

## Oldham & District u3a - Minutes of Committee Meeting 3 March 2026

1} **Welcome** –Val Thomas welcomed Margaret Halley, Rose Hanley, Barrie Thompson, Robert Cragg, Susan Tickle, Karen Bartlett, Jane Lawton, Marion Shannon & Kevin Birch . Dorothy Gates in attendance as observer.

2} **Apologies** – None

3} **Minutes of 3 February 2026 Committee Meeting** - Agreed by Committee.

4) **Matters Arising from Minutes and Actions completed: (VT)**

- Actions completed.
- Reciprocal membership to be left until April 2026.
- 4a} **Governance** – ongoing .

5) **Secretary's Report (KBa)** Correspondence various emails passed on to Committee

- Message received re change from Chadderton Town Hall and reverting back to QEH for March meeting.
- Email sent to members re venue.
- Cath Gannon has updated website News and Facebook.
- BT to review emails from various members.
- Sort out list of equipment available for speakers.

6) **Membership Secretary's Report (JL)**

- **Membership**: Total Current Members: 705 (incl 9 Honorary members).
- New Members to receive membership cards. This is in case they wish to visit other u3a branches so that other u3a know they are actual members. These are currently being sourced.
- Membership renewal letters to go out on 1 April 2026
- New membership form on website along with Terms and Conditions.
- JL Membership Secretary Training due for 25 February 2026 did not go ahead, issues with Microsoft updating systems, re-arranged for 25 March 2026

7} **Speaker Secretary (MS)**

- Speaker arranged for March to be notified re change of venue. JL to assist with this as MS on holiday from Thursday to Monday.
- Discussed the April speaker and equipment needed.

8) **Treasurers Report (KBi)**

- February Meeting fees taken £596.50. Fee for CTH as yet unknown.
- Speaker Fee £110.
- Member's Account 28.2.26 £8,333.00
- General Account 28.2.26 £17,710.66
- Social Account 28.2.26 £5,105.35
- Mobile Phone £6
- MS queried who has authorisation re monies in accounts and withdrawing monies out of accounts. Discussed with KBi, Treasurer. 3 members of committee have eyes on accounts at all times. JL, KBi and VT
- Walking Cricket T-shirts don't appear to have been documented as a discussion in minutes. Raised as previous Chair did send email out for Committee to review in July 2025 meeting

but due to new Secretary this hadn't been done nor documented. Vote taken to document now as these have already been purchased. 1 abstainer and 9 in agreement.

### 9) a) Chair Report

- Note/Action - we are still in need of a Chair, although we are lucky to have 2 Acting Chairs.
- DG was asked if she would like to join the Committee to which she agreed. Unanimous decision by the Committee to welcome her onboard.
- **b) Hospitality/Welcomers (ST/MH/RH)**
- All agreed that the new venue worked really well and that this was through the hard work of both Welcomers and ST's one-way system.
- Welcomers were conscious that some members without mobility issues were coming in the side door thus distracting both Registrar and Registrants whilst they are working.
- ST raised the concern that new venues were suggested by some members but that parking and transporting all the equipment could be an issue.

### 9} Group Leader Coordinator's Report (VT) Progress Update

- Adopting a 'hands off' approach as requested by GLs .To keep in touch via messages and Face to Face .
- Spanish for Beginners and Level 2 back up and running.
- Reading Group 2 - being set up by Brenda Duke.
- Dancing Group - need new lap top to be funded from their funds.
- Lanyards done for all Group Leaders.

### 10) Monthly Meetings (All)

- Noted that 10 March 2026 meeting will now be held at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

### 11) Committee Changes: DG new Committee Member.

### 12} AOB:

- **Associate and Reciprocal Memberships** – Committee voted on this to keep to normal fees minus capitation in December and review in April
- **Electronic Feasibility Study** - Discussed at this meeting by Treasurer who will PILOT a new cashless system with Quiz/Criminology and Guitar groups. This is not a one size fits all and MOTOs wish to keep the cheque system. Authorisation given to purchase 2 card readers for PILOT. Committed voted to go ahead with the pilot with 2 Abstainers and 9 For.

### 13) Date & Time of Next Meeting :10.30 am to 12.30 pm Tuesday 7 April 2026 at The Link Centre, Union Street, Oldham.

### Actions

Item	Responsibility
Enquiry to National Office	BT
Determine future venue	VT
Require Committee Chair person	Committee
All Role Descriptions under review	RC
Update all members re QEHL	KBa/CG
NW Regional Meetings emails to be circulated to Committee Members	KBa