

Dorchester and District u3a

MINUTES Annual General Meeting held on Monday 4th July, 2022 at 10.30am at the Parish Centre Hall and on Zoom

Present: There were 65 members in the Hall and 22 members on Zoom. The figures included the Honorary President and 9 retiring Committee Members and the meeting was quorate. (More than 10% of the Membership of 731)

1. **Welcome:** Alan Hopwood (Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced himself as the Chairman having been elected by the Committee in April 2022.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Peter Scaife (Committee Member) and four members.
3. **The Minutes of the AGM** held on 4th October 2021 were taken as read, having been on the website since November 2021, and approved unanimously as a true record by a show of hands in the Hall.
4. **The Annual Report:** At the time of our last AGM at the beginning of October, whilst we had no government Covid constraints, we were under threat of “plan B” and indeed it wasn’t long before face masks became yet again compulsory in most public indoor venues. A significant number of our members were not ready to come to indoor meetings and a number of groups felt unable to meet. Now, although Covid remains prevalent, the protection from vaccinations and lower risk of the current variant gives the majority of us confidence to get out and about (almost) normally.

I would like to recognise the work of all our Group Leaders/Contacts (and their teams) who have done a fabulous job of keeping Groups going in some form throughout the constraints, as well as Peter Scaife in providing support and coordination, Mike Neely dealing with all the chopping and changing to venue bookings, and Ian Blaby providing various technical support. We should remember that GLs too will have had the same Covid concerns as we have all had. Almost all Groups are now running, with all but one meeting in classrooms and one using a hybrid format. As well as our existing groups emerging from hibernation, we have new groups in Short Tennis and a Lino printing class, and potentially Rummikub and Mah-Jong to BMJA rules. Unfortunately, Wine Appreciation is not longer active, but I am still hopeful that a member will volunteer to restart the group, given that it had a loyal membership.

Our First Monday Meetings have settled into the current format of having a growing number of members in the hall and, having built up our experience of hybrid/Zoom technology, a growing number of members attending via Zoom. Andy Davies continues to provide us with a wide variety of speakers often with local connections, Oliver Broome has restarted our “Interest Table” and we mustn’t forget all the volunteers who, on the day, guide our parking, check us in, give us coffee and meet new members.

I hope you have enjoyed what I believe are an excellent range of communications to keep you interested and informed. Jane Huff provided us with very professional looking Newsletters as well as having taken over from Les in compiling the Members’ Update email. Bob Brewer builds the slide pack updating the FMM attendees and I now have Les Mould,

Kelvin Huff and Ian Blaby working with me to keep our website up to date - with a number of GLs supporting their own pages.

The Committee were very pleased to invite Margaret Pearce to become our Honorary President, succeeding Robert Christian who had to resign due to ill health. We have already benefited from her ideas and insights provided from her broad experience of Dorchester u3a.

I must also recognise the work of my committee colleagues especially during the constraints and uncertainties of the pandemic. Pauline Wooltorton and Chris Knight have both left the Committee having had significant other demands on their time. We would like to thank them for their work during the most difficult of periods. Nick Priddle and Janet Kennewell are noteworthy in devoting significant amounts of time to roles crucial to our operation. For a large part of the year committee members managed without a chairman and especially Les Mould took on responsibilities that the chair normally would have and Vivienne Allan chaired many of the committee meetings. In February, Les Mould needed to reduce his activities due to ill health and while he continues to give us the benefit of his experience in committee, he is no longer our Secretary. Your Committee hosted the meeting of West Dorset u3as that allows us to share ideas with our neighbours. In April, the Committee accepted my offer to take on the Chair role and, together with in particular Peter Scaife and Jane Huff taking on additional responsibilities, we have shared the Secretary responsibilities. The Committee is currently understaffed and needs 5 new members to be able to share the load comfortably.

Our Membership is healthy. There is always turnover. At the time of writing some 119 of last year's members have not renewed - some of whom may yet decide to renew - but this is more than made up for by new members and our current membership is over 730. This compares with a total of 588 for the same time last year. You will also see from our Treasurer's Report that our financial situation remains healthy with our reserves maintained at a safe level with the deficit a result of planned return of surplus funds to members.

The previous Annual report ended with a wish for getting through difficult times. Hopefully the worst is well past and we can continue our happy progress to full normality

Alan Hopwood, Chairman
Accepted Unanimously

5. **Treasurers Report:** While our previous financial year was hugely distorted by lockdowns, we have returned to more normal levels of revenue and spend. Beginning with the Income & Expenditure Account, this shows a deficit of £3,956. This was in line with expectations and our policy of returning some of our surplus funds to members and achieved by waiving of Attendance fees at Group and First Monday Meetings for the year ending 31st March, as advised in my report last year.

Our overall income for the year increased by 7.4% largely driven by an increase in Members' subscriptions and a return to income from advertising in our newsletter, having waived the charge the previous year. Gift Aid was steady and remains an under exploited source of income with only about 30% of members having registered for it. Where possible, please do "Gift Aid" your annual subscriptions and help to increase this refund made available from HM tax.

On the Expenditure side there was a return to venue hire being our most significant cost and the Group and Facilities costs returning to a more normal level. We are fortunate in

having cost effective rooms available to us and will need to watch this cost carefully as inflationary pressures are already pushing up hire costs. The cost of printing our newsletter has increased significantly and we are taking steps both to find a more competitive printer and to limit the number of pages. We inadvertently breached copyright displaying a photograph on our website. Our capital expenditure was to purchase a new laptop to better support our hybrid/Zoom First Monday Meetings and a cabinet to ease our equipment storage.

Our accounts continue in a healthy condition and your Committee will be maintaining the annual subscription rate at £15, the same level for 14 years. Given the threat of inflation and our income coming at the start of the year while expenditure is throughout, your Committee proposes to retain a comfortable level of reserves and has no plans to return further funds to members this year.

With only a few events, the Excursions & Social Account is balanced this year with Income and Expenditure matching.

In conclusion, I must thank Janet Kennewell for her continued stewardship of the members' subscriptions and Gift Aid. A good deal of work is involved in that role.

Nick Priddle, Hon. Treasurer

Dorchester & District u3a

Registered Charity no. 1077305

Income & Expenditure Account for the Year ending 31st March 2022

INCOME	2021/2022	2020/2021
	£	£
Members Subs 21/22	11323.80	9053.00
Members Subs in adv.	686.50	1331.50
Donations	25.00	00.00
Group meeting fees	00.00	142.50
Monthly meetings	00.00	00.00
HMRC – Gift Aid	841.80	794.64
Riviera Travel	65.91	00.00
Advertising	500.00	00.00
Misc. Rent & Refunds	00.00	1196.00
Interest on 30 day a/c	<u>0.50</u>	<u>1.36</u>
Subtotal	13443.51	12519.00
TOTAL	13443.51	12519.00

EXPENDITURE	2021/2022	2020/2021
	£	£
Hall /Room Hire+Zoom	9222.33	283.64
u3a Capitation & News	3103.60	4972.02
Capital Expenditure	672.02	00.00
Group Expenses	564.38	17.99
Facilities & services	515.57	235.78
Newsletters	2075.84	537.50
Committee Expenses	310.76	86.14
Speaker fees	402.50	100.00
Refreshments (FMM/NM/GL)	53.89	00.00
u3a Network Meetings	70.00	00.00
u3a Day	380.93	00.00
Sundries	<u>28.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>
Subtotal	17399.82	6233.07
Surplus or Deficit for year	<u>-3956.31</u>	<u>+6285.93</u>
TOTAL	13443.51	12519.00

Balance Sheet for the Year ending 31st March 2022:

Accumulated Funds	2021/2022	2020/2021
	£	£
Balance as at 1 st April	16706.02	10420.09
Surplus for the year		6285.93
Deficit for the year	<u>3956.31</u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL	12749.71	16706.02

Location of Funds	2021/2020	2020/2021
	£	£
Lloyds Bank current a/c	7424.12	11357.61
Lloyds Bank 30 day a/c	5281.32	5280.82
Petty Cash	<u>44.27</u>	<u>67.59</u>
TOTAL	12749.71	16706.02

2021/22 Year-end accounts prepared and submitted by :

N.Priddle
 (Hon. Treasurer)
 Date2022

I have examined the income and receipt vouchers, also the bank statements which support the income and expenditure account for the Year ending 31st March 2022 and am satisfied that they show a true and accurate record of the affairs of the Dorchester & District u3a.

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 (Alison Neil, Independent Examiner)
 Date2022

Dorchester & District U3A :

Excursions and Social Account : Events April 2021 to March 2022 :

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
7 Events (one cancelled)	2330.50	2320.50
Expenses		34.00
Donations approved by Committee :		nil
Attendance Fees		nil
	<u>2330.50</u>	<u>2354.50</u>

Annual Summary :

Expenditure less Income :	-24.00
Brought Forward from 2020/21 :	<u>1083.53</u>
Total Funds in this account :	<u>£1059.53</u>

2021/22 accounts prepared
and submitted by :

These accounts verified by :

N.Priddle (Hon.Treasurer)

L.Munn (U3A Member)

We confirm that the above entries are consistent with the details recorded in the Excursions account ledger, and that the figures agree with the relevant invoices, receipts and bank account statements.2022

There were no questions.

Accepted Unanimously

6. **Election of Officers and Committee:** Margaret Pearce, President, conducted the vote for the Officers and Committee. All retiring members of the Committee, having been proposed and seconded as below, were seeking re-election. As there were no other nominations, the vote was taken en-bloc and was carried.

**Dorchester and District u3a Nomination Form
for Members of the Committee**

Office	Proposed	Proposer	Secunder
Chair	Alan Hopwood	Margaret Pearce	George Pearce
Secretary	Vacant		
Treasurer	Nick Priddle	Stuart Nuttall	Susan Nuttall
Membership Secretary	Janet Kennewell	Margaret Pearce	George Pearce
Committee	Vivienne Allan	Robin Knight	Mary Foulds
	Andy Davies	Janet Kennewell	Peter Kennewell
	Jane Hopwood	Tony Prior	Scilla Selby Bennett
	Jane Huff	Ian Leeming	Jackie Cape
	Les Mould	Sue Locke	Marylyn Mould
	Mike Neely	Fredina Georgina Potter	Elizabeth Moira Jones
	Peter Scaife	Libby Wood	Janet Evans

Accepted Unanimously

7. The Chairman urged members to consider joining the Committee, which was up to 5 members short and without a permanent Secretary. There being no further items raised by the Membership, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.50am and members in the Hall showed their appreciation in the usual way.

Date..... 13/7/2022

Signed..... Alan Hopwood, Chairman