all members. The first one was praised and requests to include other activities alongside such as a book exchange were received and will be acted on. A quiz afternoon is also being planned as another opportunity for members to meet each other.

Communications

While members are adamant that they want to retain their hard copy newsletter we were aware that up-to-date information for members was difficult to disseminate. We therefore encouraged the use of the email bulletin which now appears bi-monthly and more frequently when needed.

Groups and other activities

At 31 December 2017 we had 116 groups (2016: 118). The committee continues to work hard to promote group activities and encourage the setting up of new groups. We ran a successful programme of day trips and Theatre trips during 2017. Several of our members have attended the U3A Surrey network study days and other U3A events including summer Schools.

Administration

After careful research and discussion, we have adopted the database package developed, maintained and updated for the Third Age Trust (known as Beacon) and have very successfully completed our first annual renewal process via this system. We will now begin to investigate and incorporate other capabilities of Beacon to improve our services to members such as booking directly onto "Jenny's Jaunts."

Legislative Developments

New Data Protection legislation, together with the change to Beacon, has resulted in a review of our data protection & privacy policies and we are in the process of ensuring that we will be compliant when the new legislation comes into force. These policies will be available on our website.

Our Members

We are a voluntary organisation relying on unpaid help. So it must be said that without the hard work and dedication of each member of the committee, as well as many members of the organisation who have worked on making Beacon a success, put out chairs for meetings, made tea & coffee, cared for our AV system, run groups, conducted outings, etc, etc we would not be the successful welcoming organisation that we are with 1300+ members and 110+ groups. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to our successful organisation.

Groups and Group Leaders as at 31 December 2017

Total number of groups: 116 (2 less than 2016), 6 of which are associated groups* and 10 of which have waiting lists.

Group closures: 10

New groups formed: 8

Number of Group Leaders: 95 of which 13 are leading more than one group and 9 groups have 2 leaders.

The Groups are co-ordinated by a **Group Coordination Team of 4:**

Principal group co-ordinator Ursula Kent, assisted by Laila Eletre and David Rodway who on 31.12.16 looked after 40, 38 and 38 groups, respectively, David Rodway is also responsible for registers and records; Robyn Daley and Christine Purdy are responsible for new groups.

Groups by subjects

Arts and Crafts, Music Art Appreciation (2 groups) Flower Painting, Watercolour Painting from Scratch, Watercolourists, plus 1 associated art group, Photography (2 groups), Cinema Appreciation, Friday Film Club, Needlecraft, Patchwork and Quilting (2 groups) Choir, Jazz (2 groups), Music Appreciation, Opera Enjoyment, plus associated drawing and painting group.	19
Reading, Writing and Talking Book Reading (4 groups), Play Reading, Poetry Reading Writing your Life Story, Discussion (2 groups)	9
Foreign Languages: French (7 groups), German (8 groups), Greek Modern, Italian (2 groups), Latin (2 groups), Russian, Spanish	22
General Knowledge, Mathematics and Science Aviation, Biography of Famous People, Current Affair (2 groups), Exploring Modern Spirituality, Geopolitics (2), Genealogy, Greek Mythology, History (3 Groups), Military History, Philosophy (2 groups), Looking at Weather, Exploring Maths, Science and Society,	18
Special Interests Gardening, Plant Exchange, Travel Experience, Wine Appreciation	4
Card and Board Games, other Games: Backgammon, Bridge (11 groups), Card Club, Chess, Mah-Jongg, Scrabble, Quiz (2 groups)	18
Physical Activities: Badminton, Circle Dancing, Croquet (2 groups), Pétanque (Boules) (2 groups), Table Tennis (4 groups), Tai Chi, Yoga plus 5 associated groups, 4 of Bowls and 1 of Pilates*	17
Outings, Walks and Social Activities Theatre Outings Country Walks, Explorers, Rambling, Social Walking, Café Society, 3 Lunch Clubs,	9
Total:	116

ELMBRIDGE U3A

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2017

		2017			2016		
		General	Group activities	Total	General	Group activities	Total
RECEIPTS							
	Note						
Membership receipts during the year	2	14,185	-	14,185	15,407	-	15,407
Gift Aid Tax refund	3	2,897	-	2,897	3,065	-	3,065
Other income		29	-	29	-	-	-
Receipts for trips received in year	4	-	27,851	27,851	-	16,807	16,807
Miscellaneous							
Deposit account interest		25	-	25	45	-	45
Monthly meetings income	5	2,062	-	2,062	1,980	-	1,980
Sale of U3A Merchandise		136	-	136	154	-	154
		2,223	-	2,223	2,179	-	2,179
Total Receipts		19,334	27,851	47,185	20,651	16,807	37,458
PAYMENTS							
Third Age Trust affiliation fee		(4,676)	-	(4,676)	(4,631)	-	(4,631)
Third Age Matters		(2,213)	-	(2,213)	(2,130)	-	(2,130)
Quarterly News letter	6,9	(6,889)	-	(6,889)	(6,761)	-	(6,761)
Elmbridge U3A activities	7	(5,828)	-	(5,828)	(5,157)	-	(5,157)
Group Leaders events		(1,903)	-	(1,903)	(1,795)	-	(1,795)
Monthly meetings, Speakers and room l	5	(2,108)	-	(2,108)	(2,496)	-	(2,496)
Publicity & Advertising		(431)	-	(431)	(722)	-	(722)
Payments for tickets and services ref trips		-	(26,612)	(26,612)	-	(16,917)	(16,917)
New members meetings		(329)	-	(329)	(189)	-	(189)
		(4,771)	(26,612)	(31,383)	(5,202)	(16,917)	(22,119)
Administration							
General administration expenses		(770)	-	(770)	(950)	-	(950)
IT related costs	8	(302)	-	(302)	-	-	-
Paypal fees		(127)	-	(127)	(75)	-	(75)
		(1,199)	-	(1,199)	(1,025)	-	(1,025)
Purchase of goods for resale		(100)	-	(100)	(187)	-	(187)
Total Payments		(18,787)	(26,612)	(45,399)	(18,332)	(16,917)	(35,249)
Excess of Receipts over Payments/ (Excess of Payments over receipts)		547	1,239	1,786	2,319	(110)	2,209

The notes attached form an integral part of these accounts

ELMBRIDGE U3A

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2017

At 31 December 2017

At 31 December 2016

General Funds

Balance brought forward at 1 January 2017
Excess of receipts over payments in the year
Change in advanced membership

General funds	Advance membership	Group activities	Total
(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
21,067	10,936	4,799	36,802
547	-	1,239	1,786
(514)	514	-	-
21,100	11,450	6,038	38,588

General funds	Advance membership	Group activities	Total
(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
16,246	13,438	4,909	34,593
2,319	-	(110)	2,209
2,502	(2,502)	-	-
21,067	10,936	4,799	36,802

At 31 December 2017

Represented by Bank Balances

Bank deposit account
Bank current account
Bank No 2 current account
Cash in hand

10,613	-	-	10,613
10,487	11,450	-	21,937
-	-	6,038	6,038
21,100	11,450	6,038	38,588

10,589	-	-	10,589
10,476	10,936	-	21,412
-	-	4,799	4,799
2	-	-	2
21,067	10,936	4,799	36,802

TOTAL ASSETS

Signed by one trustee on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Andrew Craig

Date of approval

ELMBRIDGE U3A

Notes to RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS year to 31 December 2017

Change in Format of the Accounts

Following the discussions between the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission we now have had to include group activities such Jenny's Jaunts and the Theatre group in our accounts. As a result our total income exceeds £25,000 so we now have to file accounts with the Charity Commission instead of completing a very simple annual return.

We have elected to prepare accounts on the "Receipts and Payments" basis as this is easier to understand. The format of our accounts has changed to comply with the reporting requirements of the Charity Commission. Where appropriate, 2016 comparatives have been changed to reflect the new classifications. There is no change to the amount of General funds shown in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, just a change in format of disclosure.

In prior years our accounts excluded the receipts and payments of group activities although the bank account was shown on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. In addition our membership income was adjusted to reflect the membership relating to the period of the accounts.

In the statement of Assets and Liabilities we have opted to show separately membership fees received in advance and receipts for future group activities.

Accounting Policies

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

These accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis so that these include:

- a. All membership fees and receipts for group activities received in 2017, irrespective of the period to which these relate.
- b. Any expenses and costs paid in the year

Financial Review

1. Overview of 2017

The excess of receipts over payments in 2017 was £547 (2016: £2,319) on general activities and £1,239 (2016: excess payments of £110) on group activities.

2. Membership receipts

- a. Lower receipts of membership income in the year is due to the reduction in annual membership fee from £14 to £10 for new members joining or renewals made after 1 July 2016.
- b. This was offset by a greater number of members paying their renewals before 31 December in 2017 than 2016.

3. Gift Aid

This is claimed in arrears, so the receipt in 2017 is based on 2016 Membership income. The reduction thus reflects the change in annual membership from £14 to £10 with effect from 1 January 2017.

4. Group receipts and payments

This includes both the Theatre Group and the monthly Jenny's Jaunts. More trips took place in 2017 than in 2016 hence the increased receipts and payments. The bank balance at 31 December each year represents Trips and outings paid for in advance and is cover for costs incurred but not yet paid.

5. Monthly Meetings

- a. Income collected is marginally up on 2016. In 2017 income benefitted as monies were collected at the April AGM meeting whereas in April 2016 no charge had been made.
- b. However this was offset, as following the closure of Hersham Village Hall, no meeting took place in July, pending the search for an alternative venue.
- c. Monthly meeting costs have fallen, as not only was there no charge for July, the new venue, Claygate Village Hall, is at a lower cost.

6. Third Age Costs

- a. This covers both the affiliation fee (a per head cost) and the cost of the Third Age Matters Magazine. These costs are paid in arrears. The affiliation fee is calculated and payable in April based on the maximum membership from 1 April to 31 March.
- b. The Third Age Matters is paid in May, based on the number of copies despatched in the year to the previous December. The rise in the cost for both categories reflects increases in membership.

7. Quarterly Newsletter

The increase reflects higher membership and costs of production.

8. Administration

In preparation for the General Data Protection Legislation we have incurred specific costs on IT. Next year we will also incur a per capita cost for the Beacon system of circa 50p per head.

9. Future liabilities

The estimated liability for Third Age costs, less Gift Aid to be paid during 2018, which relates to 2017, is circa £3,800 (2016: £2,300).

Reimbursements – No remuneration directly or indirectly out of the funds of the Charity was paid or payable for the year, to any Trustee or to any person known to be connected with any of them. Expenses paid on behalf of Elmbridge U3A by Trustees and subsequently reimbursed totalled £8,776 during the year to 31 December 2017.

2019 Membership Fees

At 31 December Elmbridge U3A, in the general accounts, had bank balances of £21,100, excluding advanced memberships received of £11,450.

Our projection for 2018 is an excess of payments over receipts of circa £2,600. This is the result of several factors including lower Gift Aid (minus £800), higher IT costs (plus £700), and higher Third Age Trust payments and Quarterly newsletter costs (higher membership).

At the AGM the membership fee rate for 2019 is agreed, so it is necessary to look at our finances up to December 2019. The forecast for 2019 is a higher excess of payments over receipts of £3,500, which is equivalent to £2.50 per member. Because of funds we have built up over the years, funds in excess of our needs, this can subsidise the £10 annual membership fee for 2018 and 2019. There are sufficient cash funds in the bank, even after taking into account future costs incurred but not paid, (as outlined in note 8 above) with which to cover this shortfall. The projected bank balance of the General funds at December 2019 is £15,000

The recommendation is to leave membership at £10 for 2019, but it will be necessary to increase this for 2020 to at least £13. This will be on the agenda for the next (2019) AGM.

ELMBRIDGE U3A

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). An independent examination is not required by the Charity Commission as the income is less than £25,000 but the trustees requested that an independent examination was undertaken.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

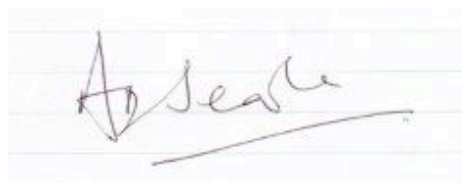
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Adrian Searle FCA ACMA CGMA
Chartered Accountant
122 Thorkhill Road
Thames Ditton
Surrey KT7 0UW

Signed: 31 March 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink on a white background. The signature appears to be 'A Searle' with a stylized initial 'A' and a horizontal line underneath.

DRAFT

Appendix**MINUTES OF THE 19th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held at Hershams Village Hall, Hershams
on Wednesday, 5th April 2017

Present: Philip Johnson Chair
 Janet Larcher Vice Chair
 Andrew Craig Treasurer
 Meg James Secretary
 Alison Florence
 Roy Henderson
 Ursula Kent
 Tony Wharton
 and 230 other members of Elmbridge U3A

The Chair welcomed members and visitors to the Annual General Meeting. He commenced by introducing the members of the Committee and mentioned that Anne Brown had stood down from the Committee.

1. Apologies

Dany McCleod, Jenny Aylen and Jenny Kirkman

2. Minutes

Resolved that the Minutes of the Eighteenth Annual General Meeting of Elmbridge U3A held on 6 April 2016 be approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed by: Susan Dev

Seconded by: David Rodway

Passed, with no objections (nem con)

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Adoption of Examined Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016

The Treasurer greeted the membership and then thanked them for attending the AGM. He then gave a brief background to, and account of, the figures presented in the accounts.

Over the years we have built up the accumulated funds so that today we are in a financially very strong position, in fact we are too strong. It was for this reason that a year ago we proposed and the 2016 AGM approved a reduction in the annual membership to £10 from £14, for new members joining or renewing after July 1st 2016. Our 2016 accounts as presented do not reflect this decrease.

Turning to our 2016 accounts:

These show an excess of income over expenditure of £4,821 which is significantly higher than the excess of £1,144 in 2015. In summary this can be explained by a small increase in income and a large fall in expenditure.

At 31 December 2016 general funds, which are represented by bank account balances increased to £21,067 from £16,246.

Our total income in 2016 was £23,152, marginally up from £22,654 in 2015.

Membership income and gift aid receipts were higher, but as the table tennis group loan was repaid in full in 2015 there was no contribution in 2016. Income from attendance at HVH was almost the same as in 2015.

Total Expenditure in 2016 was lower by £3,179 at £18,331. However 2015 expenditure included a one off spend of £4,697 on new audio visual equipment. After taking this out other costs showed an increase of £1,518. The Treasurer then gave few comments on our expenditure:

- Of the total spend £14,048 goes on the Capitation fee to the Third Age Trust, Third Age Matters magazine and our quarterly newsletter. This is up by £412 from 2015.
- The cost of speakers and the hire of Hersham Village Hall increased by £301 to £2,496
- The Group leaders party, to say thank you for the hard work of the group leaders, was up by £144 at £1,794.
- Leaflets were printed to promote membership of Elmbridge U3A and we continue to hold new members meetings to encourage new members to participate in U3A activities.
- Finally there are administration costs which increased in the year to £1,236 , up from the very low figure of £747 in 2015. Although this may seem a substantial increase compared to 2015, our expenditure is still well below the level incurred in 2013 and 2014.

Looking to the future. In 2017 we are forecasting that Elmbridge U3A will show an excess of expenditure over income of approximately £2,500 as the impact of lower membership fees is felt. We have more than adequate accumulated funds to cover this shortfall and hence no increase in annual membership is proposed for the year 2018 but this may be necessary in future years.

Like many organisations we are faced with rising costs. We are also faced with a number of changes which will affect the way in which we run the organisation. For example our bank in Esher is being closed. We are also seeing the move towards electronic payments and in fact in 2017 approximately one third of you renewed your membership using either PayPal or direct credit. Electronic communications and records are becoming more important.

At present membership income inclusive of Gift Aid averages just under £12 per member whereas the expenditure is running at circa £15. Although we can fund a deficit for several years we will have to balance our overall financial position and longer term sustainability. Hence at the appropriate time we will have to phase in gradual increases in membership fees as accumulated funds are utilised.

The Chair asked for the approval of the accounts and that they be adopted.

Proposed by: Tom Appleton
 Seconded by: Marian Jager
 Passed, with no objections (nem con)

5. Annual Report of the Committee for the year ended 2016

The good news is that Elmbridge U3A looks very healthy. Financially we are sound. Our membership continues to be very high. We have frequently asked members what they expect from the organisation and we think we are responding to their replies positively. We have around 130 specialist interest groups but would welcome more leaders to increase this number. The speakers at the monthly meeting at Hersham Village Hall have been more varied and of a higher standard than ever before. Much more has been done to welcome new members into the family. All of these things would not be possible without everyone's input but especially the relentless hard work of the committee. The Chairman reported feeling very proud to be the chairman of such a successful organisation. Successful, only because of the enormous dedication and commitment of everybody. Thank you to you all.

We cannot thank Anne Browne enough for all she has done for Elmbridge U3A over many years as secretary. She may be handing over for health reasons but we have no intention of letting her off the hook completely. Her wealth of knowledge and experience are valuable assets not to be thrown away lightly. We have made Anne an Honorary member and that is the least we can do. We will go on seeing a lot of her. Anne, thank you very, very much.

Sadly we are to lose Jenny Ayles this year as our Social Secretary. The author of Jenny's Jaunts, she has worked very hard and efficiently on the committee for several years. Those of you who have enjoyed these Jaunts appreciate how well they have been put together and how much they have enriched our experience of this country's treasures. Again, it is for health reasons that Jenny is stepping down. Don't worry – she won't be escaping altogether!

We will need therefore a new Social Secretary and it would be brilliant if a few members could volunteer to help out here and support the new incumbent/s.

We were very aware that a number of new members were not being warmly welcomed and found their first contact with U3A seemingly unfriendly and not very welcoming. It can be daunting going into a new place amongst so many new faces for the first time. Lesley Johnson volunteered to be the first New Members Secretary. She will organise coffee mornings, ensure some sort of welcome is given at Hersham Village Hall and generally do whatever is needed to make new members feel welcome, included and given the opportunity to voice their views and opinions.

In the forthcoming year we would like to try to encourage more social interaction. Perhaps just one or two events which would enable members to meet socially. We have a couple of ideas which may or may not come to fruition but suggestions would be more than welcome.

I, as Chair, cannot thank the committee enough for all their help and support, for their knowledge, professionalism and dedication. It is not just a monthly meeting, a committee meeting every two months, it is constant. A part of most days will be spent on U3A business. No getting away from it! Thank you to everyone for making Elmbridge U3A the success it is.

Ursula Kent was also thanked for her and her team's efforts in running the groups so successfully. She was also congratulated on her recent receipt of the BEM in recognition of her work.

The Chair asked that this report be adopted.

5.1 Adoption of the Annual Report of the Committee for the year ended 31 December 2016

Proposed by: John Larcher
 Seconded by: Mollie Kingham
 Passed, with no objections (nem con)

6. Election of Committee

The following members were offering themselves for election:

Philip Johnson	Meg James
Janet Larcher	Ursula Kent
Andrew Craig	Jenny Aylen
Alison Florence	Tony Wharton
Roy Henderson	

The appointment of the nine members proposed was passed with no objections (nem con)

7. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Adrian Searle has indicated that he is happy to continue acting as Elmbridge U3A Independent Examiner for next year.

Proposed by: Penny Eastman
 Seconded by: Marian Jager
 Passed, with no objections (nem con)

8. Any other business

Chris Florence asked why Members and Non members paid the same entrance fee to HVH.

The treasurer replied that as the organisation was able to claim Gift Aid it was not possible to differentiate between members and non members because a charity has to be open to all.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 1.55pm.

The next AGM will take place on Wednesday 4th April 2018
