



Asociación Learning for Pleasure – Costa del Sol  
COSTA DEL SOL - FUENGIROLA  
Registro Provincial Núm. 8340, Sección 1

**MINUTES  
of the**

Eleventh Annual General Meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011  
at the premises of the Ark Christian Fellowship, Fuengirola

**The President, Ian Phillips, opened the meeting at 15.20 hrs. 33 members attended.**

**1. Approval of Minutes**

The members present approved the minutes of the twelfth AGM, held on 25th January 2010. Jeffrey Cohen proposed acceptance of the minutes and Joan Bradley seconded this.

**2. President's Report**

The President thanked the committee members and group leaders who had given so much of their time throughout the year. He emphasised that every organisation, needs to change its leadership regularly in order to develop new ideas and to give others the opportunity to participate.

In recent years membership numbers have been virtually static. We currently have six more members than last year, which is good, given the financial situation. We are also maintaining the number of groups run. The membership fee continues to be 25€ and there are no plans to increase the price in the coming year.

**3. Financial Report**

The Treasurer had circulated a financial summary in advance of the meeting. He thanked Jeffrey Cohen for his help in auditing the organisation's accounts. There had been concern about the decrease in enrolled members between 2008-9 when membership receipts had been 9,000€ and 2009 – 10 when receipts had reduced to 7,900€. As a result, the committee made savings which were to be continued in the coming year. Anita Eriksson queried the absence of a budget and the Treasurer agreed that the budget and presentation of annual finance report should be linked. This will be easier if the timing of the AGM is changed. Jeffrey Cohen endorsed this, pointing out that it would be meaningless to set a budget at the end of January when most income and expenditure is already settled. He asked for the Treasurer's views on the organisation's financial status. The Treasurer assured the membership that the financial situation was reasonably good. As at mid January 2011 there was a balance of 9,300€ in hand. Between then and the end of the academic year the organisation is likely to pay out approximately 2,600€. This will allow it to start the next academic year with approximately 6,000€ in hand. Generally speaking the organisation's expenses vary very little from year to year. Bob Hudson commended the organisation on this position, given the recession and calls on peoples' resources.

A discussion ensued about the possibility of sending out the prospectus by e-mail or inviting members to download it from the internet. However, the prospectus is the main way of marketing and selling the organisation to prospective members and the conclusion was that we would continue to produce sufficient for members and prospective members to have individual copies.

Peter Pearson queried the reduction in the price of postage in the past year. This was due to the fact that only one newsletter was produced and that this was sent out with the prospectus.

Jeffrey Cohen had approached Unicaja to see if they were prepared to sponsor U3A in any way. Ian Phillips advised that the organisation is open to sponsorship, but placing advertisements in the newsletter or prospectus can result in increased costs where this increases the size of the publication. He suggested that we could place sponsors' logos on the website, which currently attracts 1,000 hits each week.

Anita Eriksson suggested that the organisation should expand on the U3A name, adding a further description, in order to appeal particularly to non British members.

Chris Lee proposed that the Financial Statement be approved and this was seconded by Peter Pearson.

#### 4. **Proposal to change date of AGM from January to October**

The reasons for this proposal were firstly, to rationalise the financial and organisational timetables. The new committee comes is elected in January but the academic year ends in May, giving little time for the committee to organise. Secondly, the financial year and planning schedule should start at the beginning of the academic year.

Jeffrey Cohen commented that the proposal made eminent sense but that the new committee will need to amend the statutes.

The motion was carried by 27 votes to 6 abstentions

#### 5. **Change of cheque signature procedure.**

Cheques currently require signatures the signatures of 2 out of 3 specified officials and it was proposed to change this to 2 out of 4: Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, President or Vice-President in order to provide more flexibility.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

#### 6. **Election of Officers**

**Ann Matthews** was proposed for appointment as **President** by Catherine Cohen, seconded by Sue Pemberton and was duly elected.

**Peter Pearson** was proposed for appointment as **Vice President** by Joan Bradley, seconded by Ruth Bell and was duly elected.

**Roy Futcher** was proposed for appointment as **Treasurer** by Sue Pemberton, seconded by Bob Hudson and was duly elected.

**Jean Nobles** was proposed for appointment as **Assistant Treasurer** by Jeffrey Cohen, seconded by Joan Bradley and was duly elected.

**Angela Houlson** was proposed for appointment as **Secretary** by David MacNamara, seconded by Vally Hudson and was duly elected.

**Non-elected members of the Committee:**

***Membership Secretary:***

***Enrolment and Information Desk Manager:*** Joan Bradley will continue to be responsible for these two posts.

***Group Leader:*** Catherine Cohen wished to stand down as Group Leader Co-ordinator. No-one has volunteered for this post and therefore Catherine will continue for the coming year.

***Publicity:*** Roy Futcher will continue as Publicity Officer.

***Website Manager:*** Ian Phillips, will continue with this work and with ***Timetabling.***

***Preparation of Prospectus:*** There is a vacancy

***U3A Newsletter:*** Ann Matthews will continue to produce the newsletter.

Sheila Knight proposed a vote of thanks to the committee and in particular to the following individuals. David MacNamara, had tackled a very difficult task in sorting out the accounts and achieved a creditable outcome. Ian Phillips had served the organisation for the past 3 years as President and before that as Vice President. Mary Havelock had given six years of her time towards making the U3A the successful organisation it is today, serving as both President and Vice President as well as organising the monthly lectures and acting as Group Leader.

**6. Any Other Business**

As there was no other business the President closed the meeting at 16.00 hrs.