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2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 3rd March, 2017, Service Tasmania Meeting Room, 1.30 pm

The inaugural AGM was opened by Leoni Read on behalf of the Steering Committee, and attendees welcomed.

Present: Adrienne Baden, Jennifer Braid, Judith Bolouri, Alison Carroll, Jim Crowley, Lynne Ellis, Annalise Hardwicke, Angus Mackenzie, Ariadna Mackenzie, Jill May, Margaret McLachlan, Narelle Newton, Nina Pountney, Leoni Read, Jill Ridgway, Marilyn Spinks, Don Thwaites, Lindsay Walsh.

Apologies were received from: Carisa Campbell, John Earthrowl, Robyn Kelly, Libby Gillingham, Margaret Hughes, Kim Johnson, Ann Lenton, Athalie Verrall.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. The Steering Committee Report was presented by Leoni Read, highlighting the following key points:

A Kentish U3A Steering Committee was established in January 2016 with the purposes of promoting the goals of U3A, guiding the development of Kentish U3A towards status as an incorporated body, and implementing a program of courses suited to local needs.

Steering Committee members – Carisa Campbell, Robyn Kelly, Margaret McLachlan, Terrie Pollard, Leoni Read, Jill Ridgway, Marilyn Spinks, Tim Wilson.

The Steering Committee has worked cooperatively to respond to community needs during this first year. A large number of courses has been offered and many have been successful enough to continue into the second year, with new ideas continually coming forward. Community support from other organisations and businesses has been greatly appreciated, in the form of venues, publicity, donations and grants, etc. The Sheffield Uniting Church is acknowledged as a particularly generous partner, providing meeting space on every week day without rental charges.

Membership in 2016 numbered approximately 113.

Kentish U3A has developed useful links with U3A New South Wales and U3A Tasmania and has begun to take on leadership roles in the Tasmanian network. Communication with local U3A members is in the early stages of development via a dedicated website and there are plans for this to be expanded significantly in 2017.

(See full Steering Committee Report attached.)

Moved by Leoni Read and seconded by Judith Bolouri that the Report of the Steering Committee be accepted. CARRIED.

2. Formal adoption of the Constitution of Kentish U3A

The draft Constitution was developed by the Steering Committee and circulated to Kentish U3A members prior to the AGM as required by the rules. The draft Constitution was approved by the Office of Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading in December 2016. This granted Kentish U3A incorporation status, subject to the formal adoption of the Constitution at the AGM.

Moved by Leoni Read and seconded by Narelle Newton that the Constitution of Kentish U3A be formally adopted. CARRIED.

3. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Jill Ridgway, highlighting the following key points:

Under the rules of incorporation applying to an organisation of this type and level of financial resources, an Auditor's Report is not required for the AGM.

Each Steering Committee meeting has received a Treasurer's Report of transactions and current bank balances. Kentish U3A is in a healthy position financially with a current balance of \$4245.50. Donations and grants have been used for the purchase of major assets such as a photocopier/printer and portable office equipment. A register of assets has been drawn up. Appreciation was expressed for the community support which has enabled purchase of these assets, and also to organisations and businesses which have provided course venues.

Questions from the meeting related to

- details on insurance cover for leaders and participants
- the use of incident report forms.

These questions were discussed and the Steering Committee undertook to ensure that the questions raised are considered fully at a Management Committee meeting in the near future.

(See full Treasurer's report attached.)

Moved by Jill Ridgway and seconded by Nita Pountney that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. CARRIED.

4. Steering Committee business was declared closed and all positions declared vacant by Leoni Read who invited Mayor Don Thwaites to take the Chair for elections for the incoming Management Committee.

The Mayor commented briefly on the important contribution of Kentish U3A activities to the broader Kentish Council Learning Plan. He encouraged recognition of, and mutual support between the various organisations targeting different demographic groups in the Kentish community, e.g. 50+ age group, recent school leavers, etc.

5. Election of Management Committee.

President: Lynne Ellis was nominated by Leoni Read, seconded by Margaret Hughes. There being no further nominations **Lynne Ellis was declared elected as President.**

Secretary: Jill Ridgway was nominated by Marilyn Spinks, seconded by Jillian May. There being no further nominations **Jill Ridgway was declared elected as Secretary.**

Treasurer: Lindsay Walsh was nominated by Leoni Read, seconded by Margaret Hughes. There being no further nominations **Lindsay Walsh was declared elected as Treasurer.**

Course Coordinator: Leoni Read was nominated by Marilyn Spinks, seconded by Alison Carroll. There being no further nominations **Leoni Read was declared elected as Course Coordinator.**

Public Officer/Publicity Officer: There were no written nominations for either of these positions and none from the floor. However, after discussion of these roles the meeting resolved that these appointments can be made at Management Committee level and may be combined with other positions as permitted by the Constitution.

Resolved that the position of Public Officer be held by the Treasurer.

Committee Members (between 3 and 6 additional):

Adrienne Baden was nominated by Athalie Verrall, seconded by Narelle Newton.

Jennifer Braid was nominated by Ann Lenton, seconded by Elizabeth Gillingham.

Angus Mackenzie was nominated by Leoni Read, seconded by Margaret Hughes.

Margaret McLachlan was nominated by Ann Lenton, seconded by Margaret Hughes.

Jo Treloar was nominated by Leoni Read, seconded by Jill May.

There being no further nominations these five people were declared elected as Committee members.

6. Close of official business. Incoming President Lynne Ellis took the Chair and closed the official business of the AGM after commending the work of the Steering Committee in bringing Kentish U3A to this stage. Lynne also briefly outlined her thoughts on the future of Kentish U3A and the importance of it retaining its local identity and constitution, particularly in its relationship to the broader U3A Tasmania framework.

Ideas for enhancing links with neighbouring towns beyond Sheffield were suggested by the meeting. These will be further explored by the Management Committee during the year.

The first meeting of the new Management Committee will be convened in the near future.

Marilyn Spinks proposed a vote of thanks to Leoni Read for her enthusiasm and energy in instigating the concept of a U3A group in Kentish. **CARRIED by acclamation.**

CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The President thanked those present for their attendance and invited all to stay for a tango demonstration by Ari and Angus Mackenzie, and afternoon tea.

Kentish U3A Report from the steering committee for the Annual General Meeting March 3rd 2017

The first thing I would like to acknowledge, is the wonderful support from members of the Steering Committee. I can scarcely believe how much has been achieved since the Steering Committee first met in November 2015, with the vision of starting our very own Kentish U3A. It has been a very busy year. So here we are ready to face our second year, with our own constitution, email address, website and Facebook page in place, with a very healthy membership, a wide array of courses – more than 20, and a very healthy bank balance! All I can say is, “Hey, look at us now!” On Wednesday March 1st, not only did Lynne Ellis and I represent our Kentish U3A group at the State U3A Meeting in Campbell Town, we ran it.

The Kentish Council is in the process of implementing its Community Learning Plan, which aims to provide for the learning needs of the entire Kentish community, from the very youngest members of our community, to its eldest. So be proud, our Kentish U3A is filling a very large space in part of this vision.

It has been encouraging to have welcomed so many new members. Our main premise is always the focus that ***if you are over 50, it's important to keep your mind and body active.*** We have done our utmost to make the organisation accessible to everyone in that category in our community, by offering an interesting and broad array of courses. Annual membership fees have been kept to a minimum. We have also made a conscious effort to choose courses suited to both men and women. Venues have been chosen which are inviting and easy to get to. Above all, we have endeavoured to make learning informal and enjoyable, a place where friendships grow. Our Kentish U3A is proving a real asset to the community; one of the many things that are likely to attract people who move into the district.

We have been very fortunate to have such a supportive and generous community. The Hub provided a \$2,000 grant which enabled us to purchase a ‘state of the art’ photocopier. The Kentish Council grant of \$1779.60 enabled us to set up a mobile classroom – comprising a data projector, three portable whiteboards and accessories. The Lions Club supported the Table Tennis group by providing the funds to purchase two folding table tennis tables, which are easy to assemble and pack away. The Sheffield Uniting Church in particular, has been very generous in providing the venue for many courses, such that it is in use by several groups every single week day. The Fudge and Good Coffee and Blacksmith Gallery Cafes have also hosted several different courses.

Finally, I want to say a special thank you to the members of the Steering Committee who have worked so hard to get our organisation up and running. A special thank you needs to go to Jill Ridgway, who spent many hours liaising with the NSW U3A to get our constitution, website and incorporation underway. We would also like to thank other members of the Steering Committee who have decided to stand down – Robyn Kelly, Terrie Pollard, Carissa Campbell, and in particular, our secretary, Marilyn Spinks, who really has worked tirelessly. But what a thrill it was, to approach five new members to join our 2017 Kentish U3A Committee and have them all say yes! Oh, what a feeling!

We can look forward to another lively year.

Leoni Read 03/03/17

Treasurer's Report - AGM – Kentish U3A – 03.03.2017

I am pleased to be able to table my Treasurer's Report for the Kentish U3A – the year dating from its inception in February 2016 to 28.02.2017. This has been an exciting year for Kentish U3A and for me as well as it's Treasurer.

One of our main sources of income for us were membership fees – which have been pegged at a very reasonable rate of \$30 per year. (and remaining at this rate for 2017) In 2016 there were 113 members with a few people joining for the Summer Classes. On 17.02.2017 we held another sign on day which brought in 68 memberships for 2017. For the 2016 – 2017 a total amount of \$5400 was deposited from memberships.

Grants was the other main source of income. We were fortunate to receive 2 grants during the year valued at \$2000 from the Hub and \$1770.60 from Kentish Council. When Leoni's Gardening Living Murals group moved under the umbrella of Kentish U3A this brought a third grant of \$500. Our total income from Grants for the year was \$4270.60.

With the Hub grant money, we have bought a photocopier (valued at \$1980) and we have fully expended the Kentish Council grant on purchasing portable classroom items – for which is what the grant was provided. A Register of Assets has been established.

We have been able to retain a very healthy financial position because we rent very few venues and we do not rent office space. Our expenses are therefore kept at a minimum. This has been possible as we have been very fortunate with the amount of local support that the community and the business centre have given us. Total venue hire for the year has been just \$262.50 which is incredible given the number of classes we have run. Thank you to all those places who have supported us during the year.

We have our Public Liability cover arranged through the U3A Network New South Wales and that has been provided at a very reasonable rate. We also have our website domain through them. I am pleased to say that we have had the Web in place for some time and Jim Rouse has offered to take this over and develop it further.

During the year, we have become incorporated and due to recent changes to The Associations Incorporations Act 1964, organisations with an annual revenue of less than \$250 000 do not require auditing. The Kentish U3A Constitution does allow for the paperwork to be audited at any stage however this has not been requested and has not been done for this AGM.

The current balance in the Bendigo Bank is now standing at a very healthy balance of \$4245.50.

I would like to say that this year the Committee has been wonderful to work with and I would like to thank everyone for their efforts and assistance when required. I am retiring as Treasurer and wish the incoming Treasurer every success. I move that the accounts as presented be accepted. I am happy to take any questions or comments.

Jill Ridgway 03.03.2017