

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Basingstoke – Old Basing u3a

12th July 2023 QMC Main Hall 14.00 – 16.00

Welcome – Rod Marshall

The Chair welcomed people and confirmed that we are quorate.

There were:

- 15 zoom attendees
- 4 proxy votes
- 132 people present
- 45 apologies

This represents the 24th Annual General meeting of the Basingstoke – Old Basingstoke AGM

Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes for the AGM for 2022 and the minutes were signed off by the Members.

Chairman's report

The Chairmans annual report was circulated with the notices. RM confirmed he was standing down as Chair, in line with the constitution. He recounted the last 3 years dominated by covid. He gave a big thank you to Committee members and Members in overcoming the challenges the pandemic presented. Some u3a's have struggled or folded due to covid, but we are now in a growth position. Which is a solid foundation for moving forward.

Treasurer's report – Tony Summers

The financial figures circulated with the AGM papers, are supported by a net growth of 86 members last year and that the assumptions that hire costs at village halls would increase due to electricity, did not materialise as council's gave them additional grants.

For financial health, we need £15K of reserves, this is to allow us to cover costs during the Summer when there is no income. TS confirmed that we have paid £5K of venue costs in the last month. Given our financial position, the membership fee in 2023/2024 will go down to £38 from £45. This will reduce our reserve in a planned manner and will enable us to keep the membership costs at this point for the next three years.

TS confirmed they have been audited by Ray Wilshaw and proposed to the Members that they adopt the accounts, which Joyce Cook seconded. All members present voted for them to be adopted. Ray has confirmed that he will be auditor next year and TS asked the Members to agree, EB seconded. Everybody voted in favour.

Voting of the committee – Rod Marshall

Rod thanked the Committee members that were standing down, Richard and Janet were on Zoom but Madeline and Sue were not present. Small gift tokens will be given to the four people leaving. Madeline will continue supporting marketing next year but not on the Committee.

Before voting in the nominations for the new Committee, RM asked if anybody was willing to do the Systems role, as the current nominee was putting himself forward to ensure there was cover for the role. Nobody came forward. None of the audience offered to be part of the committee and fill the other two vacant roles. RM thanked the people that help the Committee by volunteering to do other activities.

RM proposed the following process:

The four Officers, Chair, Treasurer, Vice Chair, Business Secretary are part of the Committee today. RM asked if they could be voted in on block. Marion (last name not recorded) proposed the suggestion and Mervyn Lerner, seconded. The vote was carried.

RM proposed that a block vote was taken for the rest of the committee. Joyce Cook proposed, Carol Clarke seconded. This vote was carried.

RM thanked TS for producing the accounts and for RW for quickly completing the audit.

TS thanked everybody for promoting the u3a and therefore our members are responsible for the growth. RM stated that 50% of the UK's u3a grow by word of mouth and we appreciate everything that people do.

Questions from the floor

The Committee were asked if there any plans for having a booklet prepared with all the groups rather than leaving it on-line. RM said that there will not be a booklet proposed as it goes out of date so quickly. He said that a calendar will be produced and given to members. EB confirmed the calendar already exists on the Basingstoke u3a website and can be printed out.

Committee note – action to be added for PD/RM to agree how they are going to distribute and fulfil this commitment

Other

It was suggested that we owe Joyce Cook a big thank you as the excursions and holidays that have enriched all our lives. The Members and Committee showed their appreciation.

PD said a few words about his new role and is pleased that RM will continue as VC. He confirmed we will get the list of groups out, and that we will be looking at the website to make it easier to use.

The meeting closed and the guest speaker joined – Tony Harris speaking on The Secrets of London