

**MINUTES OF EPSOM & EWELL U3A AGM HELD ON MONDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2020
at 10:30am virtually via Zoom**

1. Welcome

The Chairman, Linda Hollands, opened the meeting by welcoming members to the 2020 AGM. Although 93 members had pre-registered only 67 devices had logged in. She explained that due to Covid-19 the Executive Committee had decided to convene the meeting on line. Accordingly the agenda papers comprising the Minutes of the 2019 AGM held on 7 October 2019 and the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2020 had been mailed to all members together with a voting form. This had also been available on the Epsom and Ewell U3A website.

226 voting forms had been returned either by post (85), by email (19) or on line (122) ensuring that the meeting was quorate.

There were no votes against any of the resolutions and only a very small number of abstentions.

Members had been given the opportunity to ask any questions for clarification. There had been no issues raised. Instead members had expressed their appreciation of the work of the Committee, particularly in ensuring that the U3A continued to function throughout the period of lockdown.

2. Apologies for absence were received from 26 members.

3. Minutes of the 2019 AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 7th October 2019 were approved by 220 votes with 6 abstentions.

4. Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2020

Having been circulated to all members the Trustees' Annual Report giving details about the charity's activities in the year was taken as read and adopted. The Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2020 showed that the U3A's finances were healthy with total reserves at 31 July 2020 of £22,610. Membership stood at 1102. This compared to 1129 in the previous year.

The reduced level of activity because of the Covid-19 pandemic in the second half of the financial year was reflected in the 'Social' and 'Groups' Income and Expenditure heads. Five planned social outings, including four theatre performances, had been cancelled. The Committee had refunded members from the U3A's own cash reserves pending reimbursement of ticket monies from the theatres.

In response to the pandemic, subscription renewals had been deferred to 1 April 2021 and the subscription year changed to 1 April to 31 March. Subscriptions would remain at £15 per annum, £11.50 for Associate Members.

5. Election of Officers and Committee

The following were elected, each for a three-year term:

Tony Skelton (Chairman), David Leggett (Treasurer),
Committee Members: Annie Ralph (Volunteer Coordinator), Clive Hargreaves (Speaker and Bourne Hall Liaison), Sue Skelton (Publicity and Website), and Irene Moore (Social Secretary).

The Chairman welcomed the newly-elected members to the Committee and wished them well in their respective roles. She then thanked those who were stepping down from Committee roles for their contributions: James Hadley who had been Publicity Officer for six years, and

Rosie Cooper and Sue Wood who had completed their 3-year term as Joint Social Secretaries. She also recorded thanks to Hazel Bamford and Joan Brown for organising theatre outings. The post of Secretary remained vacant.

6. Election of Independent Examiner

The Chairman thanked Michael Stevens for undertaking the role of Independent Examiner for the past two years. Having been duly proposed and seconded Kevin A Mallett, FCA was unanimously elected as Independent Examiner for the ensuing year.

7. Any Other Business

Tony Skelton, Vice Chairman, gave an update on the latest available advice affecting U3A meetings. He drew attention to the links on the website. These would continue to be updated as further information became available. It was encouraging that groups wanted to restart their activities and were doing the necessary risk assessments to ensure they were operating in a Covid-secure way. He thanked Group Leaders for their common-sense approach to resuming their meetings.

Tony Skelton went on to thank Linda Hollands on behalf of the Committee and the membership for her chairmanship and commitment to the U3A since joining the Committee in 2008. She had guided the Committee in a professional and business-like way. Whilst she had taken from being a U3A member she had given back far more. He would endeavour to build on the example set by the founders and his predecessors and continue to encourage friendship, fun and shared learning.

In conclusion, the Chairman commented that it had been a roller-coaster year – traditional activities for the first half of the year but a complete change with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was fortunate that Tony Skelton had been on board and had been keeping in touch with members. She thanked Tony Skelton and Clive Hargreaves for setting up the AGM and hoped that a Zoom AGM would not be necessary in 2021. In particular she echoed the sentiments of many members who were missing the physical meetings and chatting and laughing with other members.

The Chairman reflected on her time on the Committee. She had seen Epsom & Ewell U3A grow in numbers and develop its activities and hoped the U3A would continue to develop for many more years. Her highlight had been the 30th anniversary celebrations in 2018.

She commented that there would be changes in the coming months not only because of Covid-19 and a new Committee but times needed to move on. As one chapter closed a new one was opening with Tony Skelton at the helm. She hoped members would embrace those changes. A significant change was the new brand image adopted by The Third Age Trust details of which would be on the national website.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10:45 am and was followed by a talk on *Forty Years of Catching Smugglers* by Malcolm Nelson.