

Jersey u3a Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 6th July 2022

St Paul's Gate Community Centre

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed members to the annual general meeting of the Jersey u3a.

Apologies had been received from several convenors and members.

Annual Report

The Chairman outlined the activities of the Jersey u3a over the previous twelve months. Membership stood at 235, with a few more members to be confirmed. With life returning to near normal groups attendance had fluctuated as members resumed their travel and other activities.

The Committee was sorry to lose two of its members who resigned for personal reasons; Secretary Robin Snart and Membership Secretary John Pugsley. Steve Read had been nominated for the post of Secretary and the duties of the membership secretary had been split between the Chairman and the Secretary for now. The Chairman thanked the Committee for their endeavours over the past year, Juliette White Treasurer and Web Manager and Graeme Witts our Accounts Examiner, in particular.

The finances of the Jersey u3a continued to reflect a healthy position and it was not intended to increase annual subscriptions for the forthcoming year. The Committee believed the fee of £18.00 per annum still afforded excellent value for money.

Groups remained active with some new additions; Knit and Natter and Chess to start in the Autumn. The Chairman expressed her special thanks to the tireless and dedicated work of the convenors of the existing groups covering the broadest range of choice for members, namely:

- 1) Knit & Natter – Pat Cameron
- 2) Chess – Fiona Heys
- 3) Art – Helen Taliband
- 4) Book of the Month – Beth Lloyd
- 5) Canasta – Anne Pasturel
- 6) Creative Writing – Christine Pemberton
- 7) Current Affairs – Derek Gray
- 8) French West – Judy Mantel, Odette Touzel
- 9) Global Affairs – Roy Le Herissier
- 10) Politics, Philosophy & Scientific Thought – Judy O'Sullivan
- 11) Literature & Maps – Jill Hamon
- 12) Poetry Reading – Marlene Morris

- 13) Play Reading – Margaret Marquis
- 14) Social History – Tom Bunting & Donal O’Hagan
- 15) Walks – Pat Davis
- 16) Italian – Rosemary Sanchez de Vega
- 17) Films – Hamish Kean
- 18) Jazz Appreciation – Geoffrey Winchester
- 19) Art History, Music, Philosophy (also Mac/iPad users) – Michael Taliband
- 20) Crosswords – Anne Southern

The Chairman also expressed her thanks to Janice Eden who had surrendered the reins of organising the members social lunches throughout the year and welcomed Eric Freeman as her successor. And thanked Julian Rogers who hosted these lunches at the St Helier Yacht Club.

The open coffee mornings at the Radisson Blu Hotel would continue the second Wednesday of each month (10.30am).

The Annual Report was

Proposed by Michael Taliband

Seconded by Christopher Davy

Members adopted the Annual Report by acclaim.

Finances

The Treasurer Juliette White presented the Statement of Financial Activities including income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The Statement reflected a healthy balance with a carry forward in the sum of £7,800.83 (£6,554.40 for 2020). Total income for 2021 was £4,268.00 (£3,962.00) whilst expenditure totalled £3,021.57 (£2,529.29). Net income was £1,246.43 (£1,432.71).

The Treasurer informed the annual general meeting that the 2021 figures still reflected the impact on the organisation of the pandemic albeit less so than in 2020. Further, there had been changes with the timing for the collection of capitation fees paid to u3a National which had slightly distorted the comparative numbers. Nevertheless, the organisation was on a secure financial setting and the outlook was positive.

The Treasurer was also pleased to report that NatWest International, our bankers, had shelved their plans (at least for now) to charge fees on charity accounts.

The Treasurer expressed her personal thanks to Graeme Witts for his examination of the accounts and his willingness to stand for the post of Examiner again.

The Statement of Financial Activities was

Proposed by Helen Taliband

Seconded by John Refault

Members adopted the Statement of Financial Activities by acclaim.

Election of the Jersey u3a Committee

The present committee comprised -

- Chairman – Anne Southern
- Treasurer – Juliette White,
- Secretary – Steve Read
- Members – Tom Bunting, Judy O’Sullivan, and Susan Firby

All members of the Committee had submitted themselves for re-election.

The Chairman mentioned that she would welcome another member to join the Committee.

The Chairman invited any other nominations from the meeting. None were forthcoming.

The election of the Jersey u3a Committee was

Proposed by Julian Rogers

Seconded by John Refault

The six named members were elected by acclaim.

Appointment of an Examiner of the Accounts

The Chairman and Treasurer were delighted and grateful that Graeme Witts had agreed to serve as the Examiner of the u3a accounts for a further year.

Proposed by Janice Eden

Seconded by Gerald White

Graeme Witts, Examiner was appointed by acclaim

Convenors Reports

The Chairman on behalf of absent convenors and convenors present updated members on the activities of their respective groups throughout the past year. Where there were spaces, members were invited to contact the respective convenor should they be interested in joining the group.

AOB

- Christopher Davy informed members that the Church of St Aubin on the Hill had room facilities that could accommodate community groups including u3a if they were looking for a venue. If interested members could contact Christopher (the Verger).
- Gerald White on behalf of members proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee for their sterling work over the past year, especially during the pandemic. Members showed their appreciation with a round of applause.

- The AGM welcomed Julia Coutanche, Volunteer Co-ordinator for Jersey Heritage Trust. Julia explained the work of Jersey Heritage's volunteer visitor host programme – a programme designed to support the Trust to protect the Island's heritage. Volunteer hosts work in the Island's castles and museums to support front of house staff to enhance the visitor experience by providing helpful and timely information on the attractions. In addition, help promote the sites activities, events and exhibitions run by the Trust and promote their Membership scheme.

The Trust was looking for volunteers from those who had an interest in history and culture, an enthusiasm for the island's heritage and the ability to be part of a friendly welcoming team.

Julia outlined the general level of commitment needed and the benefits the individual would derive from being a volunteer host. If any members were interested, they could contact Julia via Jersey Heritage Trust (01534 633342) or via email Julia.coutanche@jerseyheritage.org

The Chairman invited all members to stay for refreshments and closed the annual general meeting at 3.45pm

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