

**Minutes of Fifteenth Annual General Meeting of the Rayleigh Grange u3ahjeld on Wednesday 5th July,
Little Wheatley Chase, Rayleigh 2024 at the Rayleigh Grange Community Centre at 2pm**

Members Present As per the membership secretary's signing in sheet

The Chairman, Bill Keeyes, opened the meeting by welcoming all those present and thanked them for attending

1. Apologies for Absence

Brenda Anderson. Susan Neil

2. Minutes of the Fourteenth Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated to the membership and published on the website and were accepted as correct. Proposed by Donna Lowe and seconded by Cyril Stringer.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

4. Report from the Executive Committee

The Chairman reported on the work of the committee and outlined the work of the different groups and changes that had occurred through the last year. He was glad to report on the continued success and growth of Rayleigh Grange u3a. A full report is available on request to the secretary

5. To Receive the Treasurer's Report

Copies of the Management Accounts for 2023-24 had been circulated to the membership prior to the meeting. The treasurer, Dave Westall, gave an explanation of the accounts and then went on to give a full and extensive report. He had compared the fees of the Rayleigh Grange u3a with others in Essex and asid we were almost the cheapest but also gave very good value for money. The reserves of the previous years had been eroded by a number of events and he felt that it was prudent to recommend an increase in the fees for 2025-26. He also said that the increase in the use of internet banking had certainly made us more efficient and made his role easier

He also reported that the review by the independent auditor, Butlers Financial, had found no faults with the accounts and had imposed no qualifications on their approval. They commented that it was "exceptionally good for a charity of your size"

Dave spoke about the role of the treasurer and the importance of a successful change to a new treasurer at the end of his tenure in 2025 and recommended that the change over should be at the end of the financial year.

A recommendation to increase the yearly subscription for the year 2025-26 to £13.00 for a single person and £25.00 for a couple was made. This was **proposed by Dave Butcher** and **seconded by Michael Kay**. The motion was carried.

6. To Receive Reports of Group Co-ordinator, Social Secretary and Membership Secretary

Carol Bright, Group Co-ordinator presented her report, she thanked all the group leaders for their sterling work. Carol then went on to highlight the number of groups in the u3a including new groups formed this

year, and what areas of interest they cover, she also said that we would still like to increase the groups and the variety, it was a call for more group leaders

Jackie Dillnutt, Social Secretary, presented her report. So far this year there have been twelve social trips and events which covered a wide variety of functions including a holiday to Liverpool. She said that the events were chosen to appeal to as many members as possible. Seven more are planned for the remainder of the year including a holiday to Wales.

Susan Neil, Membership Secretary had sent her apologies and her report was presented by the Chairman. After the last AGM it had been decided to increase the membership ceiling to 340 and at the time of this AGM the membership stands at 333, which included 14 new members since April. Very few were lost at the membership renewal time and she continues to get one or two enquiries a week. The membership is split into 60% single, 38% joint and 2% associate members and 243 female and 90 male.

7. Election of Officers of the Executive Committee

Election of Chairman

Proposed by Pam Keeys and seconded by Joanne Church that Bill Keeys be elected as Chairman for the following year. The motion was carried

Election of Treasurer

Proposed by Ann Clarke-Overy and seconded by Joan Wayman that Dave Westall be elected as Treasurer for the following year. The motion was carried.

Election of Secretary

Proposed by David Butcher and seconded by Heathe Butcher that Barbara Oliver be elected as Secretary for the following year. The motion was carried.

8. Election of Additional Management Committee Members

The following nominations were received for election

Ann Rawlinson	Proposed by Jane Simpson, seconded by Michael Broomfield
Susan Neil	Proposed by Jennifer Wall, seconded by Joan Hanscomb
Glyn Overy	Proposed by Lorraine Taylor, seconded by Ann Clarke-Overy
Carol Bright	Proposed by Ann Clarke-Overy, seconded by Chris Roffey
Jackie Dillnutt	Proposed by D Colson, seconded by J Colson
Ken Bates	Proposed by Mary Connagham, seconded by Gillian Lilliker
Stephen Lowe	Proposed by D Colson, seconded by N Turner
Donna Lowe	Proposed by D Colson, seconded by N Turner

All the above were elected by the members present

It was noted that no new nominations had been received by the closing date

At this juncture Dave Westall took the floor to remind the membership that next year (2025) himself and the chairman are due to retire from their respective roles and it would be advisable for the membership to be considering this point, as if the posts are not filled the Rayleigh Grange u3a could be in danger of closing. All members are welcome to attend the committee meetings to find out more about we work and perhaps help more to come forward to take on the posts.

9. To Debate any Motions put forward by the Membership

There were no motions put forward by the closing date

10. Subscriptions for 2025-26

As recommended by the treasurer and proposed, seconded and voted on by the members present the fees for 2025-26 will be £13.00 per individual and £25.00 per couple

11. Election of Independent Auditor

It was agreed by the members present that Butlers Financial should remain as the independent auditor

12. Date and Place of Next AGM

The sixteenth AGM of the Rayleigh Grange u3a will take place on Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at Rayleigh Grange Community Centre