

WADHURST U3A

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 15 August 2018 in Wadhurst Commemoration Hall at 2:30 pm

Committee Members Present: Ken Turner (KT) Chair, David Austin (DA), Paul G. Brown (PB), David Francis (DF), Jacqui Harman (JH), Allan Newton (AN), John O'Dwyer (JD), Val Smith (VS), Jean Turner (JT), and 127 members.

1. Apologies for absence: Kath Bishop, Thai Goulton, David Lee, Rita Mitchell, Lyn Rajan, Sue Petri, Barbara Stevens, Lesley Thompson, Judith Whiteman, Pamel Walters, Patricia Watters

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Accepted as a true and accurate record by a show of hands of the members.

3. Special Resolution: DA explained the reasons for the special resolution which had been stated on the back of the AGM Agenda. The resolution is to replace the charitable purposes paragraph in the Wadhurst U3A Constitution with the following wording:

The advancement of education, and in particular the education of older people and those who are retired from full time work, by all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development, in Wadhurst and its surrounding locality.

Proposed by Richard Froggatt, Seconded by Ian Macdonald.
Accepted by the members by a show of hands.

4. Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for 2018:

KT Presented the following report:

I am pleased to report that during the past year our membership has grown from 221 to 242 which is very encouraging for the trustees who I must thank for their hard work and support over the past year. Thank you too to you, the members as well for supporting our monthly meetings, the interest groups and other events that we have organised.

We have added several new groups during the year and it is encouraging that we welcome members from other U3As to some of our groups - table tennis, wine, scrabble and science being four examples.

We have had some very informative and entertaining speakers at our monthly meetings - thank you to Hazel for managing this important part of our yearly programme.

Last September saw us visit Bewl Water for our fourth Birthday Party to enjoy tea and a trip on the water. December saw people dancing to the singing of Justine Clark at our Christmas party.

We held our first Barn Dance at Uplands in February and another of our popular Pop the Question evenings in June won this year by a team from Mayfield U3A.

Several of the groups including Historic Buildings and Gardening have made visits to places of interest including places as diverse as Chatham Dockyard and the Keukenhof garden in Holland.

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You can see from this that we have a large and varied programme and at this point I must draw your attention to our website ably kept up to date by Jacqui. This is where you will find details of all that is going on PROVIDED of course that all group convenors provide her with details of their programmes and activities.

I must say thank you to Philip for his work in producing our quarterly News Magazine. I know that you enjoy receiving this each quarter, but the magazine is only as good as the information you provide. Please make sure you make Philip's job easier by sending appropriate articles to him each quarter. The deadline for the September Magazine is next Monday 20 August.

PB presented the Accounts for the year ending on 30 June 2018

PB reported that despite a slight deficit due to the printing of the News Magazine in colour, the purchase of notice boards and a new sound system we are solvent. There will be expenditure on a new web site in the near future.

The Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for 2018 were accepted by the members, by a show of hands.

5 Group Coordinators Report:

DF Presented the following report: Report on Groups 2018

We have 29 Groups, including 4 at Uplands and 5 at Wadhurst Manor. Plus, the Pub Lunch which is a movable feast. Quite a few groups are full and cannot take any new members at present, so they have waiting lists.

Other groups are happy for people to join them, and I keep a list, which is on the notice board, they include Table Tennis, Ballroom Dancing, Poetry Reading, Yoga & Zumba.

Always double check with Convenor before you attend.

Wadhurst Manor plays an important part in providing a good place for small groups to meet. A few residents join in with some of the Groups. The staff encourage this as it helps their overall welfare. Poetry Reading and Scrabble are good examples welcoming residents from the Manor, and I am told some Bridge Players go specially to join with residents who are unable to get out. The Ukulele Players have a sing along and are very popular. There is enough equipment at the Manor to get an Art Group going, they would also welcome a Craft Group again. Some residents have shown an interest in the garden and Ken is getting involved.

The Walking Group has just reorganized with a new convenor and members are taking it in turns to organise walks. The group is using the web site and the magazine to set out details of their programme.

Information about all Groups, with interesting snippets and stories is essential for the web and the magazine.

My job is to assist any Groups who need help and to answer queries about the groups in general.

I would like to thank all the Convenors for their hard work and am looking forward to the next year.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 15 August 2018 cont:

6. Election of Officers:

JH took the chair:

- a. *Chair.* Ken Turner elected as sole candidate proposed by Jane Austin and seconded by Elizabeth Taylor.

JH then handed the chair of the meeting to KT

- b. *Vice Chair:* Jacqui Harman elected as sole candidate proposed by Kate Metcalfe and seconded by Iris Glover.
- c. *Business Secretary:* David Austin elected as sole candidate proposed by J O'Dwyer and seconded by Clare Wells.
- d. *Treasurer:* Paul Brown elected as sole candidate proposed by Sheila Minet and seconded by Alan Newton.
- e. *General Committee members:* David Francis, Hazel Hemsley, Jane Larcombe, Allan Newton, John O'Dwyer and Jean Turner proposed by Joan Page and seconded by Marianne Lucas.

7. Appointment of Independent Examiner:

Mr John Francis of Groombridge, formerly of Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited, Chartered Accountants, was reappointed as the Charity's Independent Examiner. proposed by Hazel Hemsley and seconded by Jessica Brown.

8. Any Other Business

KT Presented the following address

Val Smith who was a founder member of the U3A is retiring from the committee after five years. During this time, she has been involved in many aspects of the U3A, originally our monthly speaker co-ordinator she has been our social activity co-ordinator and started the pub lunch group. She has also been very involved with the Bring and Buy table. Val a big thank you from all of us. Val will of course will continue to be active in the U3A. Val then received a thankyou presentation from KT.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 15:00

David Austin
Business Secretary
Wadhurst U3A