

Minutes of Thornbury u3a 2020 AGM on Zoom 10.30 Tuesday 09th February 2021

The total number of attendees was a maximum of 305 on a maximum of 254 platforms. Where members shared a platform two votes were arranged for each motion so that all members attending could vote.

The Committee members in attendance were:-

Norman Taylor, Steve Hughes, Ian Macdonald, Jackie Gitsham, Don Grundell, Frank Tustin, Mike Farquhar, Barbara Jones, Louise Ingsley, Anne Reed. We received apologies from Sue James.

1. The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and explained the procedures for voting and asking questions.
2. There were 77 apologies for absence addressed to the Secretary including Sue James (see above).
3. The minutes of the last AGM of 12th November 2019 were tabled and approved. The motion to accept the minutes was proposed by Tony Turnbull and seconded by Richard Norton. The vote was:- 275 in favour 0 against 21 abstentions.

4. Chairman's report:

The Chairman's report can be found in full on our website. The key points being:-

- Membership as at 31st January 2021 stands at 1479 (compared with 1854 in 2019) with an additional 200 potentially to re-new.
- We have 85 interest groups, some are using zoom and some have held limited external activities including cycling and walking (all Covid 19 dependent).
- We have paid for two Zoom professional licences to help groups operate remotely. NB used for this AGM.
- We have noted potential problems with availability of suitable venues with the Closure of the Armstrong Hall.
- We held a Group Leaders' meeting in February 2020. The Chair thanked all the Group Leaders for the major contributions to the running of Tu3a.
- We held an EGM in July 2020 in order to approve our accounts and to make changes to the Constitution permitting Electronic meetings and voting.
- Our turnover was in excess of £210k including all the groups and the Chair expressed thanks to Steve Hughes and Ian Gross for all their efforts.

The motion to accept the Chairman's report was proposed by Steven Wells and seconded by Susan Lucas. The vote was:- 296 in favour 1 against 5 abstentions.

5. Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer's report can be found in full on our website. The key points being:-

- We are using a slightly different method of accounting this year which involves a mixture of two systems. The issue was raised by Rex Sacket and the Treasurer has explained to him how the system works. Ian Gross and the Charity Commissioners have accepted our accounts in this format.
- The accounts show a modest surplus this year and we have adequate reserves of £51k.
- Notes were made that TAT have increased membership to £4.00 (£3.50)/member. The Tu3a Committee along with other u3as in the area had voted against the increase but overall the increase was approved nationally.

- The Treasurer thanked all the Group Leaders for returning their accounts to him in a speedy fashion and also to the leaders of the 6 (4 of the largest 5 plus 2 at random) for their co-operation with our Examiner.
- There are no financial concerns with any of the groups and each has adequate reserves.
- The Treasurer expressed his thanks to Ian Gross our Examiner.

Several questions from the floor were answered by the Treasurer, mostly relating to the increased membership fees. The Committee is obliged to ensure that we have adequate reserves. It was noted that we had lost commission income from Riviera Travel.

Asked about groups combining the Treasurer agreed it was fine in principle to combine groups and their assets but the groups in question should notify the Committee of all and every change. The Treasurer and the Group Co-ordinator need to know.

The motion to accept the Treasurer's report was proposed by Robert Walters and seconded by Cilla Farquhar. The vote was:- 297 in favour 0 Against. 8 Abstentions

6 Election of the Committee:

As there were no proposals for any new Committee members and the whole of the existing Committee were prepared to stand, the whole election was put to one vote:-

Proposed by Rosie Bailey and seconded by Rob Anstey:-

The vote was:- 299 in favour 0 Against. 1 Abstention

7. The Committee advised the meeting that Ian Gross had been re-appointed as our Examiner.

8. There were no questions in advance.

In response to a question from the floor the Committee assured the meeting that all and every effort will be made to encourage lapsed members to re-join.

9. Thank to the Committee for a well run meeting were registered from the floor by Richard Norton, Cilla Farquhar, and Betty Cornes-Tomkins.

10. The Chairman advised members that the minutes and the recording of the meeting would be available soon on our website.

The next meeting is planned for Tuesday 8th February 2022

The meeting closed at 11.25

Ian Macdonald. Secretary. 09/02/21.