

WINSLOW BIG SOCIETY GROUP

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 21 November 2023

Present	Committee: Vron Corben, Tracey Reimer, Georgina Mellows, Zoe Sutherland, Sue Keane, Chris Hudson 62 others (some of whom represented other local organisations): see list on Appendix sheet	
Apologies	Christine Dodds, Rita Millard, Victor Griffiths, Maggie Ley, Peter Brooker, Jan Lewis, Amanda Nicholson, Liz Mostyn, Alison Lowe, Sandra Pratt, Llew Monger, Dee Martin, Steve Herbert, Janine Beattie, Hannah Richardson, Chris Chapman (16)	
Welcome	Vron welcomed everyone to this AGM and expressed her pleasure that so many could attend. She thanked our volunteers and group members plus those that were representing partner organisations for coming out on a rather miserable afternoon. Normal housekeeping about fire exits and toilet facilities was covered then Vron explained that the AGM was the second this calendar year due to the 2022 AGM being later than usual. That had been due to the extra event which had been held to celebrate the Queens Award at the normal AGM time. Vron advised that Sheila Heatley, who had been a supporter of the Big Society since it's inception, had sadly died yesterday so we held a minute of reflection to remember her. Vron explained that people were welcome to ask questions and also made everyone aware that the Loop was available from Diana Slevin for those who were hard of hearing and had hearing aids.	
		ACTIONS
Minutes of the last AGM	Copies of last years' AGM minutes were available for all to check. No comments were received so these were deemed as Approved	
Chair's Report	Vron read her report (see separate sheet). This included thanks to all volunteers without whom the Big Society would not function but this year she particularly wanted to thank Anne Hunt for her help behind the scenes at many events; making teas and coffees at least 5 times a month and doing little extras. Anne was presented with flowers.	
Treasurers Report	Zoe presented the annual accounts which had been reviewed and agreed by Louise Eldred again. Zoe's report is attached on a separate sheet. Flowers were presented to Louise as a thankyou for her help. Zoe said the organisation is in the black and highlighted a few useful donations received over the year which mean the balance in the bank has increased by about £900. No queries about the finances were raised within the room but people were encouraged to ask later if they wished.	
Reports on Current Groups	The reports from each group are detailed on a separate sheet but Vron asked each team leader if they wanted to add anything verbally <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diana advised that the car scheme will soon have been running for ten years and so the occasion will be celebrated. Some 	

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	<p>people have been volunteering since the start but we do need more drivers for this scheme to continue.</p> <p>She mentioned that Haddenham is the only other place for quite a distance which has anything like the schemes Winslow has.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cathy Tracy advised that the drop in had 14 adults attend on Monday and that it was always particularly nice that to see the fathers. Someone in the room wondered if we might set up a second session within the week. • Laura Stobbs advised a rota would soon be created for the 2024 afternoon teas and she would be looking for volunteers. Numbers have been increasing with 10 booked in this month Vron mentioned that this activity is deliberately a small group to keep it quite different from the larger lunch group. • Diana asked people to encourage anyone they know with hearing issues to come along to HoH group as she is sure many more could benefit from this group. The library itself is not open when this group meet so it is nice and quiet down there. • Cards and Games are well enjoyed but could do with more people. • Pen Pal scheme has not been used recently but is still there if anyone knows anyone that might enjoy receiving a letter • PSS team explained they have a very successful telephone befriending service but need more befrienders as there is a waiting list. They are keen to hear from anyone interested. • Memories – also about to have a ten year anniversary • Dementia Friendly Memories – small group but those that attend find it invaluable • Parkinsons – only group in North Bucks so many come from elsewhere. • Film Shows – adult ones very well attended; childrens one needs a rethink • Equipment Store – Chris thanked everyone for the donations of mobility equipment which people can now borrow for the short term or for visitors • Singing group requested more help in the form of muscles to put out tables and chairs occasionally plus more people for the tea rota 	
<p>Update on Committee Members</p>	<p>Vron advised we are now just a team of 6 and really NEED 2 more people so encouraged anyone who could to step up</p>	
<p>Any Other Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Facebook presence is greater these days and is very much a two way thing – we promote our groups, report on activities and also get questions. We asked the room if anyone knew if there was a Christmas lunch anywhere for people to go to. It was known that there was not going to be one in Buckingham but there will be something in Steeple Claydon. More details will be given to the committee for sharing on. • The Treasurer, Zoe has often been asked why the financial Year End for the Society is 31 August. This is simply historical, based 	

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	<p>on when the group was set up. Zoe proposed that the year end is altered to being 31 December to coincide with the calendar year. This was agreed by the whole room. Zoe will now take this forward.</p> <p>This means that the next AGM will be held in January/February 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One lady thanked the Community Bus as it is another invaluable local resource.• We are very grateful to Keith Hofgartner for his continued help with our website updates when we require them.	
	<p>The meeting finished and everyone enjoyed tea/coffee and wonderful homemade cakes.</p> <p>Thankyou to Corinna, Chris and Belinda for their hard work running the kitchen and to the other bakers.</p>	