

Minutes of the Fourth Culm Valley u3a AGM

held at Willand Village Hall at 2 pm on 7 September 2023

- 1 Welcome – The Chair Margaret Chumbley (MC) welcomed all to the meeting. 81 members and 5 guests attended, 2 of which joined cvu3a.
- 2 Apologies for absence – were received from 18 members, Sue Hooper-Laurie, John Hayston, Sue Hayston, Maureen Evans, Rosie Knowles, Sue Greenough, Mo Kennard, Josy Tidmarsh, Ailsa Saville, Wendy Bond, Manda Dominy, Jackie Sim, Wilek Nowosielski, Melody Hannon, Annie Foot, Sue Tremeer, Diana Speight and Tony Bryant.
- 3 Minutes of last AGM – these had been circulated in advance and were thought to be a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 1 September 2022.
Gill Sole Proposed and Barbara Anderson Seconded that the Minutes be accepted. All agreed.
- 4 Chair's Report – Janet Bryant (JB) delivered the Chair's report.
Good afternoon. On behalf of the Committee, may I invite you to the Culm Valley U3A Annual General Meeting. We began 2023 with 181 active members, compared with 112 in January 2022. Today we have 204. We are delighted to inform you that alongside our membership increase, so has our finances. Therefore, our membership fee was reduced from £15 per year to £10, and £6 for Associate Members, with the added bonus of no monthly meeting fees! Members of the Committee have attended National Office meetings and courses. We have also re-written and simplified our Policies and Procedures document which is on our new, very swish, website for all to read. Thanks to Sue Hooper Lawrie for tirelessly working on updating and maintaining our much praised new website. In February, we had the inauguration of a new screen, which has been well used by our visiting speakers. We had a wide range of interesting talks from (invaded species?) to guide dogs, and anything in between. Over 100 people attended our April meeting when Anne Widdicombe was our guest speaker. In May, there was bunting galore in honour of the King's Coronation. Thanks to Gill Sole for giving us a very varied programme. Our interest groups have gone from strength to strength with some still going from day one, and some running for a season. With thanks to Barbie for her tireless work with the Interest Group. This year our Membership Secretary, Sue Greenough, is retiring. We extend to her our grateful thanks. The Committee would like to thank all of you who have worked in the past year, whether you are a group leader, a tea lady, or help with putting out signs and chairs at monthly meetings and clearing up afterwards. Without you we could not manage. Finally, thank you to all our members, as without you there would be no Culm Valley U3A
- 5 Treasurers Report and formal adoption of Annual Accounts – Alison Waple (AW) delivered the Treasurer's Report based on the Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2023. The year started with £3,301.00 and ended with £4,675.00. The accounts presented the movement in bank and cash over the year to 31 March 2023 by showing the sources of incoming funds (mainly membership fees and receipts from the monthly meeting) and the different types of expenditure which included such costs as hire of the hall, National U3A charges and speaker fees. The bank and cash balance on 31 March 2023 was £4,675.00.

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During the year it was decided to reduce the membership Fee to £10 and £6 for Affiliated members and to remove the charge at the Monthly meetings in order to reduce our level of available funds in line with Third Age recommendations. The Behind The Scenes group use the cvu3a bank account for trips and AW reminded group coordinators that she was happy to help if they have any problems with managing money.

The National Office fee analysis of expenditure is 56% supporting u3as; 28% on admin including insurance and compliance and 16% on publicity including the newsletter.

Carol Mitchell Proposed and Jane Todd Seconded that the Accounts be adopted. All agreed.

6 Updated Culm Valley u3a Constitution This document was circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

The Committee had reviewed the document in March 2023 and the only change made was to use the term 'Culm Valley u3a' as opposed to 'the charity'. This was in order to clarify that although cvu3a needs to comply with the Charity Commission Laws it is not a charity in its own right.

Mike Dalby Proposed and Keith Grantham Seconded that the document be ratified at this meeting. All agreed.

7 Q & A - None

8 Election of Officers to Executive Committee – Lorna Knowles (LK) explained that the 2023 election had taken place by a combination of a Ballot with Nomination Forms being available for those with registered email addresses and a Postal Ballot for those without.

The 5 members of the Committee who have not completed 3 years in one specific role on the committee and were not stepping down, namely Margaret Chumbley (Chair), Janet Bryant (Vice Chair), Lorna Knowles (Business Secretary), Alison Waple (Treasurer) and Barbie Bradbury (Groups Co-Ordinator) were nominated for re-election.

Jane Todd Proposed and Richard Taylor Seconded that the above be re-elected for office. All agreed.

As Sue Greenough (Membership Secretary) was retiring having served three consecutive years in that role on the Committee, and a nomination had been received for Marian Luck (Membership Secretary), she was included on the Ballot Paper. There were no other nominations received.

Barbie Bradbury Proposed and Barbara Anderson Seconded that Marian Luck be appointed as Membership Secretary. All agreed.

9 Results of the Election of Officers - MC thanked Marian Luck for agreeing to be nominated for the Officer Role of Membership Secretary. A total of 3 emailed ballots were cast and 3 of 4 postal ballots received. With the unanimous votes at the meeting LK therefore announced that all 6 nominations were carried.

10 MC gave a Vote of Thanks to all who had contributed over the last year and asked Marian Luck to come to the front to be introduced.

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The formal part of the meeting concluded at 2.15 pm

A break was taken following which there was a talk by guest speaker Dr Todd Gray entitled 'The Great Fire of Exeter 2016'.

Name initials:

MC – Margaret Chumbley LK – Lorna Knowles AW – Alison Waple

JB – Janet Bryant

The Minutes of this meeting were agreed at the Culm Valley AGM 5 September 2024.

Marian Luck proposed and Barbie Bradbury seconded that they were a true and accurate record of that meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lorna Knowles', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lorna Knowles

Business Secretary