

MINUTES OF FORUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2024 AT 7.00pm

PRESENT: Geoffrey Beatson, Nia Charpentier, Anna Harlow, Sabine Heiliger, Lynda Hudson, David Kippax, Richard Lewis, Alison Sorrell, Hilary Stock, Neville Tomlinson, and Linda Widdows.

- 1. WELCOME:** Alison welcomed everyone and thanked them for giving up their time to attend. She introduced herself as Chair of Forum and introduced the other Events Team members.
- 2. APOLOGIES:** Iris Bristow, Bridget Jones, Louise Lee, Emlyn (Anthony) Murr, and Pat Tatton.
- 3. MINUTES OF LAST AGM** held 19th April 2023. These had been emailed to members and all attendees were asked if they had read them. As all nodded that they had, they were asked to vote to accept or reject them.
- 4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** Alison asked Anna to display the voting form on screen, so that votes could be anonymous, and everyone voted. The minutes of the AGM for 2023 were accepted unanimously.

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR:

Alison read out her report, which included a short list of the workshops that were held during the past year and a brief description of the way that coffee morning at Palmer's Café in Shrewsbury have now evolved in Kitchen Table CPD in the afternoon, four times a year. She gave thanks to Neville Tomlinson, for his dedicated work as Treasurer over the past seven years, and who is leaving the Team tonight. She also welcomed anyone who might be interested in joining the Events Team to come along to any of our meetings (held via Zoom) as an Observer. (Full report attached).

6. REPORT FROM TREASURER:

Neville presented the Income and Expenditure figures for the year April 2023 to March 2024, which had been emailed to members, and read out his report. There were no questions about the figures presented. He said that he will remain a member of Forum and looked forward to meeting other members at workshops and networking meetings in the coming year. (Full report attached).

7. REPORT FROM MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Anna read out her report. She informed the meeting that numbers have fallen from the pre Covid figure of 50 to 29 to date, made up of 21 working members, 3 students and 5 retired members, though she anticipates a few outstanding payments over the next few weeks. (Full report attached).

8. REPORT FROM SECRETARY:

Linda read out her report which included changes to the venue for Forum workshops and changes to the time of networking events at Palmer's Café, which are now called Kitchen Table CPD. At the end of her report, she announced that she will be stepping down as Secretary at the next AGM. (Full report attached).

Alison asked everyone if they were ready to vote to accept or reject the reports and asked Anna to launch the voting form on screen. All the reports were accepted unanimously.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EVENTS TEAM MEMBERS:

Alison handed over the process of electing Team members to Anna, who had devised a voting form allowing all to continue to vote anonymously.

There were no additional nominations for any of the roles.

AGM – PAGE 2 (17 April 2024)

The voting went as follows:

CHAIR: Alison Sorrell Proposed by Linda Widdows, Seconded by Anna Harlow

TREASURER: Emlyn (Anthony) Murr Proposed by Neville Tomlinson, Seconded by Alison Sorrell

SECRETARY: Linda Widdows Proposed by Alison Sorrell, Seconded by Geoffrey Beatson

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Anna Harlow Proposed by Neville Tomlinson, Seconded by Geoffrey Beatson

WEBSITE CO-ORDINATOR: Nia Charpentier Proposed by Linda Widdows, Seconded by Neville Tomlinson

TEAM MEMBER: Geoffrey Beatson Proposed by Anna Harlow, Seconded by Alison Sorrell

ALL NOMINATIONS WERE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Alison asked if anyone wished to raise any other topics or to ask any questions. No one had anything else to add or ask.

11. DATE OF NEXT AGM:

Alison said that this will take place in approximately 12 months' time and members will be notified in advance.

Alison thanked everyone for attending and participating in the business of the AGM. She then declared the meeting closed.

Alison then invited all attendees to stay online if they wished, to share some information in a short networking session, similar to the Kitchen Table events held at Palmer's Café.