

HUMANIST AND SECULARIST LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held online on Tuesday, 28 November 2023 at 1930 hours

1 Apologies for Absence: Mohammed Amin, Phil Barron, Jenny Wilkerson, Julian Huppert, Stephen Drew, Alan Palmer, John B Grout, Yannifer Malinowski, Alison Jenner

2 Minutes of the 2022 AGM

The minutes of the 2022 AGM were accepted as a true record.

3 Reports from the Executive Committee:

(a) Chair: The Chair had submitted a written report, which was circulated before the AGM. She noted massive thanks to Ganesh Sittampalam with technical matters and also thanked John P Grout for his skills technology and social media. It has been frustrating but the organisation has now moved successfully to Fleet and email and membership data will be fully moved soon. With regard to looking forward, the Chair reported that she was happy to stand for Chair again but feels that next year will be mostly taken up with the General Election and the way to get more influence is to get more Lib Dems elected. She reported that she was looking forward to working with the new committee, Humanists UK and the National Secular Society.

(b) Treasurer: The Treasurer submitted a written report during the meeting. She invited members of the organisation to contact her via email or via the HSLD web site if they have any questions.

The Chair thanked the Treasurer for putting the report together.

(c) Secretary: The Secretary reported that she has attended all the meetings and produced minutes and agenda. She thanked Ganesh for his help with technical stuff.

(d) Membership Secretary: This task has proved difficult this year because of the transfer to new systems. The membership is stable and one transfer to Lighthouse is complete. The Membership Secretary will be in a position to keep full track of membership during the coming year.

4 Consideration of Annual Accounts for 2022: The accounts were shared online during the meeting. Total income went up in 2022 and expenditure went down. The £1567 surplus was due to Autumn Conference being cancelled. The Chair thanked the Treasurer for her work on the accounts.

5 Determination of the annual subscription for 2023/24
The Chair proposed that the annual subscription continues to be £10. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

6 Close of Nominations for election to the Executive Committee

The following nominations were received:

(a) Chair: Clare Delderfield (Seconded: Julian Huppert)

- (b) Vice Chair: Jenny Wilkerson (Seconded: Sue Vincent)
- (c) Treasurer: Kay Kirkham (Seconded: Clare Delderfield)
- (d) Secretary: Sue Vincent (Seconded: Clare Delderfield)
- (e) Membership Secretary: Sam Weatherlake (Seconded: Clare Delderfield)
- (f) Four Ordinary Members:
- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| John B Grout | (Seconded: Clare Delderfield) |
| Yannifer Malinowski | (Seconded: Clare Delderfield) |
| Ganesh Sittampalam | (Seconded: Clare Delderfield) |
| Stephen Drew | (Seconded: Sue Vincent) |

7 Election of Executive Committee officers and members to non-contested positions

There were no contested positions at the close of nominations so the Chair suggested voting en bloc for the new committee. It was unanimously AGREED to proceed in that way. It was put to the meeting to accept the nominations as put forward and the nominations were AGREED unanimously.

8 Nomination and approval of Honorary Co-Presidents: Dr Julian Huppert, Baroness Lorely Burt and Christine Jardine MP

The Chair proposed that the meeting approved of these nominations en bloc. This was unanimously agreed and unanimously approved.

9 Honorary Co-Presidents' comments (if any)

Julian Huppert sent the message 'Keep up the good work'.

10 Appointment of the Examiner of the accounts for 2023.

The Treasurer proposed Ed Moore, who examined accounts this year and has agreed to do it for next year. The Chair wanted to record thanks to him for doing this.

11 Closing Remarks from the Chair

The Committee hopes to arrange a some more social media meetings during the year. She thanked those who had attended the AGM. It has been a privilege to be chair. If anyone wants to contribute by staffing the stand at conference or be involved in any other way, please let us know.