

## WADHURST & DISTRICT u3a

### ***Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025 in Wadhurst Commemoration Hall at 2:15 pm***

*Committee Members Present: Mike King (MK), Chair, Jane Austin (JA), Sheila King (SK), Sheila Jemmett (SJ) Marianne Whittingdale (MW) Jan Whiteley (JW) Sara Irwin (SI), Rosemary Johnson (RJ)*

- 1. Apologies for absence:** None
- 2. Minutes of the AGM 2024 (published on the website):**

Accepted as a true and accurate record by a poll of attendees.

#### **3(a) Trustees Annual Report**

##### **Chairman's Review**

We are delighted to report that our membership has increased to 234 at the end of the financial year which is 9% higher compared to the number at the end of the previous financial year. We are still far from the peak membership of 264 attained before COVID, but the continuing flow of new members is encouraging.

We ended the financial year with 36 interest groups covering a wide range of activities. This is an increase of 12% over the number reported in June 2024. Members will continue to be encouraged to form new Groups, particularly in areas not currently covered, as well as establishing short-term interest and activity Groups that help to provide a fresh and diverse membership offering.

Attendance at monthly meetings and social events have increased. The Quiz Night in April 2025 was enjoyed by over 100 participants, a full house for Wadhurst Commemoration Hall, which was the highest fund-raising activity we have held. Thanks go to Jane and David for organising. We attempted to hold a second social event, a Barn Dance, open to non u3a members in June 2025. Unfortunately, we had to cancel this due to the low number of ticket sales.

Our monthly bulletin distributed to all members by email continues to ensure that everyone is informed of the latest talks, events and developments. "News" magazine distributed three times a year reports matters that are too lengthy for the bulletin and also allows members to put into print their creative thoughts and ideas. Our website thanks to Jane and her assistant Philip is updated on a continuous basis and is receiving a high number of "hits".

We need to remind everyone that our biggest risk is the continuing lack of members who

are prepared to offer their time and expertise to fill committee opportunities as and when they become available. Please continue to do so.

I would like to personally thank the existing Trustees, Social Committee Members, and those who regularly give up their time to provide refreshment and assistance at our speaker meetings.

### **3(b) Treasurer's Report**

Our accounts have been on the Website for you to look at and have been approved by our Independent Examiner. We have ended the financial year with a surplus of £2,197 compared with £613 in the previous year. This has enabled us to maintain the subscription at the existing rate despite the increase in some of our costs during the year. This has been made possible by continuing economies and our fundraising events.

The past and future annual membership fee of £25 is based on the decision to absorb centrally all costs so that members can attend monthly meetings and social events free of all charges.

We remain in a strong financial position with reserve standing at approx. £7,000 at the end of the financial year.

### **4. Receive and Approve the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for 2025**

Proposer: Cindy Burden                      Seconder: Sue Tower

Accepted unanimously as a true and accurate record

### **5. Election of Officers**

The following members were re-elected to the positions indicated by the unanimous decision carried out by a poll of the attendees:

- Chair                                      Mike King
- Vice Chair                                Jane Austin
- Business Secretary                  Marianne Whittingdale
- Treasurer                                Sheila King
- Committee of Trustees              Sheila Jemmett  
    Jan Whiteley  
    Sara Irwin  
    Graham Burden  
    Rosemary Johnson

Proposer: Cindy Burden                      Seconder: Val O'Dwyer

### **6. Appointment of Independent Examiner:**

Mr Nicholas Warran-Smith was duly appointed the Charity's Independent Examiner.

Proposer: Jan Whiteley                      Seconder: Sheila King

### **7. AOB**

None

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 2.45 pm

Mike King  
Chair