



Learn, Laugh, Live

Shaftesbury & Gillingham

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Shaftesbury & Gillingham U3A held on 3rd November 2022 at New Remembrance (Village) Hall, Charlton, Ludwell, Shaftesbury, SP7 OPL

1. **PRESENT:** 59 persons were present all members of SGU3A (list of attendees with the secretary)

APOLOGIES Received from Iris Tracey, Alan Lipscombe, Meriel Carver, Jane Gibson, Chris Bixby, Tony & Angela MacDonald.

2. **MINUTES of the LAST AGM** held on 3rd November 2021, made available prior to the meeting. Acceptance of these minutes were proposed by Margaret Hales and seconded by Roger Deardon. Proposal accepted by all present.

3. CHAIRMAN` s REPORT:

This first year of face to face meetings seems to have gone well. We have had a series of speakers talking on a variety of topics. We are particularly grateful to David Boag who stepped in at very much the last minute for our October 2022 meeting when the original speaker succumbed to COVID. His illustrated talk on the life of a wild life photographer was lively and fascinating. The committee wishes to thank our speakers' organiser, Libby Hague Holmes, for being able to get hold of him so quickly, as well as for organising all the speakers over the last 12 months, ensuring a variety of topics. I think she has next year's list pretty well in hand too!!

The last year has seen us being somewhat nomadic as to venues! We started off at Motcombe Village Hall, but there were issues surrounding parking and so we moved on to the Olive Bowl at Gillingham, which was better able to accommodate us all as well as plenty of parking! Sadly, the management at the Olive Bowl decided to close the venue owing to the after effects of COVID on finances. Therefore, we were on the move again - to the New Remembrance Hall at Charlton just 2 miles east of Shaftesbury on the A30. I hope that we have now found a more permanent venue!

As we have returned to a more normal lifestyle, our groups have, in the main, begun to meet face to face again. It is pleasing to be able to report that new groups are also forming, Art Appreciation, Book club and Embroidery. In addition, we have been able to form a second French Group, which is most encouraging.

Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to our groups' officer, Greer Tilbrook, who has moved to the Bristol area to be closer to family. In addition, following an accident, Davina Belcher has passed away. She was a longstanding member and supporter of the u3a.

My thanks must go to all the committee for their support, ideas and hard work. We have welcomed a new groups' officer, Barbara Hurst as well as an IT specialist, Jane Gibson to the committee. As always, our hard working secretary, Roger Laidler, deserves special thanks for keeping us on the straight and narrow! As the pandemic hopefully, fades in to the background, I do hope that as a branch we will go forward with confidence and positivity, building on what we have re-established in the last 12 months.

4. TREASURERS REPORT: The accounts for Aug 2021/July2022 were published prior to the meeting and then displayed to those present. There was only one query about the disparity in the amount paid for Beacon over the two years, this was probably due to extra amount paid last year carrying over from the previous year.

5. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS - Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Steve Hale, and seconded by Roger Lester. This was unanimously approved

6. ELECTION OF ACCOUNT EXAMINER Nic Griffin has volunteered to be the examiner for this year's accounts. Acceptance of his offer was proposed by Lesley Frost & seconded by Roger Lester. This was unanimously approved.

7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE The following members have agreed to carry on as committee members, Libby Hague-Holmes, Bill McIntyre, Roger Laidler, Pam Goodall, Peter Grange, Liz Greenway, Jane Gibson & Peter Hurst.

The proposal to elect these members was put forward by Jennifer Day and seconded by Madelaine Gale. This was unanimously approved.

Two other nominations for committee have been received, that of Barbara Hurst & Helen Warley, these proposals was also approved unanimously.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Peter Grange stated that this was the last day for those people, who had not paid this years' membership fee, to re-join.

(ii) Lesley Frost proposed a vote of thanks to all those on the committee and thanked them for all the work they had carried out in the last year.

11. CLOSE of MEETING. The meeting closed at 10.55 am.