

Malmesbury and District U3A

Annual General Meeting - 2022

Thursday 24th November 2022 at 10.00am, Malmesbury Town Hall

Minutes *(For ratification at the 2023 AGM)*

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chair, John Fairhurst, greeted everyone present and thanked them for coming to the meeting, whether in person or via Zoom. He explained that the AGM preceded the normal monthly meeting and the presenter for the talk was zooming in from the Lake District.

He also announced that he had received an offer from a new member wishing to start a wine tasting group and suggested holding an introductory event for members of M&D u3a on Dec 8th at the Town Hall. There are 9 places left.

2. Minutes of the 2021 AGM (Agenda Attachment B)

John drew attention to the electronic voting system used for the motions on the Agenda which had proved effective. (A small number of Members not on the internet had been sent a paper version,) He had received 124 votes by the deadline and 1 handed to him at the meeting, which altogether easily cleared the a quorum (15% of Members i.e. – 77) for voting on the motions in the AGM.

AGM Motion 1: To accept the 2021 AGM Minutes - carried by 108 votes in favour with 17 abstentions. No questions were raised at the meeting and many positive comments had been made via the electronic vote. (The abstentions were largely from those not at last year's AGM.)

3. Chairman's Report on the Year 2022 (Agenda Attachment C)

John made reference to his report attached to the agenda. Things were getting better since lockdown and with the new members recruited at the recent open morning in October, the membership was now 507.

He went on to explain that several members of the current committee were standing down this year. The Speakers programme had been a considerable success throughout the past year with some very strong presentations. He thanked Sue Hammond for her work on this and noted that the programme of speakers was arranged for the next year. However, Sue was standing down so he emphasised that a replacement was still required.

The social side was also very important and he thanked Margaret Gore for her work in organising events as well as organising the tea and coffee at the monthly meetings.

He also thanked John Hammond for his work on producing the newsletter, alongside Janette Barstow (who was continuing). Fortunately, two volunteers had come forward so the Newsletter team would now be three strong.

There were no questions arising. The Chairman's Report was accepted by 120 votes with 5 abstentions

4. Treasurer's Report

a) Formal presentation of M&D U3A Accounts 2021/22 (Agenda Attachment D)

Roger Gee ran through the main points of his report orally. With an income of £5,345 last year, the annual fees had been kept at £10.00 to maintain the finances. He recommended the accounts be accepted but with the effects of lockdown, current inflation and no change to the current fees, a raise may be required in 2024. There were no questions arising

AGM Motion 3: To accept the Accounts for 2021/22 - carried by the electronic vote: 119 in favour, 1 against and 5 abstentions

b) Developments in 2022 and expectations for 2023

AGM Motion 4(a) This AGM notes the financial health of the organisation and the balance accumulated during the recent periods of restricted activities . Accordingly, it agrees to holding the subscription for 2023 membership to the lowered rate of £10 per person per year.

Proposed by: Roger Gee, Treasurer, on behalf of the 2022 Committee - carried by the electronic vote: 123 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

John Fairhurst explained to the meeting that the Open Morning held in October, to publicise the existence of the u3a in Malmesbury, had been particularly successful. In the past we had run it every other year, but the Committee now seek to make it an annual event; this raised the issue of new members paying the annual fee in October and being asked to pay again in the following January. Hence Motion 4(b) below: No questions were raised.

Motion 4(b) This AGM notes the Committee's intention to ensure the Open Morning is an annual, autumn event. It resolves that new members joining at or after that event, having paid the then current subscription, are not expected to pay again in the New Year immediately following but to renew (as established members and at the rate determined by the preceding AGM) the January after that.

Proposed by: John Fairhurst, Chair, on behalf of the 2022 Committee

Carried unanimously: 125 in favour, 0 against

5. The 2022 Committee:

a) To note Nominations received and members now elected (Agenda Attachment E)

John Fairhurst first drew attention to a typo in the name of 'Dick Dray' within the section listing those on the current committee seeking re-election. This should, of course, have read as 'Dick Gray'.

As valid nominations had been received by the Business Secretary by the declared deadline (27th October) all were elected unopposed as per the list below.

b) Call for members to fill the remaining vacancies

John warmly welcomed the new Members: *Bob Raggett* elected as Co-Newsletter Editor, assisted by *Jane Joynson*. *Leila Baillie* was elected as Social Secretary.

Of the three remaining posts, it was agreed that the Vice Chair should be appointed by the committee members from amongst their number. The 2022 Committee had further agreed that Jonathan Barstow continue as Webmaster, but this not to be a Committee post.

This still left a vacancy for a Social Secretary and an urgent call went out for a volunteer.

6. Chairman's comments and closure of the meeting

John Fairhurst thanked everyone again for their attention and support throughout the year. He announced there would be a short comfort break then the regular monthly meeting would take place immediately after. He then closed the AGM at 10.25 am.

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2023 Committee

Leila Bailie, Social Secretary

Kevin Gough, Publicity Officer

Janette Barstow, Newsletter Editor

Richard Gray, Beacon Administrator

Diana Boulton, Groups' Co-ordinator

Sara Gray, New Members Secretary

Christine Caistor, Minutes Secretary

Robert Raggett, Newsletter Editor

Yvonne Davies, Membership Secretary

Jo Watson, Business Secretary

John Fairhurst, Chairman

VACANCY: Speakers' Secretary

Roger Gee, Treasurer