

**HADDENHAM U3A**

**Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting held on 14 May 2018 at 2.15pm at**

**St Mary’s Church, Haddenham**

**Chairman’s Welcome:** The Chairman, Elaine Parkes, welcomed 123 members and 5 visitors. All Committee members introduced themselves.

**Apologies for absence:** Linda Axford, Heather Forbes-Russell, Carole Fryer, Chris and Shelagh Hallaway, Anne Kelly, Annette and Bob Marsden, George and Jeanne Marshall, Loraine and Keith Milmer, Sue Oswell, Geoff Parkes, Ray Price, Janet Robinson, Steve and Janet Sharp, Hilary Skipsey, Mike and Lyn Stephens, Judy Wildgoose.

**Minutes of the AGM held on 13 May 2017:** These were proposed by Chris Wheeler-Cherry and seconded by Elizabeth Bonham and carried nem con.

**Chairman’s report:** This has proved another very busy and successful year. Membership has peaked at 414 members. Stalls at local fetes and shows encouraged new members and we also took part in the Remembrance Day Service, and continued close links with the Community Library and Haddenham.net.

Our membership database is now established, enabling the generation of membership cards and personalised renewal forms. The system is fully compliant with the new General Data Protection Regulations and all members have received a copy of the Data Protection and the Privacy Policies. The Chairman thanked Roger Rickard for administering the database for the first half of the year and Geoff Parkes for taking over the role.

The Chairman thanked Chris and Catherine Collins for their work as membership secretaries, as well as all their registration helpers at the General Meetings. Angela Hart was thanked for booking some excellent speakers. The presentations by Bill Hamilton about being a BBC news correspondent, Malcolm Nelson about catching smugglers and Steve Roberts on his life as a Scotland Yard detective were particularly noteworthy. The Christmas Celebration was also an enjoyable afternoon attended by 115 members despite the atrocious weather. Members responsible for the technical arrangements, for the chair and table moving and for arranging and volunteering to do the refreshments at the General Meetings were all thanked.

There are 33 Interest Groups with a yoga group in the planning. Out with Friends in particular has proved to be extremely popular with over 40 members. Theresa Smith was thanked for all her hard work particularly helping new Leaders as were all Interest Group Leaders who give of their time so freely.

There were 9 General Outings during the year including to Ironbridge, Windsor and the Houses of Parliament. Margaret Ackroyd and Mary Paterson were thanked for their efficient organisation of these trips. Hilary Skipsey was thanked for organising the 5 Theatre Outings including 2 to the Mill at Sonning.

In the wider U3A community, TVN Study Days remain popular with members as do the Royal Institute Lectures and other Study Days organised by TAT. We continue to maintain a close association with CHaTTR and the Aylesbury Liaison Group.

Thanks were given to Angela Wenham for organising the walking holiday to Lulworth Cove and to Tony Dlugosz and Anne Gatward for the forthcoming holiday based in Bologna in Italy.

Thanks were extended to Roger Rickard for his work on the website and the Newsletter and to Neil Dury for his help with the Newsletter, and to Chris Collins and his team for distributing the paper Newsletters.

Elaine concluded her report by thanking all the Committee for their hard work and support. After 4 years as Chairman she has overseen a significant growth in membership, new technology and improved seating at the HYCC for the General Meetings, the establishment of the database and generic email addresses and has raised the profile of the U3A in the local community. She also thanked her husband Geoff for all his support. The U3A is in a very strong position and Elaine wished Sally Lajalati and the Committee all the best for the future.

**Treasurer’s report:** David Ackroyd presented his first report as Treasurer and thanked his predecessor Kevin Nash for his work. The increase in membership has led to a welcome increase in Gift Aid. Surplus for the year stands at £1,671, an increase of £917. Some costs have increased namely Speakers and venue hire but others have been lower. Net assets for the main account as of 31st March 2018 stood at £6,618 compared with £4,949 a year ago. The new requirement to combine all our accounts into one has been met.

Acceptance of the Treasurer’s report was proposed by Kevin Nash and seconded by Sarah Wood and carried nem con.

**Examiner of accounts:** Colin Furlong has agreed to continue in this role and this was unanimously ratified.

**Election of the Committee:** Sally Lajalati was the one nomination for Chairman, proposed by Tony Barker and seconded by Margaret Ackroyd and her nomination was unanimously carried.

The current Committee members: David Ackroyd, Margaret Ackroyd, Doreen Barker, Tony Barker, Chris Collins, Neil Dury, Angela Hart, Jerry Michell, Mary Paterson and Theresa Smith had all agreed to continue as Trustees. Their re-election was proposed by John Hawkins and seconded by Steph Everitt and carried nem con.

The post of Vice-chairman remains vacant.

**Any other business:** Sally Lajalati extended her thanks for being voted in as Chairman. Sally thanked Elaine for her year of service as Vice-Chair and 4 years as Chairman, and presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a gift token in appreciation of her service to the U3A.

There was no other business and the AGM concluded at 2.33pm.

The AGM was followed by an excellent presentation by Jonathan Jones on ‘Charles Dickens – His Public Readings’.