

**MELTON MOWBRAY U3A**  
**MINUTES OF THE 25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**HELD ON-LINE (via ZOOM) ON 18 MARCH 2021**

1. **CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME:** The Chairman opened the meeting at 10.02. He reported that he had received 203 proxy votes thus making the meeting quorate and he would be exercising his use of the proxy votes during the meeting.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Val Coombes, Chris Lawman

3. **MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 19TH MARCH 2020:** These had been circulated.

**Motion: That the Minutes of the 2020 AGM be accepted as a true record:**

Proposed by Brian Donovan, Seconded by Sylvia Donovan, the Motion carried *nem con* by all members who had attended the meeting.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** None.

5. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN:** Graham Cherryman had previously circulated his report, He repeated his thanks to all U3A members for the care and support they had given one another during the pandemic and the lockdown periods. He recognised the work done by groups leaders and committee members in keeping our groups going, enhancing communication links and maintaining social contact. Three members of the 2020 committee, Christine Bluett, Brenda Jones and Debbie Adams were retiring from the committee and he thanked them for their hard work and support.

**REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:** Eric Faulconbridge had previously circulated his report. Updated figures showed 554 of 719 members had renewed in 2021. Members were reminded the grace period for membership renewal ends at the end of March.

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2020:** These have compiled by our treasurer, Brenda Jones, and confirmed by our Examiner of Accounts, Chris Lawman.

Peter Simpson questioned why, given the reduction in U3A activities in 2020, and the savings made, subscriptions for 2021 had not been reduced? The Chairman responded by confirming that the subscription rate for 2021 had been set by the Committee in September 2020. At the time there was great uncertainty about whether we would restart indoor meetings later in that year, what the capitation charge would be in April 2021 (for our 719 members), what additional costs we might expect due to ensuring venues are COVID secure, and most importantly what the reduction in our membership might be in 2021? A key ambition was to reopen and restart group and club activities as soon as possible, and return to our 'normal' as quickly as we can. The club fund had limited reserve and to be sure of achieving this, we needed to keep the subscription at the same rate.

**Motion: That the Reports be Adopted & the Accounts be Accepted :**

Proposed by Bill Shaw and Seconded by Marjorie Shaw, the Motion was carried.

**6. ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE:** The Chairman reported that the nominee for the post of Business Secretary had had to withdraw after nominations closed. The position of Business Secretary would therefore be considered by the Committee at their first meeting. The nominations for the 2021 Committee are:

Chairman:	Graham Cherryman
Vice Chairman:	Kathlyn Slack
Treasurer:	Maureen Carruthers
Membership Secretary:	Eric Faulconbridge
Groups Co-ordinator:	Linda Faulks
IT Advisor:	Christopher Rupp
Newsletter Editor:	Diane Cherryman
Speaker Secretary:	Joan Allen

**Motion: That the Above Members are Elected to the Committee for 2021.**

Proposed by Gay Wilson and seconded by Isobel Bowes, the motion was carried.

**7. APPOINTMENT OF THE EXAMINER FOR THE ACCOUNTS 2021:**

**Motion: That Chris Lawman be appointed Examiner of the Accounts for 2021:**

Proposed by Richard Bewell, Seconded by Jo Bewell, the motion was carried.

**8. AMENDMENT TO THE 2018 CONSTITUTION:** The Chairman reported that the Third Age Trust had advised all national U3A's to include in their constitution specific provision for on-line and hybrid general meetings, as well as the use of proxy votes. The wording for this amendment has been provided by the Third Age Trust and a copy has been circulated to all members. It was proposed that the following clause be added to our 2018 constitution as clause 5.1 (vi):

*Online and hybrid general meetings*

*A general meeting (whether an annual general meeting or a special general meeting) may be held that allows attendance in person or by suitable electronic means agreed by the trustees in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants either directly or through the Chair. Where the trustees determine that a general meeting is to be held using electronic means pursuant to this clause [5.1 (vi)], such determination shall be set out in the notice of general meeting sent to members, together with details of how a member may participate in such meeting.*

*Where the committee determines that a general meeting is to be held by electronic means only such determination shall be set out in the notice of general meeting sent to members, along with an explanation of the exceptional circumstances which require the general meeting to be held by electronic means only.*

*For the purposes of this clause “exceptional circumstances” means circumstances which in the reasonable opinion of the committee render it impossible to hold an effective general meeting in person or by a combination of meeting in person and through electronic means.*

*Where a general meeting is to be held in person, the trustees may if they deem it appropriate set out a procedure in the notice of meeting which allows members to attend electronically if they so wish, and in such circumstances both members physically present in person and members present by electronic means will be considered present in person and will count towards the quorum for the relevant meeting.*

*If the meeting is to be held solely by electronic means pursuant to clause [5.1 (vi)], the place of the meeting shall be deemed to be the charity's registered office address.*

*Proceedings at a general meeting held by electronic means pursuant to clause [5.1 (vi)], or a physical meeting at which procedures are put in place to allow members to attend electronically pursuant to clause [5.1 (vi)], will not be invalidated due to technical issues which prohibit members from joining such meeting electronically, so long as a sufficient number of members to form a quorum under clause [5.1 (vi)] is able to join the meeting successfully.*

### *Voting*

*(a) by proxy A member may appoint a proxy to attend a general meeting and vote on his or her behalf in accordance with clause [5.1 (vi)].*

*(b) electronic balloting Where a meeting is to be held by electronic means, or where procedures are put in place to allow members to join a physical meeting by electronic means, the trustees may put in place an electronic balloting mechanism to allow members present at the meeting by electronic means to vote as if they were present in person. Where such a voting mechanism is to be used for a meeting, the notice of meeting will set this out.*

### *Proxies*

*Proxies may only be validly appointed by notice in writing (a Proxy Notice) which:*

- a. states the name, membership number and/or address of the member appointing the proxy;*
- b. identifies the person appointed to be that member's proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;*

- c. *is signed by the member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the trustees may determine; and*
- d. *is delivered to the charity in accordance with clause [5.1 (vi)].*

*(2) The trustees may from time to time determine the form in which Proxy Notices should be submitted to the charity in advance of any general meeting.*

*Online Trustees' meetings*

*A trustees' meeting or a meeting of a committee of the trustees may be held in person or by suitable electronic means agreed by the trustees or the members of the committee (as the case may be) in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants.*

**Motion: That this Amendment to the Constitution be Ratified.** Proposed by Paul Dickinson, Seconded by George Robinson. The motion was carried according to clause 9 of our Constitution, and will therefore be signed by the Chairman and added to our 2018 constitution as clause 5.1 (vi). The 2020 Constitution will then replace the 2018 Constitution.

**9. Any Other Business (previously notified):** None.

**11. The meeting was closed at 10:17.**

**Signed:**..... **Chairman**      **Date**.....