u3a
Petersfield
Charity No. 1060354

# Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting held on Monday 10 October 2022 at 2.30pm at Petersfield Community Centre

**In the Chair:** Les Jarman, President

1. **Notice of the Meeting issued on Friday 9 September 2022**
   Taken as read.

2. **Chair's Welcome and Apologies**
   The Chair of the Meeting welcomed ninety-one attendees to the AGM. Apologies were received from Robin and Val Wood, Bonnie Hill, Neil and Janetta Dobinson, Charles Price, Vivienne Bradley, Elaine Jarvis, Sue Besant, Valerie Tweddle, Peter Lake, Clive Hutton, Diana Brooks, Joan Shepley, Eric Stipper.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
   The Minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting held on 11 October 2021 were unanimously agreed as a true record; there were no matters arising.

4. **Chair's Annual Report**
   Steven Watts, Chair of the Management Committee, presented a summary of his Annual Report, which had been circulated to all members by email and post prior to the AGM. He was particularly pleased that membership had increased over the past year, whereas some u3as had closed during and since the pandemic and thanked all members for their loyalty. The Open Day held in Autumn 2021 had engaged new interest, and the Welcome Team had been a great success in helping new members to integrate and was going from strength to strength. He thanked all concerned. He complimented those members who had volunteered their time in support of the local Covid vaccination programme. This being his final AGM as Chair of the Management Committee, he acknowledged Les Jarman's service as President and thanked fellow committee members for their commitment and support, and all the Conveners and volunteers who contributed to Petersfield u3a.
   Steven Watts proposed the adoption of his report, seconded by Robina Whitehorn; it was accepted unanimously.

5. **Annual Accounts**
The Accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 having been circulated by email and post prior to the Meeting, Gordon Watts, Treasurer, gave comments. The Independent Financial Examiner had approved the Report. The financial situation remained healthy whilst the Management Committee had maintained its commitment to subsidise Group activities during Covid recovery. That support would continue until August 2023 and would be reviewed at that time. Hence the operating deficit of £3,735, which was fully supported by Reserves of over £30,000. There being no questions, Gordon Watts proposed the adoption of the Annual Financial Report and Accounts, seconded by Duncan Wright. They were adopted unanimously.

6. **Appointment of the Financial Examiner**
The re-appointment of James William Cleverly as Independent Financial Examiner, proposed by Gordon Watts and seconded by Mike Wallace, was approved unanimously.

7. The following were overwhelmingly re-elected to the Management Committee, with abstentions in two instances:
Gordon Watts – Treasurer
Robina Whitehorn – Secretary
Jenny Thwaites
Linda Hutton
Peter Lake

8. The following were elected unanimously to the Management Committee:-
Marjorie Day – nominated by Robina Whitehorn
Louise Fox - nominated by Jenny Thwaites
Charles Price - nominated by Peter Lake

9. The Meeting noted the resignation of Steven Watts from the Management Committee and as Chair.

10. Having been nominated by the Management Committee, Charles Price was overwhelmingly elected Chair of the Management Committee for the first year of a potential three-year term.

11. **Administrative Update to the Constitution of Petersfield u3a**
Robina Whitehorn, Secretary, introduced the updated Constitution which had been circulated to all members, with a supporting paper, by email and post prior to the meeting. It was based on the Model Constitution issued by the Third Age Trust in February 2021 and had been recommended by the Trust for adoption by individual u3as. She reiterated that it was an administrative update reflecting current regulatory and compliance requirements regarding charity governance. There was no change to the Charitable Objective and Purpose of Petersfield u3a, nor to the business and operating model. The new

nationally approved u3a Model Constitution presented greater flexibility in the administration of individual u3as by giving the Management Committee the power to draw up Byelaws for the conduct of routine business in support of the Constitution. In response to a question from the floor, the Secretary stated that the only change made to the Model Constitution had been to increase Trustee tenure limits to ten years, with a limit of five years in any one Officer role, to which the Third Age Trust had given approval. The administrative update had been approved by both the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission and was commended to members for adoption with effect 10 October 2022. It was accepted unanimously.

12. **Any Other Business**
    - On behalf of members, Esther Jones expressed appreciation to Steven Watts for his service as Chair during a challenging period. Jenny Thwaites followed with a small presentation on behalf of the Management Committee.
    - Sue Potts thanked Les Jarman for his service as President. In response, he stated that it had been an honour, and he was proud that Petersfield u3a had come through Covid in such good shape. He remained concerned at the unwillingness of members to volunteer for Committee and support roles and reminded all present that future success depended on succession planning.

13. There being no further business, Les Jarman closed the Annual General Meeting and formally handed over the Presidency to Andy Borthwick.

14. The meeting concluded at 3.00pm.

15. Date of the next Annual General Meeting – 9 October 2023

Following the Meeting, John Donlan was recognised as Member of the Year.

RW
12 October 2022