

Orpington u3a Annual General Meeting Agenda
To be held on : Monday 16 January 2023.

1. Acceptance of Minutes of previous AGM, held on 17 January 2022 .
2. Chairman's report, acceptance of report previously submitted
3. Treasurer's Provisional Summary of Accounts
(The Treasurer's audited Annual Finance Report to be included in Feb/Mar Newsletter)
4. Groups Coordinator's report, previously submitted
5. In the absence of new nominees to the Committee the following have agreed to stand for election:-

Election of Officers to the Committee

Chairman: Sue Howe
Vice Chairman: Yvonne Sallis
Treasurer: Robert Browne
Secretary: Janet Anderson

The rest of existing committee can be elected en-bloc subject to members' approval:-

Janet Tucker, Linda Howard, Janet Holmes, Peter Richards, Maurice Childs.

Nominations for the 10th Committee Member will be 'Open to the Floor' or can be left pending for the decision of the incoming Chairman.

Examiner of Accounts: Stuart Wood to be nominated and elected

6. Any other business:

Conclusion of meeting with time and confirmation of number in attendance.

Minutes of the Orpington u3a AGM held on the 17 January 2022 at 2pm by zoom.

Present

Committee: Steve Cooling, Pauline Dawson, Linda Haward, Sue Howe, Peter Richards, Sybil Robinson, William Sear (Chair) Janet Tucker, Mike Winder, plus in excess of 97 on zoom representing a quorum.

Apologies none

1 **Acceptance of the Minutes** of the AGM held 18.1.2021 were accepted, subject to changing Wilkins to Wilks.

Proposed by Yvonne Sallis Seconded by Janet Holmes – carried.

2. The Chairman's Report

The Chairman said that since his Report, which was previously circulated, the proposed Treasurer had had to withdraw and Mike Winder agreed to continue. Proposed by John Mangold Seconded by Peter Short – carried.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer gave the following explanation why there was a £4000 surplus of funds on the accounts due to these varying circumstances:-

1. The u3a Capital Charge based on our lower membership figure in March.
2. Non-hire of Crofton Hall while Covid-19 restrictions in place.
3. Refreshment costs incurred by volunteers on Recruitment Days.
4. The anticipated increase of 50p by National to £4 for membership
5. The expected inflation projections
6. Slight increase in speaker's fees as we used Mirthy zoom talks.

In reply from questions from the floor, the Treasurer did not think it wise to subsidise the cost of coffees in BR6 but preferred to use it for the benefit of all members.

The zoom licence to be made available to all groups. The cost of the license £90 was not yet shown in the accounts.

Proposed by Janet Holmes Seconded by Sybil Robinson carried.

4. **Coordinator's Report** Proposed by Janet Tucker Seconded by Yvonne Sallis carried.

5. Election of Officers

Chair - Pauline Dawson Proposed by Kevin Nunn Seconded by Janice Clarke

Vice Chair - Sue Howe Proposed by Janet Holmes Seconded by Kevin Nunn

Treasurer - Mike Winder Proposed by Sue Howe Seconded by Janet Holmes

Business Secretary - Janet Walker Proposed by Kevin Nunn Seconded by Janet Tucker

New Committee Member - Yvonne Sallis Proposed by Janet Holmes Seconded by Linda Haward

Remainder of Committee Members

Steve Cooling, Janet Tucker, Janet Holmes, Peter Richards, Linda Haward

Proposed en-bloc by Jill Dunn Seconded en-bloc by Choo Toms - all carried.

Examiner of Accounts - Ken Cridland Proposed by Roger Howe Seconded by Beryl Rumgay – carried.

6. Constitution Amendment to enable the use of electronic means when physical assembly not possible for general meetings

'Where the committee determines that a general meeting is to be held by electronic means only, such determination shall be set out in the notice of the general meeting sent to members, along with an explanation of the exceptional circumstances which require the general meeting to be held by electronic means only.

For the purposes of this clause 'exceptional circumstances' means circumstances which in the reasonable opinion of the committee render it impossible to hold an effective general meeting in person

If the meeting is to be held solely by electronic means pursuant to clause 10(3)c, the place of the meeting shall be deemed to be the charity's registered office address

Proposed by John Mangold Seconded by Kevin Nunn – carried.

7. Any Other Business

1 Sue Howe thanked the Chairman for his efforts during very difficult times. She thanked Sybil Robinson too for her long-standing service to Orpington u3a and bestowed the title of Honorary Life President. Sybil acknowledged and thanked her.

Conclusion

The official meeting ended at 2.52pm.

CHAIR'S REPORT 2022

I have enjoyed my time as The Chair this year. We all faced challenges, especially with the effects and disruption caused by the on-going war, heat wave, and COVID, but Orpington u3a has emerged stronger, our membership number has recovered and we now have over nine hundred members.

We have joined in National u3a events this year. Some of us celebrated the 'Picnic in the Park' for The Queen's Jubilee on the 1st June. Sadly the Queen's death was a shock to us all. Tributes were paid at the BOB group meeting. We sent loyal greetings to King Charles III.

The u3a's 40th Anniversary celebration Games Morning, organised by the BOB groups, was on the 21st of September. Its great success was shared and can be seen in the National Newsletter website.

I am pleased to say most members now have access to a form of IT which makes it easier to receive our excellent bi-monthly Newsletter. Our thanks go to the small editorial team led by Janet Tucker which includes Sybil Robinson and Viki Worthington.

Our excellent Website is managed and kept up to date by Roger Howe. Sadly we said goodbye to Steve Cooling our IT manager but Maurice 'Mo' Childs has ably stepped into the role.

The speakers at our General Meeting at Crofton Hall were well received and there is now an excellent programme of speakers arranged for 2023.

The 'Chair's Chat' in July, gave me the chance to meet many of our wonderful group leaders who all deserve our thanks. We have nearly ninety groups covering a wide variety of subjects. If you have a hobby or subject that you would like to share, please contact our Group Co-ordinators.

I understand that there might be a change of roles within the Committee and one of the members has agreed to cover the role of Secretary but we still need another Group Coordinator. If you are willing to be nominated for the committee please let us know. I would like to thank Mike Winder for continuing in the role as Treasurer and to Robert Browne who has offered to replace him.

William Sear stepped in as Secretary to replace Janet Walker who resigned because of ill health. Fortunately we have had a well-qualified Secretary Janet Anderson sitting in these last few months.

Mike, William and I will be stepping down at the AGM on the 16 January 2023.

My thanks also to our Committee Members, for their help and support throughout the year and lastly to our great membership.

Finally I wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Pauline Dawson

TREASURER'S REPORT

Support for Orpington u3a remained extremely positive throughout 2022 with membership holding up strongly, resulting in our bank account showing a surplus of almost £6000, leading to a total reserve of around £17500. Sufficient funds are now available to upgrade several laptops and associated equipment which is planned for the new year. Crofton Hall was hired throughout 2022 at a total cost of £1350 but replacing zoom sessions with a variety of speakers helped reduce the impact of this cost. Again we did not send delegates to the National Conference.

The Third Age Trust subscription increased this year and annual increases linked to inflation are under review by the Trust.

A significant change this year has been the handling of income and expenses for a number of large groups who require the use of larger premises and the ability to pay for those by cheque or Bank Transfer.

Credit card subscription payment via Beacon and Paypal continues to increase, further reducing the need to visit the bank to deposit cash and cheques.

As stated in previous reports, areas for potential cost savings remain as follows:

- 1. Gift Aid** We can claim back 25% of your subscription fee from the Inland Revenue, provided that you are a tax payer and that you have paid enough tax to cover your total claims. The Gift Aid claim accounts for around 16% of our income.
However, if you have previously signed up for Gift Aid but now find that you are no longer liable to pay income tax, please let me know, so that your name can be removed from the list.
- 2. Email** Despite using the Franking machine system, postage for our Newsletter remains stubbornly high. Opting to receive the Newsletter by email will help to limit those costs and it also arrives faster.
- 3. TAM** If you never read the Third Age Magazine mailed by the Third Age Trust, and it just ends up in the recycling bin, let one of the Committee members know and we can then remove your address from the Trust's mailing list and save over £2 per address.

It is our intention to hold the current subscription level of £12 until February 29th 2024.

Finally, I would like to thank Ken Cridland, who has kindly volunteered to examine the accounts.

D. M. Winder