

Please note that these Minutes will not be confirmed as a true and accurate record until the AGM in April 2024

LOCKS HEATH u3a

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 24TH APRIL 2023

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION: The meeting was opened at 2.00pm by Chairman Stephen Kirby. He welcomed the 86 members in attendance and thanked them all for coming. The main AGM papers had been mailed out earlier in the month and paper copies of the Treasurer's Report and Accounts were available for those wanting a paper copy.

Committee Members leading the meeting were: Chairman: Stephen Kirby; Treasurer: Les Hill; and Secretary: Linda Stannett

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from the following Members: Brian and Margaret White, Marian Grey, Michael Barrett, Susan Cooper, Carol Nicholls, Ann Caitlin, Els Reynolds

2. MINUTES OF THE MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON FRIDAY 29TH APRIL 2022:

The Minutes from the last AGM HELD ON 20.04.22 were presented by the Chairman. All agreed that they were a true record and were accepted by a show of hands. The Minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 29.04.22.

4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Chairman presented the Executive Committee Report which had been circulated previously. His first point was to highlight that at last year's AGM the 10+1 years Anniversary of Locks Heath u3a was celebrated and that in recognising that milestone - along with the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee - a Sorbus aucuparia 'Chinese Lace' tree has been planted in the grounds of St Johns Church. The tree has been recorded on The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) map and a virtual plaque to confirm this has been received. Suitable plaques to commemorate both events are situated next to the tree that is located by the gravel car park in Locks Heath Park Road.

In looking back over the last 12 months it is very refreshing to see that membership numbers have remained consistent over the year from 209 in March 2022 to 213 in March 2023. Approximately 20 members each year are lost through various reasons and it is good to see that new members are replacing those who do not continue their membership. However, more promising is that attendance at the monthly meetings has crept back up from the 70's/80's after Covid to over 100 for January and February this year.

It should be noted that the Speakers Group led by Judy, the Vice Chairman, have once again produced a diverse and interesting range of speakers for the monthly meetings - they are well on the way to completing the 2024 Speakers' programme.

Another very successful Christmas Lunch was held at The Solent Hotel, which was, as usual, well attended grateful thanks go to Rachel who organised the event. Stephen then mentioned the Gadabouts Group in particular, as that has been, and hopefully will remain, one of the most successful Interest Groups but unfortunately no one has come forward to help the team to organise any outings in 2023 following Glenda stepping back from being the lead. There is a team, but they do need someone who will take on some of the organising. He then asked for members to think about whether they could help.

The Committee held an 'Open Day' on 23 September at the Locks Heath Centre where they show-cased what u3a is about and the range of the Interest Groups. The Interest Groups are a key part of the u3a movement with the principle of self-help and it was pleasing to report that the groups have continued to be successful and well supported. Stephen thanked the Interest Groups' representatives that came along on the Open day to support the event. It was fortunate that the Mayor and Mayoress of Fareham attended as did our local Councillor, Susan Bayford. This also helped spread the word of u3a through other areas of publicity. Another 'Open Day' was held recently at the Locks Heath Centre (Friday 21 April) just before the AGM – this was well attended and caused much interest. A further Open Day is planned for late summer/early autumn.

Stephen then moved on to Groups Liaison and noted that no new groups had been formed this year but there were suggestions of a Mens Reading Group, another Creative Writing Group and a small musical group being formed. He asked that anyone interested in these possible groups to please get in touch with Groups Liaison.

Stephen then stated that this would be the last time he would be presenting the Executive Committee Report at the AGM because after 8 years as the Chairman he was stepping down. He then shared a short history of his time on the Committee commencing with his appointment as Chairman in April 2015. At that time there was a waiting list because all the people who wanted to join Locks Heath u3a could not be accommodated. Membership stood at 228 and it was agreed to increase it to 240 as it was felt that with the number attending the main meetings at that time they could be safely accommodated in the hall.

Shortly after that Warsash u3a and then Stubbington u3a were formed, all now successful, and that shows the interest in the u3a movement in this area. However, Locks Heath u3a has continued to thrive through challenging times and it is thanks to a good team who make it continue to work.

In conclusion Stephen thanked the members of Locks Heath u3a, for their continued support over the years. He said that it been very rewarding being the Chairman and he wished Locks Heath u3a continued success. He also added that he will still be seen about as he will be taking over the position of Editor of the Newsletter as Brian White, is stepping back from editing the Newsletter after 8 years – many thanks to him for his hard work and dedication.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT AND ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2023

The Treasurer presented his Report and supplied a summary of the salient points as follows:

- The Current Account Balance is only £32.38 less than last year. The balance has been maintained despite increased costs and having to buy a new laptop.
- The Celebratory Tree and plaques were purchased and a contribution to the defibrillator being bought by St John's was given. 3 new banners to display at monthly meetings and our Open Days were also purchased.
- The Groups & Events Account Balance has increased to £1,837.19. Main reason was increased credit limits achieved by the 7 Interest Groups who hire venues.
- The new Committee will have to review the annual subs because of increased venue hire costs for the Hall and the Grove Room, increased 3rd Age Trust costs and increased stationery and postage costs. He said that the subs were last increased in 2016 so it makes sense to review them now.
- George Pickburn, the Warsash Treasurer, has examined our accounts and confirmed that they are a true and realistic record of our finances.

The Treasurer asked for a Proposer and Secunder for his Report Glenda Edmunson proposed and Pam Whitfield seconded. All members gave their agreement.

Honorary Treasurer: The Treasurer proposed George Pickburn continue as our Honorary Examiner for 2023 -2024 and Mo Kirby seconded. All members gave their agreement.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chairman handed over the meeting to the Secretary, Linda Stannett, who announced that there was only one nomination for Chairman – this being TERRY HAMMOND. He was proposed by David Potter and seconded by Marilyn Potter – all members present were in agreement of his election. The Secretary then declared that Terry will be the new Chairman.

The rest of the nominations for membership of the committee will are now presented in tabular form.

Nominations for Membership of and Positions within the Locks Heath u3a Committee for 2023 - 2024

POSITION	NOMINEE NAME	PROPOSER	SECONDER
CHAIR	Terry Hammond	David Potter	Marilyn Potter
VICE CHAIR	Judy Barrett	Shirley Taylor	David Badcock
TREASURER	Leslie Hill	Jean Forbes	Janet Fairchild
SECRETARY	Linda Stannett	Carol Nicholls	M. A. Collier
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	John Stych	Andrew Kennedy	Liz Kennedy
GROUPS LIAISON	Lois White	Diana Foss	Christine Ryder
GENERAL MEMBER	Rachel Blundell	Vivien Sealy	Colin House
GENERAL MEMBER	Brian Russell	Marguerite Boulter	Glenda Edmondson
NEWSPAPER EDITOR	Stephen Kirby	Maureen Fisher	Vanessa Jackson

NB. The Newspaper editor is not a committee member.

With a show of hands all nominations were accepted unanimously, and thanks were given for their enthusiasm to serve as Committee Members.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman announced that the next AGM will be on 26th April 2024

8. CLOSE OF MEETING

The new Chairman closed the meeting with a few words about his hopes for the future for Locks Heath u3a and thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was then followed by a presentation on Mottisfont by Ann Gardner. Members were invited to stay for a cup of tea and catch-up after the talk.