

MINUTES OF AN ANDOVER U3A SGM

Held at The Fairground Hall, Weyhill at 2pm on 17th January 2023

1. **Apologies for Absence.** There were 2 Apologies for Absence. The secretary counted the attendees and confirmed that there was more than the required minimum to constitute a quorum.
2. **Chair's Opening Statement.** Peter Villalard gave an overview of why it was necessary to have called a Special General Meeting (SGM):

BACKGROUND

3. Currently those members who received the u3a magazine 'Third Age Matters' (TAM) as a printed magazine by post were being subsidised by those who did not. Therefore, out of the current membership fee of £11 we were paying £4 to The Third Age Trust as a capitation fee and £1.54 (per member) for the postage costs of the magazine. Thus, from our current £11 Andover u3a membership fee we were left with only £5.46 per member to spend on our own administration, newsletters and monthly meetings.
4. The Chairman emphasised that although the account was solvent, and would be for some time, there were growing signs of an over spend if we did not take steps now. There was a reserve of about £4000 which we had to maintain under Charity Commission rules. There were significant factors to consider:
 - a. The Fairground Hall charges had increase by 30%.
 - b. The increase in the cost of fuel had impacted on monthly speaker travelling costs.
 - c. Since Covid we had lost about 80 members which had resulted in a lower membership fee income.
5. In the last financial year, we had to draw £663 from our reserves and at the moment we were looking at a projected overspend of about £200 for this year.
6. In order to keep the membership fee at £11, the committee had looked for savings and noticed that those members who elected to receive the TAM by post were being subsidised by those members who did not. This came down to the cost of postage (currently £3.50). TAT had recently informed us that the postage costs were going up to £3.60, wef: 01 April this year.

PROPOSAL

7. **Motion 1.** In order to preserve our reserve fund without putting up the membership fees for all members, it was proposed that those members who opted to receive the TAM magazine, as a posted copy, should pay for the postage.

Proposed: Peter Villalard

Seconded: George Kirby

VOTE

8. The proposal was unanimously supported by those present and would be implemented from 01 April 2023.

9. **Motion 2.** It was then proposed that we would keep the general membership fee at £11 and charge those who wanted the TAM by post an annual fee of £15.

Proposed: Peter Villalard

Seconded: John Dillon

VOTE

10. The proposal was unanimously supported by those present and would be implemented from 01 April 2023.

(Note: for a couple living at the same address one member would pay the £15 and the other member would pay £11. It should also be noted that all u3a members can still gain free access to the TAM, on-line, through the Third Age Trust website).

11. **Any Other Business:** There was no other business.

12. **Date of Next (27th) AGM.** Those present were reminded that the 27th AGM will be held on 16th May 2023 at the Fairground Hall, Weyhill at 1400 hours.

The SGM ended at 1420hrs.

Signed:

Dated: