

## MELTON MOWBRAY U3A

### MINUTES OF THE 24TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT 52 BOWLEY AVENUE, MELTON MOWBRAY ON THURSDAY 19TH MARCH 2020

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Chairman	Alan Barton (AB)
	Membership Secretary	Bill Shaw (BS)
	Committee Member	Graham Cherryman (GC)
	Member	Debbie Adams (DA)
	Member	Rosemary Barton (RB)
	Member	Brian Donovan (BD)
	Member	Sylvia Donovan (SD)

The meeting was opened at 10.15 a.m.

1. Chairman's welcome The Chairman welcomed all attendees to his home particularly Brian and Sylvia Donovan who were representing the Branch's general membership. He reminded the meeting that the Constitution required the annual election of a Committee, the presentation and approval of accounts, and the appointment of an Examiner of the accounts for the forthcoming year. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic, it had been decided to ask the membership for their proxy votes for items 3, 5, 6 and 7 on the Agenda. The Chairman reported that he had received 209 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 were received from 203 members who had submitted their proxy vote and were not present at the meeting. (Six members present had also submitted their proxy vote).
3. Minutes of the Melton Mowbray U3A AGM held on 21st March 2019 (previously circulated to the membership)  
MOTION: Brian Donovan proposed and Sylvia Donovan seconded that the minutes be taken as a true and accurate record. All voting (210) were in favour and there were no abstentions. The motion was carried and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.
4. Matters arising from the minutes of 21st March 2019 There were no matters arising.
5. Reports
  - (a) Chairman
    - The Chairman reported that the first part of 2020 had been much influenced by the COVID-19 epidemic and the Branch had left the day-to-day decisions on group meetings to the leaders and members of individual groups until otherwise advised by the Third Age Trust or the Government.
    - The Chairman thanked Graham Cherryman for producing two procedural documents during the year. The first to cover required actions in the event of a medical emergency at a monthly meeting, and the second a Safeguarding Policy document with regard to the Branch's vulnerable members.
    - The Chairman thanked Christine Bluett and her team of helpers for organising the Group Leaders' meeting last October, and the Meet the Groups meeting in January. He also thanked the Photography Group for their contribution to the U3A Christmas tree at the St. Mary's Christmas Tree Festival.
    - The Chairman reported that membership numbers remain stable at around 700 with 80 activity groups. He thanked the group leaders for their hard work, and the volunteers who help at the monthly meetings, Nora and the check-in team, Barbara and the catering team, Hughie, Dennis and Barry on the sound desk, Peter Matthews for looking after the technical equipment, Winifred Maine for the cards, and the many other helpers whose names have not been mentioned above.

- He also reported that the Third Age Trust, which is under new Chairmanship, decided to drop the words "University of the Third Age" from the logo as the word "University" seemed to put off some potential members. Instead the strapline "Learn, laugh, live" has been adopted and a national "U3A Day" is planned for later this year when local associations will be encouraged to promote the U3A in their areas.
- The Chairman announced that there will be six changes in the Committee with Sue Wright (Vice-Chairman), Morag Timbrell (Business Secretary), Bill Shaw (Membership Secretary), Linda Foulston (IT Advisor), Judith Jeffery (Speaker Secretary) and himself as Chairman standing down. He thanked all Committee members for all their hard work and support during his three year tenure as Chairman. He also thanked Chris Lawman for carry out the annual examination of the accounts, and Geraldine Green who has agreed to continue as Minute Taker.
- Finally he thanked the Branch's membership for their support, friendship, good humour and general interest in the Organisation. He wished the new Committee well in what is likely to be a difficult year.

(b) Membership Secretary

Bill Shaw reported that by the end of February there were 810 members, 708 having paid up but 102 have still yet to renew their membership. He announced that after two years he is standing down and he thanked members for their help, patience and understanding during this period. He hoped that the same courtesy would be extended to his successor.

(c) Treasurer

The Income and Expenditure accounts for 2019/20 had been previously circulated to the membership. The Chairman reported that Chris Lawman asked that the Treasurer be congratulated on the excellent way that she is maintaining the accounts.

MOTION: Sylvia Donovan proposed and Rosemary Barton seconded that the reports be accepted and the accounts adopted. All voting (210) were in favour and there were no abstentions. The motion was duly carried.

6. Election of Officers and Members of the Committee

The following nominations have been received :

Chairman	Graham Cherryman
Vice-Chairman	Kathlyn Ann Slack
Business Secretary	Deborah Caroline Adams
Treasurer	Brenda Jones
Membership Secretary	Christopher Hartny-Mill
Speaker Secretary	Joan Elizabeth Allen
Groups Co-ordinator	Christine Bluett
IT Advisor	Christopher Rupp
Newsletter Editor	Diane Cherryman

MOTION: Bill Shaw proposed and Brian Donovan seconded that the election of the above members to the Committee be ratified. All voting (210) were in favour and there were no abstentions. The motion was duly carried.

At this point Graham Cherryman took the Chair.

7. Appointment of Examiner of the Accounts for the financial year 2020/21

MOTION: Alan Barton proposed and Rosemary Barton seconded that Chris Lawman be appointed Examiner of the accounts for the forthcoming financial year. All voting (210) were in favour and there were no abstentions. The motion was duly carried.

8. Closure of meeting

- Graham Cherryman thanked the out-going Chairman on behalf of the Committee and membership for his work and dedication during his three years in office.
- The date of the next AGM will be Thursday 18th March 2021.

The meeting was closed at 10.34 a.m.

Signed (Chairman) ..... Date .....