

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Friday 15th December 2023 at 10 am in St Mary's Church Main Hall

The meeting was convened at 10.06.

Agenda Item 1. Welcome & apologies for absence: The Retiring Chairman welcomed all members to this AGM. Every member had either been sent the AGM papers by email via Beacon, or by post to the 7 members who did not have internet access.

Apologies had been received from Mike Andrews, Sandra Blakey, Corinne Board, Christine Bourne, Sue and David Hodges, Val Lyell, Isobel Torrent, and Ralph & Kay Weeks.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of Minutes of last AGM held on Friday 16th December 2022:

Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Rodger Pettengell, seconded by Tom Blyth and agreed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3. Treasurer's Report & Adoption of Accounts for 2022-23: The Retiring Chairman reported that a question had been received regarding the reserves. He explained that reserves have been higher than the level recommended by the 3rd Age Trust prior to Covid, and consideration of a reduction had been given then. However, the level of reserve was instrumental in enabling activities to be sustained throughout Covid, and the speedy recovery of activities after Covid when many other U3As were struggling to restart. The Committee exercises discretion over the level of the reserves.

Adoption of the Report was proposed by Keith Banks, seconded by Margaret Wilson and approved unanimously. The Retiring Chairman thanked Malcolm Gill for his work on our finances throughout the year.

Agenda Item 4. Presentation to Independent Retiring Examiner: Ian Burr had accepted the invitation to serve once more as our Examiner on behalf of the membership. This was proposed by Bob Reeve, seconded by Tom Blyth and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 5. Adoption of Management Report for 2022-2023: The Retiring Chairman reported on his visit to our ailing Honorary President, Gerry Lewis. Our Honorary President reviewed the year's performance and expressed his satisfaction that Fu3a was strong.

The Report was proposed by Ken Hutton, seconded by Angela Johnson and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 8. Update on Fu3a Charity of the Year 2023: The Retiring Chairman reported the successful raising of £4,838 funds for the Charity of the Years 2022/23, SERV Wessex. Special mention was made of the contributions raised by Green Fingers, The Castleman Trail Walk and the Craft Fair. Pauline Wilkinson of SERV Wessex has expressed grateful thanks.

Agenda Item 9. Result of voting for Fu3a Charity of the Year 2024:

Roger Pettengell reported that votes were down on last year at 118 as follows:

Julia's House	39
Leonardo Trust	47
The Trussel Trust	12
Diverse Abilities	20

As a consequence of this vote, Leonardo Trust is designated Charity of the Year 2023/24

TRANSFER OF THE CHAIR

At this point in the meeting, the retiring Chairman, Bob Reeve introduced Chairman Designate, Anne Hutton describing her appointment as much merited. He emphasised how much work had been done to ensure a smooth transition to the new Committee over the last year.

He took this opportunity to express thanks to Richard Tucker whose wise words and support he had valued and whose contribution to Fu3a in the organisation of events had been unflinching. His loss to Fu3a is profound.

He expressed grateful thanks to his Vice Chairman, friend and partner Clare Clayton.

The transfer of the Chair to the Chairman designate was effected.

Agenda Item 6. Presentation to retiring Committee members.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman made presentations to:

Chris - thanking him for his service as Secretary to the Committee.

Clare – thanking her for her service as Vice Chairman and especially for her Leadership of “Current Affairs” and her unstinting 6 years’ service as Accommodation Officer.

Bob – The Chairman wished to place on record the outstanding contribution that Bob has made to Fu3a over his 12 years on the Committee, as VC and his 6 years in the Chair. Through the difficult years of Covid, he ensured the maintenance of an everyday programme and his inspiration and tireless leadership has provided visits to Gerona, Malta & Bruges and visits are in hand to Venice and Verona.

Agenda Item 7. Election of Committee for 2024:

Introducing the new Committee, that Chairman wished to assure members of their commitment to upholding the service of Fu3a to the members at the highest level.

The Chairman confirmed that the Committee for 2024 had been appointed in accordance with 3rd Age Trust procedures and welcomed a new member, Paul Ellis.

The new Committee will be published for reference in The Newsletter.

The New Committee was proposed by Roger Pettengell, seconded by David Oddy and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 10. Any Other Business:

The Chairman drew attention to two events:

1. The Drama group performance is this afternoon at 14.00
2. The First Friday Speaker on 5th January will be John Hawkins the archivist for the Ringwood History Centre.

The Meeting closed at 10.36