

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
of Lowestoft u3a  
held at The Masonic Hall  
on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 10.30 a.m.**

The following members of the Management Committee were present:

Ray Willett	Chair Elect
Barbara Cliff	Treasurer Elect
Peter Mason	Vice Chair Elect
Muriel Knowles	Secretary
Jen Roberts	Membership Secretary

Also in attendance: Karen Taylor (Minute Secretary), Peter Denny (outgoing Publicity Assistant), Viv Loney (Newsletter Editor), Alan Aldous (outgoing Treasurer), Carol Craven (Social Secretary) and Julie Walker (Groups Co-ordinator).

A total of 50 members were present and the meeting was quorate (minimum of 26 members needed). Voting forms had been received by post or email from a further 8 members.

**Welcome and Introductory Remarks from the Chair**

Ray Willett, Acting Chair, introduced himself and welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Christine Mills (Social Secretary), Maureen Evans, Elisma Allan, Susan Trott, John Knowles, Paul Brown, Janette Nicholls, Ros Lyons, Dorothy Lomas, Edwin Rhodes, Elizabeth McKeown and Neil Crutwell.

**Minutes of the previous AGM held on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

These were accepted as an accurate record. Proposed by Carol Craven and seconded by Julie Walker.

**Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**Election of Committee Members**

The Acting Chair asked that one vote be collectively applied to these appointments:

Ray Willett     Chair  
Barbara Cliff    Treasurer  
Peter Mason     Vice Chair

Proposed by Viv Loney and seconded by Jen Roberts. This was carried unanimously.

### **Chair's Report**

Ray thanked both Alan, outgoing Treasurer, and Barbara, as previous Chair, for all their work and support over the last year.

We have had some new groups start recently – Coffee Morning at Kensington Garden and the Lunch Group. Groups like the coffee and lunch group are asking members for a £1 donation. Some groups are closing due to lack of numbers e.g., Chess. Ray asked members to support all groups.

It has been a challenging year financially and this will probably continue – see Treasurer's report below.

A successful 40<sup>th</sup> year anniversary party was held and was well attended. We are proposing to hold a similar event next May.

New flyers and posters are being produced to attract new members. If members have any ideas on how to publicise the u3a further, please let your committee members know – they all have badges on today.

We do need someone to take over IT. Any volunteers please get in touch.

### **Secretary's Report**

The following is a summary of the year's work.

- Preparation and administration around the AGMs and updating the constitution in accordance with resolutions passed
- Liaising regularly with The Third Age Trust to keep records up to date
- Administration around the Committee and monthly meetings
- Dealing with website queries
- Distributing national and other newsletters, information about local events etc.

Whilst important information goes to all members via email and post – some members without emails miss out on the less important information e.g., local events. If you have an email, please add this to your membership form when you renew.

### **Membership Secretary's Report**

267 members as of today compared with 250 this time last year.

### **Group Co-ordinator's Report**

As well as the new groups mentioned by the Chair, members are interested in starting a Whist Drive group. Art Appreciation needs more members.

### **Social Secretary's Report**

We have had a successful year with many excellent speakers. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for speakers in the future. Peter Davies is next month's speaker, on living with wife with dementia. The speaker in January is Chris Brown from Foster's Solicitors, a Criminal Lawyer, and in February it is Ivan Bunn on Haunted Lowestoft.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Alan gave an overview of our current financial situation. We are losing approximately £4000 per year now mainly due to all premises charging a lot more. The current account is now at £1500 compared with £2916 last year and this includes a transfer of £3000 from savings to current account to keep us afloat.

On the basis that we are losing about £4000 per year, each member needs to pay another £16 per year to keep us solvent.

Alan outlined the proposals for increases to charges below.

### **Independent Examiner's Report and Approval of the Accounts**

The report and the 2021 accounts were in the package sent out to members with the minutes of the last AGM. The accounts had been independently examined by Martin Rivett.

The accounts were approved by the membership. Proposed by Barbara Cliff and seconded by Viv Loney. Remaining votes were all for acceptance

### **Appointment of an Independent Examiner for the 2022 Accounts**

Martin Rivett has kindly agreed to continue in this role. His appointment was proposed by Jen Roberts and seconded by Julie Walker. Remaining votes were all for acceptance.

### **Resolution 1**

Alan read out the proposal "to increase yearly membership to £18." The proposal was put to the membership. Proposed by Barbara Cliff, seconded by Peter Mason. There was a unanimous vote in favour of the resolution.

### **Resolution 2**

Alan read out the proposal "to increase group fees to £2.50". This was proposed by Peter Mason and seconded by Carol Craven. It was accepted unanimously.

### **Resolution 3**

Alan read out the proposal "to increase monthly speaker meeting charge to £2". The proposal was put to the membership. Proposed by Peter Mason and seconded by Jen Roberts. This was accepted unanimously.

### **Any Other Business**

Ray reported the sad news that Bill Jeffery had died. His funeral is at Waveney Crematorium this Friday at 3pm.

At the talk from Peter Aldous MP previously, a member raised a question about the litter and vandalism at the nature reserve opposite the college. Peter has reported that this has been tidied up and a new fence erected. An email has been sent to thank Peter Aldous.

**Close of Meeting at 10.57 a.m.**