

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

8 May 2014

Meeting commenced at 10.15am. Present 231 members.

Opening the Special Meeting its Chairman explained that there had been difficulty in establishing the correct quorum for general meetings. It had originally been set by the 2004 Constitution at 20 per cent of the membership. An amendment in 2006 lowered this to 100 although the meeting was not quorate. The change, therefore, was not strictly correct, but, made in good faith.

All changes made to the Constitution since that date were therefore invalid. The only valid constitution by which our U3A is run is the original 2004 constitution.

To resolve this situation advice was sought from the Charity Commission who granted a special order to hold a Special General Meeting which allowed the numbers present to form a valid quorum at General Meetings. This needs a two thirds majority of the members present for it to be carried.

The Chairman, Geoff Maitland assured the meeting that he wanted everyone to be clear about the issue and to feel satisfied that the process was correct. The only question related to whether members present were paid up to date he replied that it could be taken on trust that they are and that it would be impracticable to do otherwise. Voting would be by a show of hands with selected Tellers using hand held counters. The Motion was displayed on the screen and read to the meeting. There were 219 votes in favour; 3 votes against and 2 abstentions. The Motion that “the quorum for General Meetings be 100 was carried.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their patience.
