

HEATONS & REDDISH u3a

MINUTES OF AGM

21st February, 2022

HYBRID MEETING

CHAIRS WELCOME:

Welcome to everyone, both present and on zoom. We have a lot to get through so I declare the meeting open.

APOLOGIES;

Roy Dudley-Southern

Esther Platt

Margaret Ingham

2021 AGM

Minutes of the AGM held on 21st March, 2021 were circulated via email and post.

The following votes to approve the minutes have been received.

94 votes

7 abstentions

SGM

Minutes of the SGM on 18th October, 2021 agreeing to the adoption of the revised constitution.

54 votes

5 against

2 abstentions

Matters arising, but not on the agenda – none

CHAIR'S REPORT

I was duly re-elected in March 2021 and wish to thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to act as Chair for another twelve months.

We still encountered difficulty in returning to 'normal' due to outbreaks of the new variants of Covid. The summer saw the return of face-to-face meetings, with restrictions still in place. It was delightful to see people in the flesh, so to speak, some groups were able to meet outdoors. We, the committee decided that we would have to change the venue for our coffee mornings, in order that we would have more space to sit indoors with appropriate social distancing. Our first indoor coffee morning was delightful, seeing so many members enjoying the company of people that they hadn't seen for a long time.

We even ventured into hybrid meetings, thanks to Peter Williams, Graham Crofts and Max Wild, our 'techy' members. Unfortunately, due to a new variant hitting our shores in November, we had to cancel our Christmas coffee morning where the usual entertainment from The Ukulele Band, The Drama Group and the Writing Group (the singalong group was not yet back into rehearsals) was cancelled. We have decided that we will have Christmas in May 2022, we didn't want you to be disappointed.

We had stalls on several Artisan markets, to promote our u3a, as well as the National organisation. This has been successful in obtaining new members, even though we are not yet back to the number of groups that we had pre-Covid.

We have sent out an excellent monthly newsletter, keeping everyone up to date with the changes that have taken place throughout the year.

We have also improved our website, with thanks to John Hewitt and have a Facebook page with thanks to Carolyn Canning. Our finances have been ably looked after by Max Wild, who is the duly elected Treasurer. He has put in place procedures which will make our funds safe from criminal activity.

I wish to thank our very able and conscientious Committee members for their hard work in keeping our u3a afloat. I also want to thank all the Group Leaders who have kept going throughout another difficult year. Most of all, I want to thank the membership who have had faith that we will survive.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Accounts and Independent Examiner's report were circulated via email and post.

The following votes to approve the accounts have been received:

94 votes

7 abstentions

2021 ACCOUNTS

The following

General account

Income: £8173.00

Expenses: £7629.00

Deficit: £544.00

FUTURE COSTS

- Room Hire increases at £1 per hour
- £1 contribution for Tea/coffee at the coffee morning
- Replacement equipment
- New Groups
- Speakers 2022
- Newsletter
- Zoom

SUBSCRIPTION

- £18 fixed at October 2021 SGM
- Proposal – fix at £18 until further notice.

GROUP CO-ORDINATORS REPORT

The last year has been challenging for many of our groups, however this situation has improved and most groups are now up and running and meeting again with caution.

Room size is a problem with some groups, especially Architecture. We will keep this under review.

There is a newly proposed Spanish Conversation Group and Antiques, Heritage and Country Dancing will hopefully resume soon. We are continually looking to expand on our list of group activities.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following were proposed:

- Bernice Giblin – Chair
- Judy Gordon – Vice Chair
- Max Wild – Treasurer
- Theresa Rogers – Secretary
- Clare Downing – Membership Secretary

- Jill Calder – Groups Coordinator

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

The following were proposed:

- Carolyn Canning
- Mary Needham – Newsletter Editor

The following have been co-opted by the committee on 17th
February, 2022

Barbara Dunne

Jenny Moorhouse

VOTING

The membership were contacted via email and post.

This included people who were members in 2021 but did not renew for 2022.

A total of 286 people were contacted.

VOTES RECEIVED

Election of Officers

- 101 votes, 2 abstentions

Election of committee members

- 101 votes, No abstentions.

ELECTION OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

It is proposed that Robert Twigg is elected as the Independent Examiner.

- 101 votes, no abstentions.

CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

I wish to thank the 2021 committee for their hard work.

Normally the chair would hand over to the in-coming chair, but as I am both I will continue with other business. Thank you to John Hewitt for his hard work on the committee, but he is continuing with running the web site. Welcome to Judy Gordon our newly elected Vice-Chair.

I now declare the meeting closed.

CLOSE MEETING AND TIME 11.15 a.m.