

Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting of the Rutland U3A held at 10:00 on 3rd June 2021.

This was an on-line meeting hosted by Zoom as a consequence of the restrictions imposed by the UK Government to limit the spread of coronavirus (Covid-19). Views of members relating to the agenda items which were posted on the Rutland U3A website had been solicited previously by e-mail or letter to all members.

1. Welcome and Introductions by the Chairman. Ros Kenny welcomed everyone to the AGM. She confirmed that a total of 211 members had responded to the email and voted, exceeding the number required for a quorum.

2. Participants in the zoom meeting and apologies received.

(Chair) Ros Kenny, Bob Bennett, Sue Morecroft, Sharon Pratt, Diane Case, Hedley Greaves and Bryan Howard plus members

Apologies for absence received from: Lucy Marsland, Ted and Julie Phillips, Margaret MacPherson, Margaret Gilman, Alan and Lynne Costello, Helen Shea, Sally Wilson and Tony Dunne who was unable to access the meeting.

3. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held August 2020. Bryan Howard proposed and Bob Bennett seconded the minutes as a true and fair record and the minutes of the AGM were approved by 179 votes all for, none against.

4. Chairman's Report. The Chairman had distributed her report to members previously via the Rutland U3A website. One consequence of COVID-19 was a sharp drop in the number of applications for membership and the Treasurer was closely monitoring the impact of this on the Group's finances.

Acceptance of the 2021 Chairman's Report was proposed by Hedley Greaves, seconded by Sue Morecroft and the report was approved by 180 votes all for, none against.

5. Treasurer's Report. Bob Bennett had posted his report on the Rutland U3A website previously. The Final 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 Diane Case, seconded by Hedley Greaves and was approved by 181 votes all for, none against.

6. Examiners report and approval of examiner.

Acceptance of the Final Accounts was proposed by Diane Case, seconded by Hedley Greaves approved by 180 votes all for, none against.

The Treasurer has recommended that Diane Sharpe be reappointed as external examiner of the accounts for the year 2021-2022. The Independent Examiners Report had been posted on the website. Acceptance of this was proposed by Bob Bennett, seconded by Bryan Howard and approved by 181 votes all for, none against.

7. Approval of revised Constitution. Acceptance of this was proposed by Stan Stubbs and seconded by Hedley Greaves. Approved by 178 votes, all for none against.

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

9. Election of Committee Members for 2021/2022. The following members were proposed and seconded for nomination to the committee and approved by the members: Ros Kenny, Bob Bennett, Sharon Pratt, Hedley Greaves, Lucy Marsland, Bryan Howard, Sue Morecroft and new member - Wanda Allen - all duly elected to the Committee unopposed.

The chairman extended thanks to Committee members and all volunteers for their work during the year and made particular mention of the valuable contribution by Diane Case and Tony Dunne, who are retiring from the Committee, for their work on behalf of the Group. She said that we have now only got 8 committee members.

10. Any other business. Treasurer re: finances. A brief report on the finances was given: We have done well against some serious threats and have a surplus of £2.5k from 2020-21 largely as a result of not renting Victoria Hall. Next financial year the Treasurer anticipates a reduction in membership subscriptions and Gift Aid, so we are heading towards a £800 deficit. This may improve if we gain new members and will be offset by the surplus from last year. COVID-19 has been a threat to everything we have done; it has given us the impetus to go digital - e.g. all the voting for this AGM and the majority of the subscription renewals are on line. New members can complete the application form on line and this goes directly to Lucy Marsland. We have begun contact-less payments using an iZettle card reader. This has been trialled by Pam Pluck and the Badminton group whose members have all responded favourably. In addition to Committee members, we are grateful to all other folk who help to run the website, IT, email, etc. The Treasurer is looking for two people to help him as Book keepers, doing simple accounting and using spreadsheets. This is because the increased digitalisation leads to more on-going financial management requirements through the year. More details regarding the Treasurer's request for two Book keepers will be in the monthly Ru3a Newsletter. More details to follow for 2022 but hopefully at the Victoria Hall, Oakham, circumstances permitting.

11. Date, time and place of the next AGM. Details