



Annual General Meeting of U3A in Ludlow held at 11 am, 20th November, 2020 via Zoom

MINUTES of the meeting

The Chairman, **Robert Hodge**, began the meeting by welcoming those attending via Zoom. The AGM had been delayed in the hopes that it could take place as a face-to-face meeting. As this had not proved possible this year, the Committee had resolved in the interests of good governance to hold the meeting via Zoom, in accordance with guidance from the Charity Commission.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from *John Farley, Pam and Graham Hardy, Richard Pickering and Gillian Sharpe*.

2. Minutes of the Previous AGM (25th March, 2019) and any matters arising

The Minutes had been circulated with the November Newsletter. The Chairman asked if anyone present had any corrections or matters arising. There being none, acceptance of the Minutes as a true record of that meeting was proposed, seconded, and approved by those present.

3. Adoption of the Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report had been circulated previously with the November Newsletter. *Robert Hodge* added that life had continued as normal throughout 2019, which had been a good year. Membership numbers stood at 622, there were about 75 active groups and 70 co-ordinators, and more groups could have been formed if more co-ordinators were forthcoming, particularly for language groups. The meetings programme had offered interesting speakers and thanks were due to *Derek Ball* for producing 14 newsletters and to the Committee for its work during the year. In the absence of any questions arising, acceptance of the Annual Report was proposed, seconded, and approved by those present.

4. Adoption of the Treasurer's Report and Accounts

The Treasurer's Report and the summary of income and expenditure in number form had already been circulated with the November Newsletter. *David Hatchell* summarised the U3A's position by saying there was a higher surplus than usual because of the increase in membership and the fact that hiring the Mascall Centre was cheaper than the budgeted cost of hiring the Assembly Rooms. There being no questions from the floor, acceptance of the accounts was proposed, seconded, and approved by those present.

5. Election of Committee Members and Officers

The Chairman pointed out that under our constitution Committee Members served for one year and must be re-elected annually. This year *David Hatchell* was retiring as Treasurer and *Deborah Gentry* was retiring as Secretary from the Committee and the Chairman thanked them for their valuable contributions. *Sue Billing* continued in post as organiser of the monthly meetings and had arranged a full programme of meetings until the end of 2021. *Peony Carpenter* continued to

do a great job as Study Group Adviser. The other existing members of the Committee were also standing for re-election, together with *Grace Wilkins* and *Barbara Ball*. Those standing had already been nominated and seconded, so the Chairman proposed that the Committee be voted in “en bloc”. The resolution for the re-election of those existing members of the committee who were again standing and for the election of *Grace Wilkins* on to the committee was duly proposed by *Stuart McLaren* and seconded by *Marilyn Gaunt* and the Meeting approved the election of those nominated to the Committee.

Robert Hodge then called for the election of the three main Officers on the Committee. He was again standing as Chairman, *Grace Wilkins* was standing as Treasurer and *Barbara Ball* was standing as Secretary. Again, he invited a resolution and vote on their election ‘en bloc’. Proposed by *Susan Jones*, seconded by *Peony Carpenter*. All three appointments were approved by the Meeting.

6. Election of Examiner

The existing examiner of our accounts, *Ian Stewart*, had indicated he was willing to continue. *Ian Stewart* was proposed for Examiner by *David Hatchell*, seconded by *Deborah Gentry* and approved by those present.

7. Any Other Business

Mike Plume enquired if there was any indication when the Assembly Rooms would again be open. *Robert Hodge* replied that, whenever the Committee had enquired, the reply was always ‘in three months.’ It was not expected that the Assembly Rooms would be available again before next Spring. If groups who used LAR were able to start meeting again before the re-opening, they would need to find alternative venues but if this proved a problem, the Committee would try to help.

Marilyn Gaunt thanked the Committee for organising the Zoom facility for groups.

Although this concluded the formal business of the meeting, *Robert Hodge* advised those attending that the quorum required to validate the proceedings of AGM had not been reached. In accordance with the Constitution, he therefore adjourned the proceedings of the AGM at 11.16 am, until Monday 21st December at 11.00 o’clock. At that meeting, whether it was quorate or not, those attending would under the Constitution be able to ratify the proceedings of the adjourned AGM. He would email an invitation to the Zoom session to all members.



Adjourned Annual General Meeting of U3A in Ludlow held at 11 am, 21st December, 2020 via Zoom

MINUTES of the meeting

The Chairman, Robert Hodge, began the meeting by welcoming those attending via Zoom and explained the purpose of this adjourned AGM. The AGM held on 30th November was not quorate but he decided, as Chairman, to allow the people present at that meeting to vote on the various proposals in the agenda. These decisions would then be confirmed at this adjourned meeting which, by the Constitution, does not have to be quorate.

The Chairman then considered each decision made at the meeting on 20th November

2. Minutes of the Previous AGM (25th March, 2019) and any matters arising

The acceptance of the Minutes was confirmed by a unanimous show of hands from all present.

3. Adoption of the Chairman's Report

The acceptance of the Annual Report was confirmed by a unanimous show of hands from all present.

4. Adoption of the Treasurer's Report and Accounts

The acceptance of the Treasurer's Report and Accounts was confirmed by a unanimous show of hands from all present.

5. Election of Committee Members and Officers

The re-election of members of the current Committee (*Sue Billings, Peony Carpenter, Janice Haines, Robert Hodge, Peter Law and Stuart McLaren*) was confirmed by a unanimous show of hands from all present.

The election of *Barbara Ball* and *Grace Wilkins* to the Committee was confirmed by a unanimous show of hands from all present.

The election of the three main Officers of the Committee was confirmed by a unanimous show of hands from all present: *Robert Hodge* as Chairman, *Grace Wilkins* as Treasurer and *Barbara Ball* as Secretary.

The Chairman asked that an additional Officer be appointed to Vice Chairman, as allowed by the Constitution. *Janice Haines* was proposed and seconded, and this was agreed by a unanimous show of hands from all present.

6. Election of Examiner

The election of *Ian Stewart* as Examiner was confirmed by a unanimous show of hands from all present.

7. Any Other Business

Sue Billings asked when the AGM would take place in 2021 and *Robert Hodge* replied that this would be decided at the meeting of the committee on 19th January 2021 and confirmed at the March committee meeting.

Robert Hodge thanked *David Hatchell* for his dedicated and careful work as Treasurer over the last six years and pointed out that six years as Treasurer was quite an achievement.

Robert also thanked *Deborah Gentry* for serving as Secretary for three years and keeping the committee on the 'straight and narrow' so effectively.

Finally, *Robert* thanked all members of the Committee for their work and support over the last year, particularly when unforeseen circumstances meant he was not available. He expressed his hope that at some time in 2021 Ludlow U3A would be able to meet face-to-face once more.

This concluded the formal business of the meeting which closed at 11.12am.