

MINUTES OF THE 25th ANDOVER U3A AGM Held at 2pm by Zoom on 18th May 2021

1. **Apologies for Absence.** There were 3 Apologies for Absence. The membership secretary counted the attendees and confirmed that there was more than the required minimum to constitute a quorum.
2. **Minutes of the 24th AGM held on 17th November 2020.** The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted unanimously and signed by the Chair.
3. **Matters Arising.** There were no matters arising.
4. **Chair's Report.** Peter Villalard read his Chairman's Report:

Good afternoon and welcome to our 25th AGM and the 2nd such Zoom meeting due to the Corona virus pandemic. It is good to see so many of you here because according to the media you should all be sunning yourselves in Portugal. It is only 6 months since our last AGM, which we delayed, but we are now back on schedule for the revival of 2021 activities.

I will not dwell on what has not happened but just highlight some areas that we have managed to continue. The first must be the monthly Zoom meetings that our Vice Chair, David Gollings has taken under his wing. David, you have produced some excellent speakers and the audience figures have shown that it is a much-appreciated event. Secondly keeping all of us informed and connected we have to thank the Jan and Chris team. Between them the Wards have kept us in touch as much as we can by relying on the internet. Other groups have also mastered the technology and the Quiz Group has continued, thanks to Nigel and Vanessa Knott, and a number of other groups; photographic, French and German have also continued.

Looking back over the whole pandemic period I think that despite everything we as an organisation have provided what we can within our capabilities. As ever there is change and a number of committee members have moved on or are imminently leaving. Can I thank Jeanette and Michael Potts for the time and effort they have put into running the account, not least all the e-mailing and telephoning they have had to do on behalf of the theatre group members and obtaining their refunds during the first lock down. I think you all know that the post of Treasurer is vital to the running of any organisation and to have the responsibility of keeping control of the money that flows through our account is no easy task. On behalf of all the members can I thank you both.

Jean Mcleod will be giving up her post as Membership Secretary in the next month or so after the current round of membership renewals. This is not an easy task either. Members come and go, renewal forms have to be produced and then processed, money has to be collected and TAT always want returns and money associated with their magazine. Jean has done a magnificent job coordinating all of this for which I ask you all to thank her. She has not finished yet, but more later.

Many things happen behind the scenes. One such activity is the production and distribution of the Spring and Autumn Newsletter. We are all aware of the Editor, Chris Ward, but he and previous editors have been more than ably assisted for many years now by Herbert Gardner. Herbert has been part of the production team for the magazine for at least 10 years. Over the years he has produced the layout, negotiated with the printers and stuffed envelopes to ensure that you all get the information that is required to keep us informed on what is happening around the branch. Herbert on behalf of everyone watching today can I thank you for the many years you have supported us all. Thank you.

With all this news of departures there is good news to follow. Su McNamara has volunteered to be the next Treasurer and Gail Hunter has stepped into the shoes of the Membership Secretary. Eleanor Wright has resumed her seat as member without portfolio. All three have been co-opted onto the committee and await your endorsement later in the proceedings.

Looking forward: This past 18 months has shown us all that where there is a will there is a way. The end of restrictions is hopefully in sight and a big step was taken yesterday with the lifting of many of them. Groups of up to 30 can now meet outside again, good for the walkers and other outside activities, groups can meet inside but with a maximum of 6, but you can meet outside in all this glorious sunshine we are having. I'm not going into any other details on numbers as they are all on the Government and TAT web sites, but group leaders can now start planning their future activities within these official guidelines.

Not knowing what the future was to bring the committee agreed to run two recruiting and information days in the Andover High Street on 3rd and 5th June (just 2 weeks away) from 10am to 4pm. The team is led by Jean McLeod. If any of you wish to visit the stands you are more than welcome. A group of people standing around a gazebo in the high street always attracts other people so you will be assisting in the recruiting campaign. Our membership as at: 1st April was 480 with some 300 having renewed their subscription by this morning. This ends my Chairman's report.

5. **Treasurer's Report.** Peter Villalard read the Treasurer's Report:

I will now provide a brief summary of the accounts as Su McNamara is still in the process of taking them over.

You have all had the opportunity to see our financial standing and the overall position is excellent with some £4,900 in the bank; £1800 of this sum belongs to Questers 2 for pre-planned events, so we have just over £3,000 in the bank. This figure is the recommended holdings to cover our annual expenditure.

Moving on to main costs you will see that our income comes from subscriptions and the associated gift aid which was £5,500. The £700 shown as a donation was the final transfer from ancient funds held in the events account.

Our main expenditures remain fairly constant and are: TAT subscription £2,000, TAT magazine mailing costs £900, Newsletter and associated postage £500, higher this year because we had to post all Newsletters, monthly meetings £500 (half normal) and the website £200. As you can see, I have rounded up the figures, but it gives you the flavour.

At this point can I once again thank David Benwell, our Auditor, for the work he has done on our behalf.

The good news from these figures is that there is no requirement to raise our annual membership fee which will remain at £10. This ends the financial report.

6. **Election of Committee Members:**

Membership Secretary: Gail Hunter
Treasurer: Su McNamara.
Member: Eleanor Wright

Proposed by: Richard Selley. Seconded by: Peter Villalard.

7. **Re-election of Committee Members:**

Chair: Peter Villalard
Vice-Chair: David Gollings.
Secretary: Richard Selley
Groups Coordinator: Gary Adams
Webmaster: Jan Ward
Newsletter Editor: Chris Ward
Member: Caroline Mills

Proposed by: Elizabeth Selley. Seconded by: Melenie MacKay.

8. **Re-election of Auditor:**

David Benwell.

Proposed by: Richard Selley. Seconded by: Peter Villalard.

9. **Any Other Business:** There was a proposed amendment to the Andover U3A Constitution to permit electronic meetings. The proposed amendment had previously been circulated to all members. It was unanimously agreed that our constitution would now include this amendment.

10. **Date of Next (26th) AGM.** The 26th AGM will be held on 17th May 2022 either at the Fairground Hall or by Zoom.

The AGM ended at 1425hrs.

Signed:

Dated:

