

Grange & District u3a

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Held on Friday 14 February 2025 in Room 4, Victoria Hall

	ACTION
<p>Present Hilary Wade, Tricia Thomas, Michael McCormick, Susan Jones, Roger Handley, Brian Loader, Mick Love. Julia Nicholson, Ged Jones</p>	
<p>Apologies Ameer Tabarandak, Janet Tabarandak</p>	
<p>1 Minutes of the previous meeting (held on 17 January 2025) The minutes of the January meeting were accepted</p>	
<p>2 Matters Arising/Actions Check Hilary introduced Ruth Donnally who had volunteered to take on the role of Deputy Treasurer. Hilary proposed we coopt Ruth to the committee and this was agreed unanimously</p> <p>Brian has had further discussions with the Victoria Hall Manager about use of the storage facility attached to the toilet building in the Ornamental Gardens. The facility is available for use by community groups free of charge and there is sufficient space to accommodate our assets. However, as the facility is leased by Grange Town Council from Westmorland and District council there is no guarantee how long the space will be available.</p> <p>The issue of third-party insurance cover in case of injury caused by our assets was raised and Ged agreed to investigate</p> <p>It was agreed that Hilary and Erline would discuss the events page of the newsletter,</p>	<p>Ged</p> <p>Hilary / Erline</p>
<p>3 Membership Susan had circulated the membership statistics prior to the meeting and reported that we now have 529 members (of whom 17 are associate members, 9 are reciprocal members and 3 are new members).</p>	
<p>4 Finance Michael had circulated a report prior to the meeting.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion about some apparent anomalies (although these involved only small and related to whether the funds are shown in the correct account). Michael will investigate and report back in March.</p> <p>Membership renewals are coming through “thick and fast”</p> <p>Mick asked whether funds for Out & About are still ring fenced. Michael is about to request annual financial returns from Group Coordinators/Leaders (GCLs) which will address this issue,</p>	<p>Michael</p>

The committee agreed to purchase a computer and small printer for the Deputy Treasurer to use for u3a business

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed to include the asset register as an item on the March agenda.

Ged

Brian will ask GCLs to let him know what assets they hold.

Brian

Michael is still awaiting an invoice from the Dock Museum in Barrow

5 Group Coordinators/Leaders (GC/Ls)

Brian had canvassed the membership on whether there was any interest in participating in a new jazz (playing) group. There seems to have been sufficient interest for the group to go ahead.

Brian will forward changes in the centre spread to Ged for inclusion in the next newsletter

Brian

Brian had been contacted by a member who wishes to start a bible reading group and they would like to include an article in the newsletter to canvass interest.

The committee agreed to the potential formation of the group but Brian should reinforce the message that our u3a is not affiliated to any religious denomination and he will request that the proposed article should be circulated to the committee before being forwarded to Erline.

Brian

Jan Tomlinson had informed Brian that she had received feedback from some of the members of the short walks group that they would like even shorter walks (3 or 4 miles) at a gentler pace followed by lunch. Jan had asked Brian to canvass the membership to gauge the appetite for an "amblers" group such as proposed to Jan.

Brian

At the GCLs meeting Brian will canvass those present as to whether they would be interested in a first aid course given by local first responders.

Brian

Brian will ask GCLs who use Beacon to update the membership list for their groups

Brian

Hilary had confirmed the catering arrangements for the GCLs meeting

6 Enrolment day

Brian reported that the response to enrolment day from GCLs has been the best ever and 33 groups will be represented (not all of them have asked for a table).

Brian, Susan and Ged had held the planning meeting.

Brian had received an email from one member who complained about bringing forward enrolment day to February as this clashes with half term. The complaint was noted.

7 Annual General Meeting

Ged raised the issue of nominations for the Honorary Officers and vacancies on the Executive committee and it was agreed that Tricia would be nominated by the committee to stand as Chairman, Roger would be nominated for Vice-Chairman and Ged would be nominated as Secretary. Of course members are free to nominate anybody else to stand for these offices.

As Julia will be stepping down at the AGM there will be one vacancy for membership of the Executive Committee and this will rise to two if Tricia is elected as Chairman. Hilary thanked Julia for all her efforts on behalf of our u3a.

The changes to the Constitution drafted by Ged were accepted by the committee and these will go forward to the membership at the AGM.

8 General meeting start time

Tricia proposed that the start time of our monthly general meeting be changed from 10:15 to 10:30 as this would allow members who use the bus to attend meetings. The committee agreed to this proposal and it will be put to the membership at the AGM

9 Any Other Business (AOB)

Susan had received an email asking if our u3a would like to participate in a "Let's dance" on 2 March 2025. Before accepting we need answers to the following questions:

- What is the situation regarding insurance cover for non-members attending. It is assumed that because potential members are allowed to attend one "taster" session they will be covered?
- Will Grange u3a be expected to contribute financially and, if so, how much?

Susan will respond to the email to ascertain what level of funding is sought

Susan

Hilary noted that we did not have a notice in Grange Now about our enrolment day and she volunteered to send notices to Grange Now regarding future meetings.

Hilary

Brian requested that we add the issue of the projector to the March agenda.

Ged

10 Date of next meeting

Friday 14 March 2025, Room 4, Victoria Hall

