

Proposed New Constitution

In December 2018 the Third Age Trust introduced a new model constitution, agreed by the Charity Commission, for use by its U3A members. The committee has reviewed our existing Constitution, which was adopted in February 2015, and decided that it would be appropriate to update it to reflect the new model. We will therefore be presenting a revised constitution for adoption by members at the AGM on 23 April 2020 and urge you to vote in favour of this change. The new constitution contains lots of technical details and minor changes in wording, most of which will not affect our day to day operations. We have attached the existing and proposed new versions for you to review if you wish but for ease of comparison we set out the key changes below

Terms of office for committee members

Currently committee members can serve for a maximum of 6 consecutive years in any combination of roles but only 3 consecutive years in any officer or non-officer position, with the exception of the treasurer who can serve for 6 consecutive years. The new model will allow committee members to serve a total of 9 years in any combination of roles but only 3 consecutive years in any officer or non-officer position including as treasurer.

Quorum for Committee Meetings

Currently the quorum for committee meetings is the greater of 3 or 1/3 of the total committee members. The new model quorum will be the greater of 2 or 2/3 of the total committee members.

Quorum for Annual or Special General Meetings

Currently the quorum for Annual or Special General Meetings is 1/5 of the total membership. The new model quorum will be the greater of 5 or 1/10 of the total membership.