

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 31 January 2024

### Casa de Cultura, Javea

1. **The first call was made at 10.30am** but there were insufficient members to start.

### **The meeting started at 11am.**

2. **Welcome** - The President welcomed 74 members to the meeting.

3. **Apologies for absence** were received from 63 members of whom 60 had cast their votes online.

4. **Minutes of the last AGM on 29 March 2023** were published on the website and no comments were received. They were agreed as written at the time. **Agreed Unanimously**

### 5. **President's Report**

Claude said that U3A Javea now has over 1,000 members of 15 different nationalities and almost 40 active Groups. With 17 Groups meeting weekly and another 18 meeting once a month, that adds up to over 80 meetings every month. On any measure U3A Javea is alive and well.

He offered the Committee's condolences to the family and friends of all the wonderful members we lost over the year, all of whom have contributed hugely to the organisation over the years.

Claude also took the opportunity to thank members of the team for their efforts during the year, he said there are many people whose hard work keep this organisation going. The Committee, the Webmasters, the Group Leaders, the Events Team, and all the people who volunteer to help at our meetings. I am very grateful to them all.

Claude gave special thanks to Sally Rush, who is retiring as Treasurer (having previously been Deputy Treasurer) and who kept us going through the Pandemic. He thanked Henrik Rasmussen, previously our Membership Secretary, for stepping up to the role of Treasurer.

He welcomed new member Jim Short for volunteering to become the new Membership Secretary. He went on to mention that last year we had a vacancy for a 7th person on the Committee. He announced his, and the Committee's delight, to welcome Stephen Young who has volunteered to fill the vacancy of Communications Officer, which was left when Ian Rogerson stepped down from the Committee.

He continued by saying we are always looking for others to help us.

He added that we really need an Events Co-ordinator and people to help us organise even more all members, social events in the future. We also need volunteers to help with Travel events and anyone with IT skills who is willing to help our Group Leaders to publicise and report on their Group's activities on the website.

### 6. **Reports by the Committee**

- **Vice President**

The Vice President was unable to attend due a family issue, but her report was read by Claude Grealy.

It was reported that there had been several social events for all members held during the year, including an Evening Ball at Carrasco, a Ukulele Concert, multiple coffee mornings and a pre-Christmas Bash where we were entertained by James Hirst and enjoyed a buffet lunch at the Pinosol Hotel.

Coffee Mornings and other social events are open to all members and subsidised from the funds.

In addition, we had 3 meetings here at the Casa de Cultura where the Committee gave their reports followed by an entertaining talk. Two by Peter Atkinson and one by Cheda Panajotovic.

Krystyna hoped to be able to offer more social events throughout the year and to ensure we had good speakers for our formal meetings. Although we have 3 formal meetings, only 2 have speakers as AGM the other.

- **Secretary**

Margaret reported that along with her Secretarial duties she continues to be responsible for updating the website with articles and other information from groups about their activities and events.

She thanked Peter Bayliss the Webmaster for keeping our website working well. Some recent issues with emails were caused by a server issue and we are working with the hosting company to sort that out.

For members with problems navigating the website, filling forms, receiving emails and other U3A related issues we have arranged with Javea Computer Club to allow attendance on a Tuesday for help.

The upgraded the system from Sabadell Bank for card payments online is proving to be popular with members with more using it on a regular basis.

For those who have difficulties Margaret proposes to run a session to show how this facility works. The key is to have access to the card issuers app on a mobile phone for receiving an authentication code. She hopes she can find out how most used cards work in this regard.

- **Treasurer**

Sally presented the Financial Report. U3A Javea remains in a strong financial position although we had excess expenditure over income last year of 1,562€. This has come about due to subsidising Coffee Mornings and other social events throughout the year.

The Committee had considered this loss and their plans for more subsidised events in the coming year and concluded that an increased fee was justified to maintain our bank balance.

**It was proposed to set membership fees at €10 per person for 2024.**

**Agreed: Majority**

- **Membership Secretary**

Henrik reported that we had 1082 members at the end of 2023 of which 174 were new in the year.

He asked that when members paid their renewals this year, they made sure their name and membership number (if possible) is quoted on the bank transfer or card payment form. This was particularly important when the payment was for two members who had different names as it makes a lot of work to find out to whom the payment should be allocated.

- **Groups Coordinator**

Mike reported that we were in a much healthier position as regards groups at the end of the year compared to the beginning.

We have seen 11 groups start up, 11 including the New Members Group, Cycling for Softies, Cosmopolitan Cards, Getaway Walking, Water Colour Art and a Singalong Group. After a hiatus, the very popular Quiz restarted with 40 quizzers entertained at the Javea Golf Club.

He thanked the members that had come forward to run these groups many of whom are new members this year.

He also reported that the SC&C Group had organised no less than 14 trips/events in the year and the Travel Team 8 trips to places such as Valencia and Alicante and even a Mediterranean Cruise. He thanked all the travel team for their work to organise these trips.

He hoped this level of activity will be continued, if not surpassed for 2024.

## 7. Annual Report of Activities 2023

The report had been published on the website on 19 January 2024 and notified to members the same day. There were no questions raised.

**Approved: Majority**

## 8. Audited Accounts for 2023

The Accounts had been published on the website on 19 January 2024 and notified to members the same day. There were no questions raised.

**Approved: Unanimous**

## 9. Election of committee – voting overseen by Roger Barkley, Election Auditor

The election for the Committee was taken 'en bloc' as there were no contested posts.

There were unanimous votes in the room, and majority votes online.

<b>President:</b>	<b>Claude Grealy</b>	<b>Elected</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Krystyna Stefanczyk</b>	<b>Elected</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Margaret March</b>	<b>Elected</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Henrik Rasmussen</b>	<b>Elected</b>
<b>Groups Coordinator:</b>	<b>Mike Frost</b>	<b>Elected</b>
<b>Membership Secretary:</b>	<b>Jim Short</b>	<b>Elected</b>
<b>Communications Officer:</b>	<b>Steve Young</b>	<b>Elected</b>

## 10. 'New' President

Claude thanked Sally Rush for her service over many years as Deputy Treasurer and then as Treasurer and presented her with a bouquet of flowers and bottle of wine.

At Sally's request a donation of 200€ will be made to Make a Smile charity, in lieu of a personal gift.

Claude also thanked Jacqui Rogerson who had served as Deputy Secretary for some years. He presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a bottle of wine.

**The meeting closed at 11.45am**

Signed



**Claude Grealy**  
President

Signed



**Margaret March**  
Secretary