

Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting of the Rutland U3A held at 10:30 on 6th July 2023 at Victoria Hall, Oakham.

1. Welcome and Introductions by the Chairman.

Ros Kenny (RK) welcomed everyone to the AGM. She confirmed that a total of 153 members had responded to the email and voted, exceeding the number required for a quorum. RK will be continuing as Chairman only as long as necessary to minimise any disruption.

2. Participants in the meeting and apologies received.

(Chair) Ros Kenny, Bob Bennett, Sharon Pratt, Diane Case, Hedley Greaves, Janet Bilby and Wanda Allen plus members

Apologies for absence received from John and Judith Renshaw, Ingrid Wood and Jane and Michael Gillon.

3. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on June 9th 2022.

This was proposed by Judy Greer and Judy Phillips seconded the minutes as a true and fair record and the minutes of the AGM were approved by 141 votes all for, none against.

4. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman had distributed her report to members previously.

Acceptance of the 2023 Chairman's Report was proposed by Mary Smith and seconded by Judy Phillips and the report was approved by 140 votes all for, none against.

5. Treasurer's Report.

Bob Bennett had distributed his report to the members previously.

A question was raised by Alan Costello who asked why the Financial Policy says it is signed off but there are no signatures shown? Also, Appendix 1 states that the social team had signed off this document but none of the team have seen the review.

The Treasurer explained that we do not, as yet, have an electronic signature facility but will look into it. Having had the issue of a Financial Policy raised at the last AGM, the Executive Committee had spent considerable time on this policy and agreed that the committee member goes back to their team to discuss it - e.g. the Groups' Coordinator shared it with relevant group leaders. If the Social Team had not seen it, that was because their representative on the Executive Committee had no disseminated it.

RK asked if Alan Costello is able to assist the new committee members with setting up of electronic signatures for future policies. The Treasurer reminded us that the Financial Policy is constantly changing and requiring updating.

The Treasurer gave a presentation of the accounts:

Comparing 2019 to 2023 there were 699 members then to 649 members now.

There were 4 bank branches in Rutland in 2019, now only the HSBC bank in Oakham. In the past some cash was paid in via a Committee Personal Bank Account and now no cash (should be) paid in via Committee Bank Accounts.

In 2019 there were 2000 Account Transactions pa and now there are 4800 pa.

When annual membership renewals took place in March 2019 and before there were long queues to renew membership. Now much shorter queues due to the considerable switch from paying by cheque and cash to paying by bank transfer and card.

The Treasurer shared the income and expenditure for 2021-22 and 2022-23. In 2021-22 the surplus was £3987 and 2022-23 we have a surplus of £1024. The Balance Sheet for 2021-22 and 2022-23 were shared and total reserves now stand at £17091.

The subscription was reduced from £12 to £1 pa for most members last year and this means that we are nearer to £9-£10,000 surplus for the next year which brings us to the preferred running residual amount as we need £7,000 in the bank account to fulfil any payments required by TAT if we were to close. (As would occur if we don't have a viable committee).

If we lost the only remaining bank branch in Oakham then we have to queue with everyone else in the Post Office and pay in cash using a bank card which will be for a named person only such as the Social Secretary and the Membership Secretary.

6. Financial Accounts and Examiner's Certificate

The Financial Accounts and supporting documents have been sent to the external examiner and returned with a signed certificate of compliance. Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was proposed by Sharon Pratt, seconded by Christopher Clark and was approved by 137 votes all for, 2 against.

Acceptance of the Final Accounts was proposed by Michael Seccombe and seconded by Sally Dux. It was approved by 140 votes all for, none against.

7. Proposals received from the membership. There were no proposals.

8. Election of New Committee Members for 2023/24. The following members were proposed by Rosanne Greaves and seconded by Judy Greer for nomination to the committee and approved by the members: Ros Kenny, Wanda Allen, Hedley Greaves, Janet Bilby, Bryan Howard, David Leary and new members - Keith Townsend, Antony Bianchi, Stuart Mason and Christopher Clark - all duly elected to the Committee. The chairman extended thanks to all Committee members.

Question by Sheridan Evans about the way in which every single member has the opportunity to vote and to query and ask questions was answered by Hedley Greaves the Secretary who explained that to be legal the meeting has to be quorate and so we need 100 members present. There were only 73 present at the AGM but 141 voted online. Members should respond by email with questions.

9. There was no other business.

10. Date, time and place of the next AGM. Thursday 6th June 2024 at 10am in the Victoria Hall, Oakham.