

Minutes 9th February 2026

Present

Mike Mounsey

James Bartlett

Paul Webb

Jamie Baranakaus

Maria Petrolino

John Harris

Sharon Jones

Apologies

Chris Neighbour

Jane Young

Leslye Henstock

Sharon Thornhill

Minutes S Cook

Chair

Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting

The minutes from the 12th Jan were accepted by Mike and Seconded by James.

A warm welcome was made to Sharon Jones who is taking over the Membership Secretary's role.

A letter was sent to Chris asking if he would extend his role on the committee for another year to which he replied he would be willing to stay for another year.

James has done a huge amount of work paring down the role of business secretary and stated that he would be willing to act as advisor to whoever takes over although a new business secretary is still needed.

A second option to not getting a new business secretary would be to split the role between the committee members.

A third option was mentioned (nuclear option) would be going to another U3A.

Paul asked if it was possible to get another member from another u3a to assist for the time being.

Business Secretary

James stated that he had gone to the meeting of the NNG last Friday and was accompanied by Mike and Paul. He stated that it was a positive meeting, He also stated that he would have everything arranged for the AGM on 16th May 2026.

There will be no entertainment on that meeting,

Treasurer.

A report on the finances of the U3A accounts were presented showing a health balance of £3941.82.

This was approved by Mike and seconded by Maria.

A proposal was made for a card reader to be purchased but no decision has been made.

Membership

Forms are ready for the rejoining event and last years are now in order.

An email will be sent to the group leaders re the membership renewal.

Groups

Paul confirmed that at present the History group will be led by John until a new leader can be found.

The playreading group needs a new leader but at present it will be a joint venture between those who attend,

The new guitar group run by Phil Topley has started with about 5 members with the hope of new members joining. All other groups are running well.

Publicity

The publication of U3A is going well. Thanks were passed to Jamie for the work he has done with the Facebook page and for spreading the word to surrounding areas.

Social Media

Jamie stated that he had received an email from the EMAS community training team offering their assistance in attending a meeting and explaining about CPR and the use of a Defibrillator.

It was agreed that this would be a very worthwhile addition to our meeting schedules.

Mike was going to ask Ann if this could be fitted in the schedule.

Wendy Turner from Jubilee Hall has asked if someone from U3A can attend 8th March for the Open Day.

Maria and Jamie have agreed they may be able to cover.

Jamie has been looking into changing the U3A banner and has come up with a few suggestions which will be looked into.

Newsletter.

The current newsletter has now been completed.

Health and safety.

It was brought up regarding the safety side at the meeting, explaining the fire exits and also possible trip hazards. This will be done at the beginning of each meeting.

Website.

The web site is all up to date and a new contact has been created, it will be known as the Amigos.

AOB

Maria informed the committee that the computer that she was given is not required and has agreed to return the laptop. This means that this can be passed over to Sharon J for her to use for the membership.

The issue regarding James' computer will be dealt with at the next meeting.

Sharon J stated that she will contact Maria to arrange a date and time to collect the said laptop.

Meeting concluded 13.10

Next meeting 16th Feb

Next committee meeting 9th March.

