

**DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT 2027 AGM**

**MINUTES OF THE 9th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 9th APRIL 2026 at 2.30 pm  
MAIN HALL, CROSFIELD HALL, ROMSEY**

Dave Green, as Chair welcomed the members to the 9th Annual General Meeting of Romsey Archway u3a. There were 71 members present.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

The Secretary reported that apologies had been received from 13 members, as follows: Gill & Ivor Demain, Gwenda Barros D'Sa, Anna Whitfield, Lizanne Hardcastle, Sue and Richard Keith, Samantha Richley, Frances Rose, Barbara Vincent, Peter and Alison Campion, Lesley Stone.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

The minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting were proposed as a correct record of last year's AGM. No comments had been raised by the members concerning the minutes.

**Proposed: David Wealleans**

**Seconded: Andrew Nicol**

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by a show of hands.**

**3. To receive and approve the Annual Report & Accounts for 2025-26 from the Chairman.**

The Annual Report & Accounts had been circulated to all members with the AGM papers. The Chair gave a slide presentation to summarise the highlights of this report and advised that Romsey Archway u3a was in a favourable position.

There had been a 12% increase in membership which now stood at 532. We now have 52 groups with 9 new groups starting up.

Other ideas for new groups wishing to set up were always welcomed. There remained a shortage of volunteers to fill a variety of roles as publicised throughout the year. Dave Green is willing to stand as Chair for one more year and would be very willing to mentor a successor.

The u3a health check was very positive showing: over 90% of members renew after their first year; membership statistics are monitored; continual growth; no unplanned financial deficits for last 2 years; effective communication; low member to group ratio; increase in numbers of groups and welcoming to new members. The two areas that could be improved are more changes in committee membership and at least 20% of members volunteer. We are very grateful to the members that do run groups, help at meetings, run the book stall, serve on the committee and help with social events together with a range of other activities but in common with other u3a organisations need more people to volunteer for the committee.

Twelve speaker meetings had been held with an average attendance of 68. The new café seating layout had gone well and was now established. David Wealleans has taken on the role of organising speaker and would welcome any ideas.

A total of eight social events took place during the year. Janet Robinson and others will be meeting to plan future events; please contact Janet if you wish to help.

The Statement of Income and Expenditure showed that the finances were strong with £9026 in the bank account. The General Fund held is £8049 including a reserve of £5,000 held in a savings account to earn interest. In order to reduce the reserve held the membership fee has been reduced to £9. The remaining funds were required to cover u3a Central Office capitation fees and other costs as shown in the accounts.

Future Planning: The proposal to explore discussions with Romsey and District U3a is to assess the feasibility of amalgamation and does not commit us to come together. Approval will be sought for discussions.

There were no questions raised by the members concerning the report or Chair's presentation.

#### **4. Resolution to authorise the committee to enter discussions on the feasibility of an amalgamation with Romsey and District u3a**

The Chair stated that he had received one response to the proposal for discussions on the feasibility of amalgamation that reflected on avoiding any impact on our culture as we are perceived as a smaller, friendly group. He asked if there were other questions:

- Is the driver of the proposal the lack of ability to sustain the long term viability of the committee or from the u3as? The Chair explained the committee is a

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factor as without a viable committee, especially a treasurer, the organisation would have to close. There are often questions and confusion regarding why are there 2 u3as in Romsey and it would increase the range of groups available to each member of both u3as.

- Who is taking part in the discussions? The Chair explained this hadn't been decided but possibly a working party and questionnaires.

A Resolution was proposed to authorise the committee to enter discussions on the feasibility of an amalgamation with Romsey and District u3a.

**Proposed: David Wealleans    Seconded: Janet Moody**

Approved with 8 votes against, 3 abstentions and 60 in favour.

### 5. **Election of Officers and Committee for the year 2026-27.**

No one is stepping down from the committee this year.

Diana Craven is joining the committee.

The committee was introduced.

All members of the 2026-27 Committee had been proposed and seconded by a Romsey Archway u3a member.

The Secretary called for a motion to approve the election of the new committee, as follows:

#### **Officers:**

Chair	Dave Green
Vice-Chair	John Roe
Treasurer	Andrew Nicol
Secretary	Vacant

#### **Committee Members:**

Website Administrator	Richard Crowder
Social Secretary	Janet Robinson
Groups Coordinators	Margaret Bealing and Marion Slattery
Membership Secretary	Heather Trim
Committee Member	Diana Craven

**Proposed: Bridget Brook**

**Seconded: Anita Barry**

**The 2026-27 Committee was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by a show of hands.**

### 6. **Appointment of Andrew Bealing as the Independent Reviewer of the Accounts for 2026-27**

Janet Binns was thanked for her work independently reviewing the accounts the accounts but wished to step down.

It was proposed that Andrew Bealing be appointed as Independent Reviewer for the Romsey Archway u3a accounts for the year 2026-27.

**Proposed: Andrew Nicol**

**Seconded: Lucy Crowder**

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by a show of hands.**

**7. Closing comments from the Chairman.**

The Chair thanked the committee members for their continuing support. He thanked all the volunteers that contributed to a successful year. He expressed his appreciation to the members for attending the AGM and looked forward to another successful year ahead if we step forward together. The guest speaker was introduced and the AGM was brought to a close at 3.05 pm.

Heather Trim  
Secretary  
09/04/26