

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING 07 07 26

1. Welcome & Apologies

Val Thomas welcomed, Karen Bartlett, Kevin Birch, Robert Cragg, Dorothy Gates, Margaret Halley, Rose Hanley & Jane Lawton.

Apologies: Susan Tickle

Observer Colin Turner was welcomed and introduced to committee.

Asked if he had any questions and he felt that talk in October was insensitive and knew others that felt the same. Also worried re litigation against u3a.

Further concern that members not aware of what committee do and this is why no one ever steps forward to join.

Treasurer had previously wanted to set up a User Steering Group but this had been muted and not recognised as worthwhile.

2. Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. Minutes of previous Committee Meeting & Matters Arising

Minutes of 02 06 26 agreed and actions completed. Complaint received from Graeme Horne that is being looked at and actioned by Robert Cragg.

4. Correspondence

Nominations received for committee from:

Val Thomas - Chair proposed by self and seconded by James Royales;

Vera Rigby - Committee proposed by Ruth Postle and seconded by Lauren Ross;

Janice McKeown - Committee proposed by Denise Turner and seconded by Barbara Daniels;

Jane Lawton – Co-Secretary proposed by self and seconded by Robert Cragg; Will continue also as Membership Secretary.

Robert Cragg - Vice Chair proposed by self and seconded by Karen Bartlett;

Graeme Horne - Vice Chair proposed by self and seconded by Vera Rigby;
Colin Turner – Committee proposed by self and seconded by Ruth Postle..

5. Reports

i Co-Chairs

Note/Action - we are still in need of a Chair, although we are lucky to have 2 Acting Chairs.

Committee saddened by the resignation of Barrie Thompson from the Committee. Thanks go to Barrie for all his hard work and time on the committee.

ii Secretary

Letters from the Committee and Annual Report have gone out by email and post to all members. Letter was to apologise to all members for fee increase to £15 from £12 per annum.

Thanks to Valerie Kavanagh for support and printing the Annual Report.

Cath Gannon has put letter onto NEWS and Facebook for all to view.

Various emails from members responded to and forwarded to relevant people.

Letter sent out to cancel speaker for 13 October, with a 'Coffee morning & Meet the Group Leaders' in its place.

iii Treasurer

June meeting received £441.05 {147 attendees} £96 Speaker fee. £200 loss.

Venue fee for QEH, CTH £400, for Loom £450. Still no invoices received from January 2026. Chased many times.

Accounts Membership Account as at 06/07/26	£9,836.00
General Account as at 06.07.26	£20,547.00
Social Account as at 06.07.26	£4,412.22
Capitation £2,808 paid.	

Art Appreciation to meet with Treasurer on 15/7/26 to look at electronic payment system.

Request from Derek Francis {Group Leader German} for £100.53 for resources which left balance of £15.97 in their Social Account.

iv Membership

Total Current Members: 672 including 13 Honorary and 5 Associate.
57 members not renewed so no longer eligible to be members.

New membership form on website with Terms & Conditions .

New membership cards are available for all members and particularly useful for verification when/if visiting other u3a groups. Members to contact Membership Sec.

v Speaker Organiser

August Speaker has been notified of new venue and given Treasurer's details.

vi Monthly Meetings

AGM - 5 apologies received so far.

Signing in sheet and AGM papers printed

vii Welcomers

Margaret Halley has received a number of compliments about our u3a and in particular two members recently widowed have said they 'love the u3a and it has opened up a new world for them'.

Margaret also feels that new members ought be allowed to settle in first before being assigned posts.

viii Catering

No feedback as such but on a recent holiday members were surprised at the efforts Susan T has in transporting the catering equipment to and from The Loom for refreshments at the monthly meetings.

ix Group Leader Co-ordinator

AGM - group leaders have been encouraged to participate in AGM to show case activities in their groups.

AGM - Acoustic Guitar and Piano and Dancing groups have come forward.

Create & Chat need a small table to showcase cards they have made.

Reading Group 2 – BD arranging set up. Still struggling to find room.

Issues with Lees Library ongoing. Val T has been trying to set up meeting with contact at the library but so far no response. All GLs with equipment in lockers at the library advised to remove it.

New Group Leader Handbook still under revision.

Art Study Group have asked for a laptop to showcase work. This could be used to support all groups.

Spanish Groups Beginners and Spanish 2 on hold as GL unavailable.

Accident/Incident form to be reviewed for use by Group Leaders.

x Governance – Ongoing

6. Items notified to the Secretary

BT resignation.

7. **Any Other Business** Green Room Cafe are offering 10% reduction for members on meeting day. Rose has the raffle tickets and 25 people took up the offer in June 2026. .
8. **Date, Time & Venue of next Committee Meeting** 10.30 am to 12.30 pm
Tuesday 4 August 2026 at The Link Centre, Union Street, Oldham.