

Ringmer u3A Annual General Meeting

22nd May 2024 at 14:00 Jack Hart Room, Ringmer Village Hall

Meeting Chaired by Sarah Boot-Handford, Ringmer u3a Chair

There were 29 members present (see signing in sheet attached), 20% of the membership.

1 Apologies

19 Apologies were received (see apologies list attached)

2 Minutes of the last AGM 24th May 2023

Proposed that these are accepted as a true record of the meeting: proposed Lynne Booth, seconded Wendy Morgan. Proposal carried.

3 Matters Arising

None

4 Chair and Trustee's Report as circulated.

Sarah Boot-Handford read the report.

Proposed that the report be accepted: proposed Wendy Morgan, seconded Ian Loughborough. Proposal carried.

5 Treasurers report as circulated.

It was noted that the cost and source for diaries for 2025 was still to be decided, as the quality of last year's diaries was not very satisfactory.

Proposed that the report be accepted: proposed Margaret Constable, seconded Jenny Hill. Proposal carried.

6 Financial Proposals

Proposed that Sue Tibbenam continue to be the independent examiner of Ringmer u3a Accounts for 2024/2025: proposed Margaret Akhurst, seconded Pauline Lloyd. Proposal carried.

Proposed that subscription remained unchanged (£10 for a full member, £6 if joining after 1st January 2025, £5 for an associate member): proposed Wendy Morgan, seconded Lynne Booth. Proposal carried.

7 Interest Group Report.

This was included in the Chair's report.

8 Election of Executive Committee.

It was proposed that the Committee be elected en bloc plus Peter Smith as a new member:

(Sarah Boot-Handford, Sylvia Colman, Ken Boot-Handford, Martin Whitlock, Keith Moore,

Tim Polwart, Sue Pedley, Peter Smith): proposed Jenny West, seconded Joyce Phillips. Proposal Carried.

Ringmer u3A Annual General Meeting

22nd May 2024 at 14:00 Jack Hart Room, Ringmer Village Hall

9 Any Other Business

It was noted that as the Village Hall floors will be undergoing repair during August it may be necessary to change the date and/or location of the Open Day.

Attachments

Signing in sheet

Chair and Trustee's Report

Treasurer's Report

Apologies List

Ringmer u3A Annual General Meeting

22nd May 2024 at 14:00 Jack Hart Room, Ringmer Village Hall

Chair's Report, May 2024

Ringmer u3a is doing well, with 143 members currently, plus 9 associate members. This is a small increase on last year, no doubt helped by the number of new houses in the area, but is not yet back to our numbers before the covid pandemic.

The Interest Groups are at the heart of everything we do, and we now have 16, having added DNA (an offshoot of Family History), Art History and Poetry at the beginning of the year last September. The groups meet in a variety of locations; members' houses, larger venues such as the Scout Hut or, in the case of the Walking Group, the car park. Some groups like to get out; both Garden Groups and the Wine Appreciation Group have been on visits to local places of interest. Other groups eg Family History and Astronomy have welcomed speakers with specialist knowledge to talk to them. You can find information about Ringmer u3a and all our Interest Groups on the Ringmer u3a website:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/ringmer/home>

In recent weeks, both Computing and Home Tech and DNA have held open meetings, inviting all members, not just their own group, to listen to a speaker.

As a way of expressing our thanks to the convenors, the committee hosted our second annual Convenors' coffee morning in February— this event is becoming a fixture in our calendar and is sure to be repeated next year.

Beyond Ringmer, there has been very little regional activity this year, but it is always open to Ringmer members to become associates of another local u3a to take advantage of the groups offered nearby.

Nationally, the picture is brighter: for a small annual fee, members can now join u3a friends and receive discounts on shopping and leisure purchases as well as gaining access to Interest Groups Online. There is also a summer school taking place in York, a monthly podcast and open lectures hosted on Zoom. Details of all of these activities are available on the u3a website, www.u3a.org.uk. During the week 21-29 September it will be national u3a week, when more events are planned.

My thanks go to all the members of the current committee, especially to Penny Goulding, who is standing down this year, and to the others who have agreed to carry on for another year.

Treasurer's Report to AGM for the period April 2023 – March 2024

I would like to thank Sue Tibbenham, our Independent Examiner of Accounts, for checking and agreeing the Statement of Accounts for the year 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024, which I submit to the AGM. A signed copy is on file.

The Statement sets out details of Ringmer's u3a's expenditure and income during 2023/2024. As of 31st March 2024, the balance stands at £2614.34. There is a copy of the statement for 2023/2024 and as comparison 2022/2023, attached to this report.

There are adequate funds to meet the next round of invoices we receive from the Third Age Trust (Beacon Management System; Direct Payment to the Trust and TAM) and the hire of the village hall (May and August 2024).

Membership

Our main source of income is the annual subscription which is set at £10.00 full membership; £5.00 for associated member (member of another u3a) and £6.00 if joining after 1st January; there is no reason to change this for the next year.

Diaries

We currently charge £4.50 for each diary. This year, we didn't break even with sales of diaries; although the shortfall was only small, we can comfortably cover the loss, if we purchase diaries from the Third Age Trust. However, we are looking to source diaries elsewhere, so costs may change.

Groups

The money received from the four Groups, using the Scout hut, is a simple in/out transaction. Groups, using the scout premises, keep their own accounts, passing the money on to the treasurer every three months. The amount each member pays for attending a group depends on the cost of hiring the Scout Hut, which has risen this year; however, it is the responsibility groups to manage and charge fees accordingly. A statement of accounts for the year is submitted at the end of the financial period and passed on to be examined. This year's accounts show a small difference in amounts of income against the amount we paid 1st Ringmer Scout. This is due to a £5.00 carry over from last year. The Astronomy group uses the Church Room and all fees collected go to the Church Parochial Council as a donation.

CLA (Copyright License)

A decision was made to purchase a CLA (license) to meet the groups concerns around printing and downloading information.

Finally, I would like to propose that Sue Tibbenham is elected as our Independent Examiner of Accounts for the year April 2023 to March 2024.

Sylvia Coleman
Honorary Treasurers, Ringmer u3a
May 2024

Ringmer u3a

Income & Expenditure	2023 - 2024		2022 - 2023	
Category	In	Out	In	Out
Balance carried over from start of previous year	2494.95		£2,475.56	
Third Age Trust Affiliation Fees (Annual Return)		£540.00		£560.00
Third Age Trust TAM (Third Age Matters)		£298.80		£287.88
Third Age Trust Beacon License		£143.00		£148.00
RVHAMC (Hire of Ringmer Village Hall)		£72.50		£135.00
Diaries paid for by Sylvia Coleman	£68.43	£70.69	£42.00	£58.03
Card Machine Purchase				£19.99
Membership	£1,460.32		£1,167.98	
Repayment of membership - paid twice				£8.00
Cash for open day		£60.00		£50.00
Money Paid in from Astronomy group	£185.00		£226.00	
Ringmer Parochial - Astronomy group		£185.00		£196.00
Money From Groups Family History, Photography, ECO, DNA & Computing & Home Tech	£906.55		£617.00	
1st Ringmer Scouts including £1.00 paid by Ringmer u3a		£911.55		£618.00
Sussex u3a Network Dissolution			£175.00	
Refreshments for open day				£3.90
Petty Cash less refund £16.00 (cash for open day)			£34.00	
Cheque Convenors get together		£72.30		£90.30
Cheque Gift and Voucher		£82.87		£21.50
Cheque Equipment				£5.99
Cheque Gift to committee Member				£40.00
CLA (copyright) License Third Age Trust		£64.20		
Total	£5,115.25		£4,737.54	
Total Expenditure		£2,500.91		£2,242.59
Total in the Bank at the end of respective years	£2,614.34			£2,494.95

Petty Cash

Date	Description Paid to	Paid In £	Out	Bal- ance
28th July 2023	Cheque number 000645	£60.00		
16th August 2023	Refreshments for open day		£4.00	£56.00
18th October 2023	Ken Boot-Handford Printing		£19.00	£37.00
01 February 2024	Sylvia Coleman Ink cartridge		£33.00	£4.00
	Total		£56.00	
	Cash in box			£4.00