



Minutes of the Special General Meeting held at 10 .30 am on Monday 6<sup>th</sup>  
December 2021 via Zoom video conferencing.

**Present**

**Trustees**

Pam Stonebrook (Chair)

Peter Bolton (Vice Chair)

Jenny Thirlwell (Speaker Secretary)

Terry Thirlwell (Equipment Officer)

Jean Sniders (Membership Secretary and Acting Secretary)

Margaret Taylor (Halls Bookings Secretary)

**Associate Committee Members**

Mike Sapsard ( Web Admin)

Alan Osborn (News and CAN)

Anne Menzies (Beacon Admin and Web Admin)

**Apologies**

Barbara Egglesfield (Digest Editor)

Peter Marshall (Treasurer)

**1 Proceedings:**

The meeting was held on Zoom. There were 35 screens with approximately 45 members attending in total. For the purposes of the adoption of the new constitution, a proxy vote had been held which had been completed by 414 members. A quorum was therefore achieved.

The Chair, Pam Stonebrook, opened the meeting which was called to deal with two matters, adoption of the new constitution and the introduction of an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy.

**2. New Constitution:**

The Committee had at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021 agreed unanimously to put forward a revised constitution to the membership. Members at the AGM on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 voted to accept the constitution as proposed. The new constitution was then submitted to the Charity Commission who agreed the changes and required members to vote to adopt the new constitution at a meeting following the Charity Commission's approval. The Committee agreed on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021 to call a Special General Meeting for this purpose. Proxy voting would also be enabled by Lime Survey and by post. The proposed constitution and a description of

the proposed changes were published on the website and made available to postal voters on application.

The following motion was proposed by the Committee and put to members:

‘That u3a Dacorum adopts the proposed changes to the Constitution proposed by the Third Age Trust in the February 2021 Model Constitution with appropriate changes to meet u3a Dacorum’s requirements.’

The votes were as follows:

By Lime Survey: 382 in favour

7 against

25 abstentions

By post: 8 in favour

1 abstention

The motion was therefore carried by a total of 390 in favour, 8 against and 26 abstentions – a total number of 423 votes cast. The quorum of 10% was achieved.

The new constitution would now be sent to the Charity Commission so that the changes could take effect.

### **3. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy:**

The Chair reported that a complaint had been made following a comment made at the November Monthly Meeting . The Committee had decided to publish a proposed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy on the website and urged members to look at it and take on board the provisions in their interactions with other members of u3a Dacorum.

The Policy would be included in the list of documents that members have to agree to abide by when they join or renew membership .

The meeting ended at 10.37 am