

Basingstoke – Old Basing U3A AGM
Wednesday 12th August 2020
via Zoom

Attending: Committee members - Margaret Hayes, Rod Marshall, Janet & Richard Field, Liz Horner Marie White, Joan Carnell, Sue Seamour, Madeline Hussey and Vee Holliday (via telephone) plus 34 members.

Welcome by the Chair – Margaret welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked members for attending. She asked for any Members who wished to speak throughout the meeting to raise their hands so that they can be identified. There were 44 Members attending the AGM.

Apologies for Absence – Janet informed us that she had received 20 apologies including 2 Committee members, Linda Wain, and Ian Stimpson.

Minutes of Meeting 10th July 2019 – There were no matters arising from that meeting except that TAMS was mentioned and, Margaret confirmed, that this magazine will not be produced at the present time due to lack of advertising. The minutes were agreed and will be signed at a later date.

Matters Arising – Item 8 on the agenda, Election of Independent Examiner, will be moved up after the Treasurer's Report.

Chairman's Report -

This will be my last report as I am standing down at this year's AGM.

Several members of the Committee are also retiring, and I would like to thank them for their service to our U3A and the excellent work they have done. I hope that we will be able to thank them in person in the not too distant future.

I would also like to thank the Committee members who are continuing and the new members who have joined us. They are all volunteers and work extremely hard to keep our U3A running smoothly.

The Covid crisis has brought with it both challenges and opportunities. I am sure that a year ago many Group Leaders had never heard of Zoom, let alone imagined that some of them would be organising and taking part in virtual meetings!

Grateful thanks are due to all those Group leaders who have been doing their best to keep in contact and organise activities so that members could continue to enjoy their membership during an unprecedented period of lockdown and social distancing.

In addition to trying to maintain our current groups however, we still need new ones if we are going to continue to provide a full and interesting programme for our members.

The first National U3A Day which was to have taken place on June 3rd this year would have been an ideal opportunity to raise the profile of our Club and the U3A movement as a whole. The

decision has now been made by our National Office to postpone it to June 2nd 2021. It will then be an annual event which will take place on the first Wednesday in June during Volunteers Week.

In these strange and uncertain times, I wish your new Chairman every success for his term of office.

Margaret Hayes

The Accounts for the Year – Sue thanked Ian for leaving the accounts in such good order.

At the present time we have £26,920 in our account, £3,700 for social activities and £6,500 surplus. The new annual fees for members will be decided at the end of 2020. Venue costs are increasing, and Sue asked that Group Leaders make sure that they are getting value for money when hiring the venues.

Treasurer's Report -

Treasurer's Report for end of year 31st May 2020

I have prepared the account for the year to 31 May 2020 and they have been reviewed. Our very grateful thanks to Ray Wilshaw for doing this.

The bank balances as of 31 May 2020 were:

- current account £18,538.77 this includes £3,964.55 advance payments for outings and the Bridge tournament. It does not include the Gift Aid payment of £5,496.88 related to the year because it was not received until 1st June.
- deposit account £8,270.09
- PayPal account £111.82

Therefore, total funds available for activities and other expenditure is £22,956.13. (£26,920.68 less £3,694.55 prepaid for social activities.)

The surplus for this year was £1,471.89. The surplus would have been £6,968.77 but as above excluded the HRMC gift aid payment. Much of this surplus is because of lower expenditure in the Corona Virus lockdown. To redress this, it will be used to reduce membership fees in the current year.

Venue costs continue to increase in some cases quite significantly and we will need to monitor this to ensure they still represent good value for money.

The budget for the year 1st June 2020 to 31st May 2021 has proved difficult to devise in the current volatile situation where many venues are closed and large gatherings unlawful. I have produced a number of budgets for different scenarios and as a Committee we are currently narrowing down the one we view as most likely in the knowledge that this will almost certainly need revision as the future becomes clearer. We will then be able to set the membership fees for the year.

Most of our current activities are online and costing very little although we have fixed costs, we have to meet irrespective of what activities are taking place. We can therefore manage our cashflow to allow us to extend current membership to December and collect the current year's fees then.

This is my first year as Treasurer and it has certainly been a baptism of fire. Much of the credit for our stable finances is owed to Ian Stimpson, our previous treasurer, who left us in a good position.

Sue Seamour

Basingstoke and Old Basing Treasurer

30th June 2020

Election of Independent Examiner – Ray Wilshaw is happy to do this again this year. Margaret asked for members to vote, which was agreed and she thanked Ray.

Joan asked to say a thank you to Sue for keeping our accounts in good order.

Margaret asked for a proposal to accept the accounts which was seconded and carried.

Sue thanked Joyce Cook for keeping excellent accounts.

Margaret thanked the following Committee members, Joan for being Group Organiser who she said had done a sterling job, Vee Holliday who was exceptional at reading minutes and reports. Marie who has also done sterling work as Vice Chair and with the National U3A as well. She will still be co-opted on to the Committee to update us on National U3A issues. Janet & Richard, Janet who has supported Margaret as Chair and Richard has done a lot of hard work with IT and marketing. Ian who was Treasurer and will still come on to the Committee to give advice. Brenda for taking minutes of all the Committee meetings.

Margaret said that we will all miss Harvey who sadly passed away recently.

Election of Committee – Margaret showed the proposal form on screen. The Vice Chair position will be elected from the Committee. Margaret asked if everyone agreed to vote on block, which was proposed and seconded and passed. She stressed that if members want to join the Committee then they can be co-opted on at any time.

Margaret informed the members about our Zoom account. We will be getting a new Zoom account in September and Group Leaders will need to go through Margaret to use this. Many Groups are meeting outside at the moment and we will let members know when they can meet indoors. We will be trying from October to use Zoom for monthly meetings with Speakers. Janet confirmed that members will be getting newsletters every 2 weeks with updates.

Any Other Business – Joan informed us that we had lost 2 Groups, Italian and Play Reading but we are hoping to have a Creative Writing Group starting and also a Gardening Group.

Joyce confirmed that, at the moment, the holiday will be going ahead, 20 people from 23rd September - 2nd October but things could change. She will keep us updated.

Rod introduced himself as the new Chairman and informed us that we now have a Marketing Group, led by Madeline Hussey, He mentioned our new poster and the fact that local magazines may be showing items associated with the U3A.

Margaret formally introduced Rod as the new Chairman and thanked him for taking over.

Marie thanked Margaret for the last 3 years of hard work as our Chairman. She brought great knowledge to the Committee on all technical matters. She was always happy to fill in when we couldn't get a Speaker for the monthly meeting with her interest in photography.

Margaret closed the meeting

Minutes taken by Brenda Austin