

TADLEY AND DISTRICT U3A

Registered Charity No: 1150232

MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Thursday 18 July 2024 at 11am at Tadley Community Centre

Executive Committee Members Present: Colin Hewitt, Mike Batson, Hadassah Davis, Steve Sharpe, Jacki Cassidy, Carol Phipps, Sue Geater, Gail Biggs, Diane Carter, Roland Higgins, Andy Imms

U3A Members Present: 96

AGENDA ITEM
Apologies for absence – Lynne Powell
<u>Opening Remarks</u> Colin Hewitt (Chair) thanked members for their attendance. He noted that the period under review was the year April 2023 to March 2024. Minutes of the last AGM are available on the website.
<u>Minutes of the 11th AGM held on 20 July 2023</u> Acceptance of Minutes: Proposed, David Gent. Seconded, Mike Batson. Carried unanimously.
<u>Report for 2023-2024</u> A flowering pear Commemorative tree and plaque are now in place for our founder, Maureen Gifford. The tree is flourishing. The replacement website should be up by the end of the year and will look and feel much better than the current one. Last year's Christmas tea with Belle Canto singers proved to be a great event. Thanks to all who made this happen. Thanks, also, to the Executive Committee, group leaders and all their assistants and everyone who contributes, for all they do in keeping our U3A active and working. We are always looking for new ideas so please do be in touch if you have something you would like to suggest or a contribution you would like to make.
<u>Group Co-ordinator's Report</u> The Groups are working well. Although U3A rules say we shouldn't subsidise groups, we take the view that groups should cross-subsidise each other, with some well attended and some with only a few members. All contribute to our U3A. So if you have a topic or activity and want to form a group, please let us know. We welcome and help new group leaders and group leaders don't have to do everything themselves. We'll support you in setting up, with a venue and start-up money for equipment. We will help facilitate you. A creative writing group has been proposed so please let us know if you're interested in this. I would like to thank all group leaders and their assistants. Groups are the life-blood of the U3A, where new skills and new friendships are made.

Member's Report

Our membership dipped after Covid but we are making a good recovery with membership now at about pre-Covid levels. We currently have 690 members with new members continuing to join. 89 members have not renewed with some, sadly, passing away, and some moving house to be nearer relatives.

What we have noticed is that lots of members don't belong to a group, and we'd be interested to know why? If there are none that interest you, let us know what you are interested in. For example; if you like films we could have a group go to a local cinema and then meet to discuss the film afterwards.

Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts (previously circulated):

Colin displayed the accounts on the screen for all to see.

Charity Account:

We made a small surplus. The hall costs at Tadley Community Centre are our biggest expenditure. We use a lot of local halls and the U3A helps them by using them. However, hall costs continue to rise as halls are upgraded and re-fitted, or even re-built.

Income from groups is around the same at approx. £12,000, but hall hire costs have increased by several thousand pounds to £18,000. We still have a surplus of £2356.

Given the above, the Committee has agreed to increase the annual fee for 2025 from £15 to £20.

Social Account:

It has been another busy year. Our huge thanks to Linda for organising so many varied and interesting trips. These are self-financing.

Acceptance of Accounts:

One question was raised – do we get interest on our accounts? Steve (Treasurer) answered that as these are business charity accounts we do not get interest paid.

Acceptance of accounts – Proposed Mike Batson, Seconded Clive Radley.

Chairman's Charity:

The charity last year was Treloar School and raised £263.00. This year's charity will be Basingstoke and District Young Carers (BDYC), which supports youngsters looking after parents or siblings, on top of school. Like all carers they don't get a break, so BDYC offers support and breaks. Details will be posted on the website.

Motions:

None received.

Election of Officers:

Chair, Colin Hewitt

Deputy Chair, Mike Batson

Treasurer, Steve Sharpe

Secretary, Hadassah Davis

Proposed, Ruth Porter. Seconded, Clive Radley.

Election of Executive Committee members:

Jacki Cassidy, Carol Phipps, Susan Geater, Gail Biggs, Diane Carter, Andy Imms.

Proposed, Clive Radley. Seconded, Jenny Batson.

Thanks:

A heart-whelming thank you was given to Roland who went above and beyond as Speaker Secretary on the Committee for so many years. He asked members what they wanted, he visited other U3As and listened to their speakers to decide if he wanted them for our U3A. We have had years of laughs, fun and hilarity. The membership gave rapturous applause for his years of service.

Roland is stepping down from the Committee, but has agreed to stay on booking our speakers, and told us that the popular Tony Harris has been booked to do his Margaret Thatcher later on.

Questions:

As we are putting up the membership subscription next year, will the group fees of 50p or a £1 remain the same? The answer is yes, group fees are not increasing.

Closing Remarks:

Emails – please ensure we have your emails. 10% of the membership have not given email addresses and therefore miss out on the monthly updates, teas, events and trip notifications, et al. If you don't have an email address, could someone be your email buddy and print off and pass information on to you?

Colin's term as chair ends next year, as do some other committee members. We will shortly publish on the web a job description of the committee members. None of the positions are onerous and only require a few hours a month, so please consider volunteering. We would very much welcome people to join us this year to shadow a committee member with a view to taking on the post in a year's time.

Colin gave thanks to all who had turned up for the AGM and to support Tadley and District U3A, which is much appreciated.

AOB:

None.

Date of next AGM:

17 July 2025.

Signed.....

Dated.....