

**Minutes of the London Region of u3a's Eleventh Annual General Meeting
Held on Friday 20 October 2023 via Zoom
Rev 01-2**

Derek Harwood welcomed the attendees and stated that he would be the Chair for the AGM. A register was then taken of attendees (see bottom of table last page).

The Chair also welcomed our new London Regional Trustee, Stella Morris. Stella introduced herself explaining her background, her time to date had been largely taken up at the national level, but she did hope to gain more time to make contact with the London u3as. She had held a number of drop in Zoom calls for London u3as. All are welcome to contact her if they want her to visit. She also mentioned that the national Chair, Liz Thackray, was visiting London on 15,17 and 19 January and would love to meet members in their local settings. Contact Stella if you want Liz to visit.

1. Confirmation of a Quorum

The Chair stated that the meeting was Quorate, and reminded attendees that each u3a present had only one vote.

2. Minutes of the Tenth AGM held on 21 October 2022 (previously disseminated)

No errors were identified. The acceptance of the Minutes was approved by all present (24 voting u3as).

3. Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. Receive and Adopt Accounts for the period 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023 (previously disseminated)

- a. The Treasurer, John Bent, referred the attendees to the written report already circulated. The results for the year to 31st August 2023 show a surplus of £2,198 (against last year's deficit of £97). This has improved our cash reserves to £10,672, from £8,474 at the end of last year.
- b. The Treasurer stated that the surplus from the Summer School had been offset by Chairs forum and other costs.
- c. The Treasurer reported that the Third Age Trust had paid £700 for Zoom Meetings.
- d. The Treasurer encouraged u3as to take up the national grants available for special events (£150) or for workshops (£500)
- e. The Chair asked for approval of the Accounts and all approved (24 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions). Therefore the Accounts were accepted as a true and accurate record.

5. To elect the Independent Examiner of Accounts for the forthcoming year

- a. Jim Jenkins has agreed to continue as our independent Examiner of Accounts for another year.
- b. The Chair proposed Jim and the vote was taken, and Jim Jenkins appointed as the Examiner approved (24 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions).

6. Resolutions

None

7. To Elect Officers and Committee Members to the Executive Committee

Five nominations had been received:

Vice Chair (London North of Thames)	Derek Harwood	Standing for re-election
Treasurer	John Bent	Standing for re-election
Peer Support Groups Coordinator	Liz Day	Standing for re-election
Communications Coordinator	Vivek Nanda	Standing for re-election
Membership Secretary	Rikki Wallman	Standing for election

The posts of Chair, Vice-Chair South London, Business Secretary, PR Advisor and Events Co-ordinator received no nominations and remain vacant.

The Chair stated that there would be one vote for all the five nominations, and they would not be done individually. The meeting voted unanimously for the five members who were nominated (24 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions).

8. Chairs Report

The Chairs report (including the Treasurers report) had been issued previously. Some highlights were lifted from this report:

- a. The Chair pointed out that at 21,875 membership of all London u3as (from 21,032) hadn't really grown much which was disappointing. The national membership has grown from 366,00 to 375,000 in the same period.
- b. Stella Morris is now our London Regional Trustee. Stella was welcomed to the meeting.
- c. The London Region had been unsuccessful over the last year in filling the vacancies it has, and they continue to be vacant.
- d. 4 Delegates meetings were held in the year, but attendance levels have dropped (in terms of number of u3as present, 50%, and number of Delegates attending). Subjects covered were: 'Influencing & Campaigning', 'Contingency Planning', 'Environmental Policy' & the 'Future of the Third Age Trust'. The Chair asked for ideas for future subjects.
- e. While the AGM had hoped to be face to face this year, low initial registration meant we had reverted to online only (to save venue costs).
- f. Peer Support Groups: (Chair reported on behalf of Liz Day) the Treasurers one has been restarted, Webmasters and Chairs (Forum) are ongoing. The Group Coordinators one and the PR Advisors one are both suspended – a volunteer is needed to lead these.
- g. Communications (Vivek Nanda): details given in report. Mailchimp have changed their Ts & Cs which meant, to try to keep within the free account limit, then mailshots had to be limited to two a month & several topics grouped into each mailshot. There was a question from the floor if Beacon For Networks had been considered. The Committee responded that this had been considered (when Beacon For Networks became available) but as we were using Mailchimp already, and it had more functionality, we decided to stay with MC.

- h. Education/Social Events (Catherine Ware): highlights were that the Talks programme had resumed after the summer break but would now be monthly only (as members had indicated that Zoom activities were less popular now that physical activities had re-started after the pandemic). One of LRU3A's mailshot had highlighted that, although this year's Summer School had again been very successful, there was a threat that similar can not be offered next year as current volunteers wanted to step back. New volunteers were required. If there are volunteers and something can be arranged for next year, dates will need to be carefully considered. The national 'Festival' at York University is scheduled for 18 to 20 July 2024.
- i. Research & Share Learning Projects (Chair on behalf of Jo Walters): two projects successfully completed. Two others ongoing for 2024. One of LRU3A's recent mailshots had asked for volunteers to form a focus group for a potential SLP with 'London Parks'. Contact Jo Walters for more information.
- j. National: Chair reminded members of the workshops run nationally (online) designed to help committees and in post roles.

There were on questions on the reports.

9. Dates of Delegate Meetings 2023

- a. Friday 19 January
- b. Friday 19 April
- c. Friday 19 July
- d. Friday 18 October + AGM

Chair advised that they would like to make one of above a face to face meeting. While some members had requested this, others had indicated they wouldn't travel and preferred online.

10. A.O.B.

No other business was raised.

The Chair thanked all for attending and supporting LRU3A and the AGM was formally closed.

APPENDIX - Attendance

	Present	Apologies
Committee & other posts		
Chair	vacancy	
Vice-Chair North	Derek Harwood	
Vice-Chair, South	Jenny Wilson (retiring)	
Membership Secretary	vacancy	
Treasurer	John Bent	
Communications Coordinator	Vivek Nanda	
Public Relations Advisor	vacancy	
Webmaster	vacancy	
Talks & Summer School	Catherine Ware	
Events Coordinator	vacancy	
Research Ambassador	Jo Livingston	
SLP Coordinator		Jo Walters
Mailchimp Coordinator	Rikki Wallman	
Third Age Trust		
London Region Trustee	Stella Morris	
u3a Representatives		
Abbeywood& Thamesmead		
Barking & Dagenham		Ruth Melody Cohen
Barnet	(V) Rosemary Mayes	
Beckenham		
Bexley	(V?) Jo Livingston	Wendy Scott
Brent		
Bromley	(V) Sandy Boden, Angela Dowling	
Crouch End	(V) Sally Whittaker	
Croydon	(V) Jenny Wilson	
Dulwich & District	(V) Tim Pagan	Liz Day
Ealing	(V) Derek Atkinson	
Enfield	(V) Michael Witter	
Hackney		Liz Southcombe
Hammersmith & Fulham	(V) Sue Adams	
HGS	(V) David Powers	
Harrow	(V) Anne Gerrard	
Havering		
Hillingdon	(V) George Przbyla	
Hillingdon South		
Hounslow		
Islington	(V) Sally Fox / Chris Bulford	
Kenton	(V) Diana O'Reardon	
Kingston		

Merton	(V) Linda Thomas/Catherine Ware / David Drummond	
Mill Hill	(V) June Burton	Melvyn Sadler
North London		Michael Jones, Ruth Silver
Northwood & District	(V) Rob Thomasson	
Norwood		
Orpington	(V) Sue Howe	
Palmers Green & Southgate	(V) Frances Halliday	Val Girling
Redbridge	(V) Howard Mather/Rikki Wallman	
Richmond	(V) Christopher Barclay	
Sidcup	(V) Trevor Ford	
SouthEast London/London SE		
Stanmore		
Sutton Area		Lin Harris
Tower Hamlets		
U3A in London (Belsize Park)	(V) Barbara Stevens	
Upminster		
Waltham Forest	(V) Barbara Humm / Christine Farnes	
Wandsworth	(V) Andy Crane	
Wanstead & Woodford		
Welling		Marlene Hunter
TOTALS	24/43 (56%) LR u3as represented altogether. Total attendees (at peak, 34) 23 u3as not represented (of which 5 sent apologies)	