

Havant U3A

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting which took place at Bedhampton Social Hall starting at 2.30pm on Thursday 21st September 2017.

Present: The AGM was attended by approximately 148 people, including existing/current members, new members and visitors.

- 1 **Welcome.** Christine Carter welcomed everyone to the 5th Annual General Meeting of Havant U3A. She thanked the helpers who set up the room and those providing the refreshments.
- 2 **Apologies:** Valerie Pither, Gina and Jim Hall.
- 3 **Minutes** of 4th AGM which took place on 15th September 2016 had been circulated. Their adoption was proposed by John Worley and seconded by Ken Arkell and carried without opposition.
- 4 **Chairman's Report – Christine Carter.** Christine described the very successful 5th Year of Havant U3A and thanked the committee for their hard work. She expressed her thanks to Mike Henwood, Treasurer and to Elizabeth Jorge, Group Co-ordinator for their hard work. Christine thanked the group convenors for their interest and enthusiasm in maintaining and setting up interest groups which are the bedrock of the U3A.
Valerie Pither has organised very successful trips to Brighton, Laycock Abbey and Hever Castle. Other social activities during the year were the Christmas Lunch, Afternoon Tea by the Lake, courtesy of John and Judith Worley and a much appreciated local History Quiz. Christine thanked Geoff Worthington for his sterling work in promoting Havant U3A in his role as Publicity officer and maintaining the website.
Publication of the Quarterly Newsletter will now cease as Judith Worley is stepping down, Christine expressed her thanks to Judith.
There are challenges ahead for the coming year and Christine emphasised that the underlying ethos of the U3A is for members to get involved and volunteer, it cannot be solely the responsibility of the committee. A new group "Meeters & Greeters" has been established to ensure new members are warmly welcomed; some interest groups struggle, some close, new ones are established, but this is the ever evolving pattern of U3A; establishing new groups is always a challenge; we need members to come forward to sit on the committee. The forthcoming year will be a success with your support.
- 5 **Financial Report by the Treasurer - Mike Henwood**
Financial Reports for the 5th year of Havant U3A were circulated prior to the AGM. Mike presented an overall summary with accompanying notes for members. The accounts were signed off by an independent auditor and showed a balance of £3,957.18, to be carried forward to next year. An analysis of U3A's disbursements followed which prompted a question from the floor. "With nearly £4k of reserves, year on year, can this be adjusted to an age-related activity or charity? Mike Henwood explained the rationale behind keeping the Reserve, that if a group closed and a contract for hire is in place the Reserves will be used to clear the debt; or if the U3A closed down, the Reserves would be needed to clear the debt owing to BSH for the hire of the hall. The Committee agreed to follow up the policy of a Reserve Fund and inform members at a later date. Approval of the Treasurer's Report and appointment of Nigel Valette as auditor was proposed by C Evans, and seconded by Judith Worley.
- 6 **Interest Groups Report – Elizabeth Jorge**
Presented a very positive report on the past year's activities and growth of interest groups which now stands at 38, and encouraged members to propose ideas for new groups which is about sharing our interests and knowledge. It is vital to have a Group Co-ordinator to oversee and assist the group convenors, eg admin/trips to the cinema/meetings in houses, this position is now vacant. There are 33 groups and share 2 groups with Emsworth and 3 new groups starting, Family History, British History, Social Singles. Many groups do very well, but this year, some have folded, Singing, social media, tapestry, books that shaped the world, but this is part of how U3A evolves. The only paid tutor is for Line Dancing, paid for

by those in the group. Elizabeth thanked all the group convenors for their help and support these past 3 years.

7 **Election of Officers; Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer**

The Chairman explained that the Constitution of the Havant U3A requires all officers and members of the committee to resign at the end of the year and to seek re-election if they are eligible under the rules. Nominations for the committee had been requested by 31st August, therefore before the AGM, and the following nominations received.

Post	Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	Christine Carter	Geoff Porter	Denise Barrett
Secretary	Philippa Grey	Ken Worrall	Geoff Porter
Treasurer	Margaret Stanger	Brian Cross	Pauline Simmonds

There were no nominations from the floor, the meeting voted to accept the three nominations.

8 **Election of between 2 & 9 Members of the Committee** following nominations that had been received before the meeting.

Post	Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
Committee	John Meacham	Geoff Porter	Judith Worley
Committee	Martin Owen	Peter Franklin	Geoff Porter
Committee	Valerie Pither	Ken Arkell	Val Worthington
Committee	Sue Tinney	Geoff Porter	Paul Fennell
Committee	John West	Peter Franklin	Jean Henwood
Committee	Alison White	Ken Arkell	Ray Riley

Alison white has been seconded back for 1 year to continue as Membership Secretary and working on the Beacon System. Geoff Worthing has completed his 3 years in his role as Publicity and Website committee member but will be co-opted onto the committee to continue in this role. Chairman stated that U3A regulations allow for 12 committee members therefore plan to expand our members and would like to invite nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming so the committee may co-opt 2 more members at a later stage. All nominations for 2017 – 2018 Committee were proposed by Diane West and seconded by Sheila Smith.

Question from the floor by John Birch, asked what positions are available, when/where and frequency of meetings. Christine responded that positions are decided at the October meeting, monthly, at BSH from 2.30 – 4.30pm.

9 **Any Other Business**

- a) John Birch proposed new Coins and Philately group. Chair to raise this at October General Meeting.
- b) John West updated members on changes to speakers for October and November General Meetings, John Sandy on 'My time inside' and Florence Nightingale.
- c) Programme for 2017 – 2018 will be distributed at October General Meeting.
- d) 'Meeters & Greeters' badges will be identified by Orange Badges.
- e) Request for members to return their completed Interest/Volunteering forms at October General Meeting.
- f) Elizabeth Jorge reminded Group Convenors to give her copies of their Group sheets so records can be updated.

On behalf of the members, Brian Shipman thanked the committee for their hard work. The meeting closed at 15:20 followed by the Groups Fair and refreshments.