

# Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

## Minutes of General Assembly Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016

### Committee Present:

President: Eric Atkins  
Treasurer: Mick Cox  
Communications officer: Ian Rogerson  
Groups Coordinator: Karen White  
Membership Secretary: Sheila Giacomelli

### Apologies

Secretary: Roy Brown

### Location:

Parador, Jávea Arenal

The meeting commenced at 11.00am

## Welcome

Eric welcomed everyone to the meeting, asked for all mobile phones to be silenced, and then removed his tie and opened his shirtfront to reveal his new Jávea T Shirt (to shouts of encouragement from the floor)..

Eric explained that he had found two willing volunteers to sign off the minutes of the June meeting. The minutes were approved by the assembly (nobody admitted to having read them) and were duly signed off.

Eric mentioned that we had 36 new members joining today, and pointed out that people paying their joining fee today would not need to pay it again next year. Also the membership fee for next year will be just €5

## President's Report

**Introduction:** Eric waxed lyrical to the effect that it's been a long hot summer with practically no rain, and, despite the fires, to him Jávea is still the jewel of the Costa Blanca with its tree-lined streets and leaves just turning autumnal.

**Bomberos:** Eric thanked everyone for all the contributions. Despite being very late, the 30 T-shirts we had were sold and in total €1306 was raised, including an anonymous donation of €500. Following the enormous fundraising efforts that went on all over Jávea following the fires, Eric was expecting we would end up with the richest volunteer fire service in the country. However, during a conversation with Alan Lawton, the captain of the bomberos in Balcon al Mar he was shown a photograph of the replacement fire engine they are aiming for, with a capacity of 2000 litres rather than the 800 litres of the existing appliance, costing €140,000. Clearly it is worth carrying on with further fundraising efforts to acquire this.

**Events:** Eric thanked Shirley King for organising the summer BBQ in Quo Vadis and announced that there are still a few places available for the Barn Dance in Venta de Posa at the end of October.

**Executive committee elections:** Eric explained the reasons for the introduction of on-line voting, and that this is the first of three meetings in which nominations for the seven executive committee posts can be made. Two volunteer election auditors, Roger Barkley and Irene Charlesworth are in the meeting today with nomination forms for use by anyone who wishes to nominate a candidate.

**Facebook:** The U3A is reintroducing a Facebook page, starting in October (we had one before, but only 34 people knew about it). A help guide button will be embedded in the website to allow any member to join this new Facebook group painlessly.

**The Discounts List:** This lists 25 or so businesses who give discounts uniquely to Jávea U3A members. Eric encouraged everyone to preferentially use the businesses that appear in the list. He also encouraged any member to let him know if they know of any business which will offer a discount uniquely for U3A members

**Padron:** We know that a lot of our members are not registered on the Jávea Padron. There is no downside to registration for the individual, but the town receives funding from central government based on the number of citizens registered and so is missing out on income. Eric is going to publish a guide on the website describing the padron and how simple it is to register.

**Volunteers:** We are desperate for more volunteers to help with the various desks on meeting days.

## Treasurer's Report

Mick gave the current bank balance as €23,143.72, equivalent to €19,828.72 net of monies being held for travel, events, etc.

The mandatory joke then followed.

## AOB

A protest was raised regarding the block booking of events/trips, with the instigator stating that he had heard anecdotal evidence that the website permitted this. The committee were unaware that any such block or group booking permission existed and promised to investigate.

It was remarked that the Spanish Culture and Cuisine website specifically excludes block booking.

Barbara Gorrod remarked that the maximum booking made that day was for six people, and a second coach was added so nobody was turned away.

## Guest Speaker, Alan Oliver

Alan proceeded to relate the history of the second Spanish republic that came into being in 1931, covering the period of the civil war

## Thanks

Eric thanked Alan for his terrific talk, and presented him with a gift of wine. Eric pointed out that next month's speaker will be another friend of his, Chris Duffin giving a talk entitled "Jail Tales"

Eric reported that Susan Vickers has retired from the backgammon group and has been given a voucher for her efforts. All the equipment has been returned, so if anyone would like to restart the group they would be welcome to volunteer.

Eric thanked the assembly for coming and looked forward to seeing everyone next month.

The meeting closed at 12:15pm

Proposed by (print name) ..... Signed .....

Seconded by (print name) ..... Signed .....

President..... Secretary .....