MINUTES OF THE U3A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE

CASA DE CULTURA DENIA, THURSDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2016

The first call of the Annual General Meeting took place at 11.00 a.m. The President informed the members that as there were insufficient numbers

present we would have to wait for the time to make a second call.

The President, Denise Bolton-Botterman, informed all present of the forthcoming events, and together with the Vice President, Christine Whitelock, gave information relating to the celebrations for The Queen’s 90th birthday in April and June, and the U3A’s 10th anniversary celebrations.

The President thanked everybody for purchasing calendars and bags to raise funds for good causes, and also for donations received for the Soup Kitchen.

Upon the second call the Annual General Meeting was officially opened by the President, who then informed the members that having completed her term of Office she was not putting herself forward for re-election. The Vice President gave a vote of thanks to her for all her good work throughout her two years of office, and presented her with a bouquet of flowers. The outgoing President then gave an official speech of thanks.

The Vice President then informed the members that the only nomination received for the office of President was that of Gordon Clifford, whose name had been proposed and seconded, and she asked for a show of hands to confirm the appointment of the new President, whereupon no objections were received. The re-election of the existing Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary and the ex-officio members were also approved by the members, and again, no objections were received.

The new President addressed the meeting by accepting the position and re-iterating the purpose of the U3A, which is for people to enjoy, learn and participate in the activities that are offered to them, and to form friendships.

The President informed the members they should not forget the fact that the Committee and the Group Leaders were all volunteers and helping to take the U3A forward.

The President then introduced the Treasurer and invited him to present the Financial Report for 2015.

The Treasurer opened his account of the Financial Report by informing the members that he had received a series of questions from Mr. James Harvey that he wished to address, albeit they were submitted after the cut-off date. He asked the members if this was acceptable, and the members gave their approval.

The Treasurer dealt with each specific question Mr. Harvey read out to him, asking him (Mr. Harvey) after each reply was he satisfied with the answer given, to which Mr. Harvey replied that he was satisfied.

 At the end of his presentation the Treasurer asked the members to approve the accounts for the year 2015 by way of a show of hands.

The accounts were proposed by Norma Munro, and seconded by Anne Flowers

Before handing back to the President, the Treasurer informed the meeting that he was prepared to do another two years in office, and was quite happy to train somebody, or accept somebody to work alongside him in producing the 2016 accounts, before retiring. This would ensure a smooth change-over in the production and presentation of the accounts.

The Treasurer handed over to the President who then informed the members that the membership fee would remain at six euros per person for the coming year. One member asked if that would be sufficient and the President asked the Treasurer to clarify the reason why it was staying at the same level as the previous year, which he did to the satisfaction of the member.

The President then went on to say that the Minutes from the 2015 AGM were not available due to the Secretary being away on holiday. They have been posted on the web-site for members to view. It was suggested by the President to the members that they be submitted for approval at the next general meeting in March, to which the members agreed.

The President then proceeded to raise the question submitted by

 Mr. Neil Weatherall about the Residents’ Council and Integration of Foreigners proposed by Denia Town Hall. The committee, in principle, have agreed, but need further information and clarification, which will then be shared with its members and discussed before a decision is made as to whether and how we proceed. Mr. Weatherall accepted this reply.

The President then informed the meeting that he had received more questions relating to the functioning of Denia U3A from Mr. Harvey, which he proceeded to read out to the members. One of the questions had been addressed by the committee prior to the AGM which related to an e-mail sent out to all members; the committee had only received one complaint, which was from Mr. Harvey. As this matter had been addressed by the committee it was felt that no further discussion needed to take place. More questions were read out by the President from Mr. Harvey which, again, were submitted after the cut off date. These related to authorisation of the Minutes of the 2015 AGM., membership, the web-site, payments to members of the Committee. The President reiterated that these questions would not be answered at this meeting.

One of the questions made reference to Oliva U3A’s concern at one of their meetings on how Denia U3A web-site was being organised. The President took issue with this particular question and expressed concern that another U3A organisation was discussing Denia U3A’s decisions, and as to why Mr. Harvey was expressing their concern. The President therefore suggested that at the next committee meeting this issue be discussed as to why the opinions of another organisation were being voiced by one of our members.

(The Treasurer had informed the members of payments made to the members of the Committee during his financial statement)

At this point several members were concerned why Mr. Harvey was asking so many questions, and if he was dissatisfied with the way Denia U3A was operating he should take no further part and resign from the membership.

The President asked a direct question to Mr. Harvey ‘if you are not happy, resign’ to loud applause from the participating membership. Mr. Harvey did not respond to this question.

The President then went on to talk about the Travel Team and the future of events, and informed the members that the Team requires new members to organise the Culture and Events side of the Group, and therefore asked if any members were interested.

The President spoke about the events being arranged to celebrate The Queen’s 90th birthday; and also explained a little about the funds raised for the Children’s home.

The President officially closed the 2016 Annual General Meeting at 12.15 p.m.



President’s Signature.....................................................Date 22/02/2015