

KNUTSFORD & DISTRICT U3A

Minutes of the 15th Annual General Meeting held by post and email – 12th November 2020

1. Introduction

The Annual General meeting (AGM) of Knutsford & District U3A was planned for Thursday 12th November in the Knutsford Methodist Church. Notice of the date was given in the September edition of Kanuta. However due to the risks and restrictions associated with Covid-19 a physical meeting has become impossible. The purpose of an AGM is to allow members to elect new Committee members and re-elect those who are standing again, to vote on key decisions taken by the Committee and to give members the opportunity to raise any issues with the Committee. In the present circumstances alternative methods will have to be used to carry out these functions.

It was agreed at the committee meeting on 26th August that the AGM (12th November) would be held by email and post, following the methods that Holmes Chapel U3A used for their AGM in April. The idea of holding a Zoom AGM on the 12th November was considered but discarded due to the low expected uptake. We also checked with the National U3A office that we could use this AGM to vote on adopting the new model constitution.

An email letter was sent to all the members with an email address giving them details of all the motions under consideration together with a voting slip, a note regarding why the Committee was proposing to adopt the new model constitution, and the minutes of last year's AGM. Both the new and the old constitution were put on our website. The accounts and Trustees report had already been sent out to the membership in the July 2020 edition of Kanuta. The members were asked to send a confirmatory reply if they wish to vote in favour of all the motions and to use the voting slip if they wish to vote for some motions and against others or abstain. All votes had to be received by midnight on 11th November. People who were not on email were sent the same letter, voting slip, minutes and note on the constitution along with a stamped addressed envelope for the reply. The letter and voting slip slightly amended to reflect the fact that the reply would be by post.

This plan for our AGM was formally voted on and approved by the Committee at a meeting on October 22nd 2020.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th July 2019

The minutes had been circulated to all members and were accepted by the members who voted as a true record of the above meeting. No abstentions and no one against.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

None.

4. Trustees' Report

The Trustees' Report had been previously circulated to all members via Kanuta.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Financial Accounts had been previously circulated to all members via Kanuta. The report was approved by the members who voted with no abstentions and no one against.

6. Elections to the Committee

Collin Bowman is standing down. The Committee have thanked him for his much appreciated work as Treasurer.

The following Committee members are standing for re-election to the Committee

	Proposed by	Seconded by
Stuart Allan	Sue Allan	Christine Jones
Irene Hardy	Barbara Arnell	Christine Jones
Sue Allan	Mark Barley	Barbara Arnell

All of the above were elected by the members who voted with no abstentions and nobody voting against.

The following people, who had been co-opted to the Committee during the previous year, are standing for election to the Committee:

	Proposed by	Seconded by
Adrian Long	Mark Barley	Sue Allan
Robert Watson	Christine Jones	Mark Barley

Both of the above were elected by the members who voted with no abstentions and nobody voting against.

All other Committee members are not due for re-election this year.

The Committee now consists of 10 members, therefore there are two vacancies this year.

7. Adoption of the new model constitution

This was proposed and seconded by members of the Committee and the motion was passed by the membership with one abstention and nobody voting against.

8. Breakdown of the votes received

A total of 159 votes were received, of which 25 were received by post and the remainder by email.

158 of the votes approved all 5 items on which members had been asked to vote. One vote had been split with approval of the first 4 items and abstention from the vote on the adoption of the new model constitution.

9. Any Other Business

None.

10. Date of next meeting

8th July 2021*

* It was decided at the Committee meeting in February 2021 that we couldn't rely on being able to hold face to face meetings in July so the decision was taken to move the AGM to 9th December 2021.