Minutes of the Somerton u3a General Meeting held at the Edgar Hall

26th May 2023

**Present:** Steve Davis (Chairman), Jane Redgrove (Vice-Chairman) Annette Sparks (Secretary), Liz Short (Treasurer), Marilyn Muffett, Laurence Reeves, Amanda Hooper, David Robins, and over 65 members

**Apologies:** Mike Davis, Fran Cook, Mark & Jenny Lewis (away),Sue Pinney (Knee replacement), John & Angela Rodger (away), Pamela Branley (working) and Yvonne & David Aitken.

Steve Davis opened the meeting with a welcome to all members. He then thanked everyone who had kindly sponsored him on his walk around the Isle of Wight in aid of St Luke’s hospice. A total of £1,500 was raised.

There was then a pause for a minute to remember every member of the Somerton u3a who has passed away during the past year.

**Item 1** **Minutes** from the previous AGM ad SAGM have been circulated and have been available on the website. These were accepted as accurate records and signed accordingly.

**Item 2** **Matters arising.** There were none raised.

**Item 3**  **Chairman’s report.** Steve thanked everyone for attending the AGM. He explained that it had been a successful year. Membership has exceeded 400, which was a target that Marilyn had set herself. Marilyn is now stepping down from her role as Membership Secretary and Welfare Officer. Fran Cook is taking on this role, though sadly was not able to attend the meeting due to illness. Marilyn was thanked for all her hard work as Membership Secretary.

The u3a was primarily built for socialisation and study.There are currently over 50 groups running locally. Thanks was giving for all the contributions given in time and effort to keep the groups runnng. Thanks was also given to Jane as Groups Co-ordinator for all her hard work. There were social gatherings to make friends. During the year we held 2 Barn Dances, a Christmas Lunch, a 25th Birthday Tea and a Coronation lunch. Thanks were given to Amanda and her events team for all their hard work.

Thanks were given to David for arranging the speakers for the monthly meetings. Thanks were also given to the Tech Team for ably managing the Zoom presentations and the sound system. Doug Skillicorn will be sorely missed for his endless patience with the inevitable IT glitches. Communication has continued via Beacon and the Newsletter. Thanks were given to Laurence and Mike for all their hard work and also the hand delivery of some of the Newsletters. Annette was thanked for her work as Secretary in typing up minutes, booking rooms and liasing with the Third Age Trust.

Liz, as Treasurer, was the last officer remaining last year and has done a sterling job. The Income and Expenditure Accounts have been prepared and checked monthly very carefully. Budgets have been set wisely and an increase in Edgar Hall fees was anticipated and included in the budget for 2023. The capitation fee to the Third Age Trust is not increasing this year which means that the membership fee will not increase either, which is good news.

Thanks was given to the Really Useful Group Members who help with setting up, teas and coffees and ensure thast everything flows easily. Lastly all members were thanked for supporting the Su3a. Steve asked that we all continue to have fun in the coming year.

**Item 4 Treasurers Report.** Liz explained that the accounts for 2022/23 are available to inspect on the Su3a website. There is a bank reconciliation every month which is reported back to the committee. There is currently a surplus of £1500 in the activities budget.

Membership income is 45% by bank transfer and the rest by cheque.

We have £788 of Avalon Network Funds which we are holding in readiness for their use. Hopefully the Network will be able to use them soon. Liz thanked Barrie Davies Independent Examiner for carrying out the mid-year and end of year check. Barrie is very thorough and checks all receipts, invoices and cheque book stubs, including the unused ones.

Viv Winterburn Proposed that the report be accepted and Enid Thresher Seconded the proposal.

There was a majority show of hands in support of the report, with one abstention by Maurice Powell.

**Item 5 Election of members.** Apart from Marilyn all committee members agreed to remain in post. Sarah Terry visited the committee meeting last month and wishes to join the committee.

David Perkins Proposed that Sarah be elected, and Pamela Miley Seconded the proposal.

There was a majority show of hands in support of Sarah’s election to the committee.

**Item 6 AOB**

* In recognition of all her hard work as Membership Secretary and Welfare Officer Marilyn was presented with a gift voucher by Steve.
* Steve then presented a patio rose to Jane Skillicorn in recognition of all the work her late husband Doug carried out in the Tech Team during his life. Jane responded that she felt it was a very touching gift.
* Jane Redgrove then thanked Steve for all his hard work since taking on the Chairman’s role again. Jane pointed out how important succession planning is for the future of the organisation.
* Steve then closed the AGM for 2023.