

LEDBURY & District U3A – Annual General Meeting 2019

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st November, 2019 at Ledbury Community Centre, starting at 2.30 p.m.

Present: 71 members of Ledbury & District U3A

Apologies: Kate Greenall, David Heath, Helen Lawson-Smith, Janet Searle.

1. Minutes of the 2018 AGM: Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by Barbara Harrison, seconded by Prue Yorke and unanimously agreed.

2. Matters Arising: None.

3. Chairmans' Report (From the year's four Chairmen)

Copies of the Chairman's Report had been distributed. There are now over 600 members with 54 groups and thanks were expressed to all Group Leaders and administrators. A wide variety of topics were covered in our Monthly Meetings and there has been a greater public presence in the community over the year. Members attended events organised by the Cotswold Link and both Regional and National Conferences. The Garden Group, Science & Technology Group and Local History Group included visits in their programmes. There was also a Talk-Related Outing to Bletchley Park. We have continued to have excellent Newsletters thanks to the work of our Editor, Mike Philpot.

4. Financial Statement:

Copies of the financial statement, which the Treasurer confirmed had been independently examined by Penny Barton, had been distributed. The financial position as at 31st August 2019 was Current Account £3,728.57 and the Reserve Account £4,976 giving a total of £8,704.57, showing a slight loss of £27.27 on last year. Overall income and expenditure have been rising in recent years, reflecting increased membership and activity. Our Reserve balance is now more correctly in proportion to our expenditure. The annual review of fees will take place in Spring 2020. Attention was drawn to a number of points in the report and no questions were raised. It was proposed by John Worby, seconded by Wendy Hill and agreed by those present that the report be accepted.

5. Election of Committee: Thanks were first given to retiring Vice-Chairman, Sue Sutton for her work on the Committee.

Nominations were for Chairman: Peter McCann – proposed by Wendy Hill, seconded by Jayne McGlone; Vice-Chairman: Jayne McGlone – proposed by Wendy Hill, seconded by Bernard Hill. Treasurer: Andy Castro – proposed by Carla Lever, seconded by Jean Ashley; Business Secretary: Jennifer Harrison – proposed by Griff Holliday, seconded by Margaret Sayer; Committee Members: Sally Holliday: proposed by Christine Dunn, seconded by Alan Pike; Roz Randle – proposed by Peta McCauley, seconded by Phyllis Saxelby Jane Mason – proposed by Tracey Green, seconded by Hugh Thompson; Fred Lumb – proposed by Judy Molloy, seconded by David Chapman. Accepted en bloc.

6. Any Other Business:

a) Wendy Hill expressed concern at the poor quality of the sound system and suggested that expert help be sought to rectify this. It was explained that the past year had been challenging but the problems have now been resolved and further improvements will be made. There is a new team in training who will serve on a rota system with effect from January. Further offers of help would be welcomed. This matter will be reviewed again by the Committee.

b) Wendy Hill, who runs an independent Theatre Group, asked why the Committee refuses to accept this as a Group within Ledbury U3A. The Treasurer explained there were concerns over any possible losses on theatre visits having to be met by Ledbury U3A, and that it was a decision taken after consultation with West Midlands Region. Although this was not U3A Group, the theatre trips are advertised within the Newsletter as a gesture of support.

c) As a clarification to a point raised elsewhere about Talk-Related Outings, the Treasurer pointed out that 50% of travel costs only will be met.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2.55 p.m.

6.3 To help keep the website up-to-date, Sue Wood, our webmaster, asked for Group contributions to supplement content gleaned mainly from the Newsletters. She added that the site receives plenty of outside interest.