

## Grange & District u3a

### Minutes of Committee Meeting

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

	<b>ACTION</b>
<p><b>Present</b> Hilary Wade, Tricia Thomas, Michael McCormick, Susan Jones, Ruth Donnally, Roger Handley, Brian Loader, Mick Love, Julia Nicholson, Ameer Tabarandak, Janet Tabarandak. Ged Jones</p>	
<p><b>1 Minutes of the previous meeting (held on 14 February 2025)</b> The minutes of the February meeting were accepted</p>	
<p><b>2 Matters Arising/Actions Check</b> Ged has not yet found out about the insurance coverage for assets stored in the council owned facility</p>	Ged
<p>Hilary and Erline had discussed the issue of the events page and the latest edition reflected that discussion</p>	
<p>Brian is awaiting responses from Group Coordinator/Leaders (GCLs) regarding which, if any, assets they hold although Michael has had some information.</p>	Brian
<p>Susan and one other Grange u3a member attended the “Let’s Dance” event at Greenodd which was a successful event. Susan had confirmed that there had been no request for funding.</p>	
<p>All other matters to be dealt with under the relevant agenda items.</p>	
<p><b>3 Membership</b> As is usual during the renewals period, Susan has not issued membership statistics as they are in a state of flux.</p>	
<p>However, at the time of the meeting there were 92 renewals outstanding but 12 new members had joined since the last meeting.</p>	
<p><b>4 Finance</b> Michael had circulated a report prior to the meeting and the accounts were accepted. He has moved renewals to the 2026 list. No other outgoings are expected other than the equipment for Ruth (coopted Deputy Treasurer) Purchase of the equipment is ongoing.,</p>	
<p>In reference to the apparent anomaly in the accounts raised by Tricia and Roger at our last meeting Michael explained that the different entries relating to a specific amount reflected the fact that funds had to be transferred from the Holding Account to the Community account to pay refunds for cancellations. This was necessary because cash cannot be paid from the Holding account.</p>	
<p>In relation to the appointment of an Honorary Auditor following Tony Harrison’s decision to stand down, he is awaiting a response from a member who had previously</p>	

shown an interest. During the meeting Ruth provided Michael with the details of a potential external auditor. It was agreed to consider this option.

The committee agreed there was no need to change either the annual membership fee or the policy of free entry for members to the monthly general meeting.

Hilary asked Michael if he thought that moving Enrolment Day to February made the Treasurer's job easier and all things considered Michael thinks it is a better arrangement.

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

### **5 Group Coordinators/Leaders (GC/Ls)**

Brian reported that there were 3 new groups formed or in prospect.

- Amblers is a new walking group which covers shorter distances and a gentler pace than the short walks group and has a greater social element (coffee stops, lunch). The group is up and running under the initial guidance of Jan Tomlinson but it needs a permanent GCL if it is to progress.
- A jazz group which has 4/5 members but is seeking a vocalist.
- Bible buddies

Apropos of bible buddies the prospective GCL has not yet drafted an article for the newsletter but this will still need to be approved by the committee to maintain our rigorous neutrality towards faith groups.

Brian had received a communication from a GCL suggesting that all members be asked to inform the relevant GCL if they plan not to attend a group meeting. Brian agreed to contact the GCL about this proposal.

Brian

Brian had been gratified by the response of GCLs to a proposed first aid course and the first session will be held on 29 April 2025 to be attended by 11 GCLs and the Victoria Hall manager. If there is sufficient additional demand follow up courses will be provided.

Brian will provide an article for the next newsletter to ask if any of our general membership would be interested in the first aid course.

Brian

### **8 Enrolment day report**

The consensus was that it not been as well attended as in some previous years and there was a discussion as to why this might have been the case. Susan thought one factor might be that many people now pay their membership fees by BACS rather than on Enrolment Day.

Ameer suggested that next year we might wish to label the event Enrolment Day and coffee morning.

Susan asked Janet, Mick and Ameer whether they had been busy on the renewals desks. They thought it had not been too taxing overall but in the early part of the meeting that there had been some pressure.

Julia reported that Table Tennis had recruited one new member while other GCLs on the committee reported no new members. Hilary suggested that may be merit in encouraging members to consider other groups.

Nevertheless, Enrolment Day was thought a success and the committee thanked Brian for all his hard work in pulling it all together and for the GCLs meeting which followed. Hilary was also thanked for organising the GCLs splendid lunch.

Michael suggested that in future members renewing should use their membership number as an identifier.

Ged was asked to thank Jane and John Davis and their team for providing the rolling refreshments throughout the day.

**[Post meeting note – Thank you email sent]**

### **7 Annual General Meeting**

Ged had sent the proposed constitutional change to formalise the role of Deputy Treasurer to committee members who were happy with the proposed wording.

Although notification of the AGM had appeared in the latest edition of the newsletter it was agreed he would send an email reminder to members.

**[Post meeting note: email sent]**

Hilary will ask Malcolm Kimber to show his short film (shown on Enrolment Day) at the AGM.

### **8 Projector Storage**

There had been an issue recently when the projector had not been returned by one group to the Victoria Hall as per the protocol which caused significant disruption to another group.

The Cinema Buffs group has indicated that it would like to buy out the u3a share of the projector (the purchase of the projector was funded 50% by the Cinema Buffs group and 50% by the committee. Brian agreed to contact the Cinema Buffs GCL to ask what amount he has in mind.

Susan will talk to Malcolm Kimber about using the projector bequeathed to him/u3a by a late member.

### **9 Emergency contact information.**

This item relates to encouraging members to include emergency contact information on their membership cards or other easily accessible medium. This has been discussed previously and it was agreed this is an issue of personal responsibility and beyond the remit of the committee.

### **10 Any Other Business (AOB)**

Julia asked whether Grange u3a would consider making a donation to Allithwaite bowling club, which is where our crown green bowls group plays, to pay for a new mower.

Ged

Hilary

Brian

After a discussion it was agreed that a donation was appropriate to support our members and Michael suggested an amount of £500. This was agreed but could not be voted on under AOB so Ged will add it to the Agenda for our April meeting  
Roger will share with Juila a list of organisations which may be able to help with grants.

Ged

Roger

It was agreed to publicise the Bay Singing event.

Ged raised the request from Blind Veterans UK to seek a volunteer to act as a one-on-one volunteer to support an individual in Grange, It was agreed that this was not appropriate for our members and no action required. Tricia mentioned that there is a local blind support group so it may be worth approaching them.

As this was Julia's last meeting before she steps down at the AGM on behalf of the committee and membership Hilary thanked Julia for all her hard work over the years.

**11 Date of next meeting**

Friday 11 April 2025, Room 4, Victoria Hall