



Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting
held on Monday 7 December at 2.30pm via Zoom,
as agreed by the Management Committee on Tuesday 20 October 2020

In the Chair: Les Jarman, President

Present (via Zoom): 50 (Management Committee and members)
91 members having participated in the prior voting process (e-vote/postal);
(65 of these giving the Chairman of the meeting proxy authority to vote)
All voting records will be retained until AGM 2021.

1. Notice of the Meeting

Taken as read.

2. Chairman's Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman of the meeting welcomed all attendees and thanked John Donlan and Malcolm Muggerridge for setting up the Zoom facility. The meeting was being recorded and would be available via a link on the Petersfield u3a website for a month.

Apologies were received from Martin Muncaster, Christine Wall, Carol Richards, Sarah Price, Christine Shard, Caroline Hilton, Eileen Sherlock.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the 24th Annual General Meeting held on 14 October 2019 were unanimously agreed as a true record with two abstentions; there were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Annual Report

Steven Watts, Chairman of the Management Committee, presented a summary of his first Annual Report, which had been circulated to the members prior to the AGM. He commenced by acknowledging and thanking four members of the Management Committee who were standing with effect 7 December 2020 – Keith Hopper, Heather Nicholson, Colin Smith and Esther Jones; the latter would continue in advisory role as Speaker Secretary. Those individuals standing for election / re-election to the Management Committee briefly introduced themselves.

The Chairman drew attention to the key points in his Report – the successful implementation of the Beacon Data Management System (thanking John Donlan and Linda Hutton for their hard work); the sadly cancelled 25th Anniversary celebration; the impact of Covid 19; the growing focus on Health, Wellbeing and Inclusivity; increasing use of Zoom during the pandemic, enabling many Groups to remain active; the 600-strong membership; the ongoing Communications project. He thanked Les Jarman and, the Management Committee for their support, and the many volunteers who assisted. He looked forward to welcoming Marjorie Day and Hilary Bonney in leading the Welcome Team and advising Speaker content respectively.

Looking to the future, the Chairman looked forward to implementation of the Communications project, the expansion of befriending activity, the development of new learning content through the national u3a and a new programme of speakers and entertainment for General Meetings. He felt that despite the difficulties of 2020, there were good prospects for the year ahead.

Having proposed the adoption of the Report, seconded by Andy Borthwick, it was accepted unanimously by those present.

5. Annual Accounts

The Accounts having been circulated prior to the Meeting, Gordon Watts, Treasurer gave comments. He pointed out the new Restricted Fund, being the bequest to the Scrabble Group. Overall, funds were in a healthy state, both income and expenditure having been affected by the pandemic. Beacon charges, Zoom subsidies and venue costs for Groups were reflected in higher costs; the membership levy paid to the Third Age Trust would increase in 2022. There were presently no plans to increase Petersfield u3a's own fees.

Having proposed the adoption of the Annual Accounts, seconded by Steven Watts, they were accepted with five abstentions.

6. Appointment of the Financial Examiner

The re-appointment of James William Cleverly was approved with three abstentions.

7. The following were overwhelmingly re-elected to the Management Committee:

Gordon Watts – Treasurer

Robina Whitehorn – Secretary

Jenny Thwaites – Group Co-ordinator

Linda Hutton – Membership Secretary

Andy Borthwick – Lead on Health, Wellbeing and Diversity

8. Peter Lake was overwhelmingly elected to the Management Committee as Lead on Communications.

9. Steven Watts was overwhelmingly re-elected as a member and Chairman of the Management Committee.

10. There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all involved in organising the event; the meeting concluded at 3.20pm.

RW

8 December 2020