

Minutes of the HWu3a AGM held on Monday 14th April at 10.30am in the Methodist Church main hall

Present: Ian Webb IW (Chair), Louise LE (Vice Chair & Minutes Secretary), Jack Horton JH (Marketing & Publicity Officer/ Vice Chair), Liz Brett LB (Groups Facilitator), Pamela Costall PC (Business Secretary), Robert Davison RD (Premises Officer), Clare Heaton CH (Treasurer), Linda Reed LR (Membership Secretary)

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Penny & Colin Tipple, Halina Pasiecznik & Steve Ball
- 2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 25th March 2024** – Approved and signed off by Ian Webb. No matters arising
- 3. Annual Report of u3a activities** – Reports from the Chair and other Trustees were circulated pre-AGM
- 4. Financial Report** – this was also circulated to the membership via letter and email
- 5. Members Questions** – none had been received prior to the AGM
- 6. Election of new Committee** – PC took over this section. PC thanked IW and LB for their excellent service to HWu3a during their term. The next item on the agenda was to complete the voting of the committee. IW and JH assisted with the counting of the votes of the attendees at the AGM. With the meeting votes, the postal votes and the votes received on-line there were just sufficient votes (206) to elect the committee for 2025/2026. There were 3 changes, IW to retire and LE becomes Chair, LB retiring and PS becomes Groups Facilitator, PC takes over the role of Minutes Secretary
- 7. Change to Constitution** - PC explained to the membership that they had been exploring with the Charities Commission changing Trustee Term of Office from 3 to 5 years. This was permissible and the attendees were asked for their approval which was unanimous.
- 8. Message from the outgoing Chair** – IW began by explaining that this was his final AGM as Chair of HWu3a. 2024 had been another successful year with continued membership growth. He thanked his fellow Trustees for their hard work and support. He also thanked the other non-Trustee support, Helen Salisbury as Publicity Officer, Adriana White as New Groups Facilitator, Stephen Joy the Webmaster, David Martin as Joint

Editor of the Magazine and until latterly Speaker Secretary, Maryan Richardson the Trips Coordinator, Tessa Thompson the new Speaker Secretary, Sharon Webb the STARS Coordinator, Stephen Elsome who ensures there are sufficient tables and chairs put out and returned at our bi-monthly meetings. The Refreshment Team and Meeters and Greeters who welcome our members were also thanked.

IW also thanked the Group Coordinators and all the other volunteers who willingly give up their time to help with the smooth running of HWu3a.

IW reiterated how important volunteers were to HWu3a but support is spread thin and new volunteers are always needed. This can be anything from a Trustee role to a couple of hours once a month, whatever time you have to spare.

IW was delighted to welcome Louise Elsome and Peter Saunders to their new roles of Chair and Groups Facilitator respectively.

He finished by saying he hoped all members continued to enjoy the vast range of activities offered by HWu3a with the opportunities it gave to meeting and making new friends.

9. Message from Incoming Chair

LE commenced by thanking IW for his hard work, during his time as a committee member on South Leicestershire and Harborough Welland u3as. She also thanked him for his support and encouragement during the handover period.

LE stated it was a privilege to take over as Chair particularly as HWu3a was thriving and the Trustees and support teams were so efficient and dedicated. LE also confirmed the need for more volunteers; getting involved need not be onerous and is very enjoyable.

LE closed by saying HWu3a is part of a larger national organisation and we can learn from interaction with other u3a groups. We would be looking outwards to the larger community to promote HWu3a with events such as Creative Harborough and Desborough fund raisers.

10. Meeting close – PC thanked everyone for attending and the meeting ended at 10.50am.