

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting

at Much Wenlock, on 2nd February 2026

Present: Michael Theobalds, Glynn Emery, Neil Lloyd, Bill Hague, Jane Hague, Alison Richards (chair), , Jean Buswell, Christina Gore, Linda Davies, and Elaine Nester.

Action

- 1 **Chairman's Introduction/Apologies.**
Apologies from Ian Cohen and Jo Cohen, David Foster. Thank you to Jean for hosting.
- 2 **Minutes of Last Meeting**
Thank you Jane for the minutes. They were approved and accepted.
- 3 **Matters Arising**
Glynn to diarise his own note as reminder to pay CLA licence. GE
Email for Frances Van Mook has been corrected on Beacon, Neil to amend website NL
contact.
Michael to enquire about 3rd History Group progress. MT
Glynn will follow up on buying mic. GE
Neil has removed Play Reading group from visibility on website and set to inactive on Beacon.
- 4 **Membership report**
Six new members : 5 women and 1 man... bringing total to 261.
Neil asks that if any member changes membership status..eg from Joint to Single, to MT, NL
please inform him so Magazine return is changed.
Jane to add fees renewal reminder with BACS details in next email to members. JH
- 5 **Finance report**
Some £2000 has already been received in membership fees.
Heather Sower has completed the Examination of accounts. There is some reconciling GE
to complete. If it is not complete Glynn will take it to the Chair.
We thanked Glynn for all his work with the accounts.
- 6 **Groups**
Film Review Group. Alison is still pursuing. AR
Art History Group Alison to see if another local u3a has such a group. AR
Neil has sorted out a number of discrepancies regarding groups on the website and
Beacon. He has found that no members are listed for the Spanish Speaking Group in NL, JC
spite of the recent audit. He will follow up with Jo.
Nearly 20 groups that ran in the past have become inactive and deleted from Beacon.
With the new Wine Cellars opening in Much Wenlock, there is an opportunity for
wine tasting. Alison to enquire. AR
- 7 **Communications and Website**
Website :
Viewings in January have been high with most hits on the Joining page and the main
pages, then Walking group etc as usual.
Neil reported that he has posted a news item about membership renewal on the first
page. He has changed photos, added Elaine's details, and recent approved Minutes.
He noted that a new Ukulele Songbook is about to be posted.

	He also explained he has added a plug-in to organise the site's media library so that photos are sorted, tagged for the relevant pages and posts. This will enable efficient deletion of obsolete photos and documents. Group leaders have been asked to provide an update, with photos if possible, on Group progress for the Chair's talk and subsequent letter to members.	NL
8	Review of last meeting- January About 50 attended Jack Dent's talk. It was good as usual. Lots of people spoke to him afterwards.	
9	Next meeting on 11th February Shaun Higgins will speak about Wilfred Owen. His fee is £77.40 including expenses to be paid by BACS. He has agreed to wear the head mic, and has asked for no other equipment. Chairs can be in landscape format. Alison to introduce and Jean to thank.	GE MT AR, JB
10	Marketing Group report Elaine stated that we have two main aims: to increase membership, and to raise awareness of the u3a. Also, u3a can assist with the some of the negative aspects of retirement such as lack of occupation, social isolation, etc. <u>Publicity</u> • A regional approach might help all u3as. The idea was well received in the Regional zoom meeting, and Alison will suggest it at the Shropshire network meeting. • Social media: 70% of over 65s use Facebook. Elaine has posted on the Much Wenlock and other local community group pages to raise awareness of the u3a, our local group and the online talks. • Glynn reports that whilst our current facebook page is closed to all but our members, we could start a new public-facing page on which notices and u3a news can be posted, and notifications can then be sent to other Groups' pages. • Glynn also suggest we have an email address for our u3a. • Neil has a list of large local companies that could be approached. • Suggestion that other groups..eg WI, Rotary, are approached and informed about the u3a. • Neil's analysis shows 74% of our members are members of at least one activity group. Discussion followed on difficulties of getting a group set up, and encouraging new leaders/co-ordinators. Neil reported that AI cannot read data from our website as it is written in Java script.	AR
11	Preparation for AGM Heather Sower has examined the accounts. Alison will express our thanks. Jane has all the Nomination forms returned except those for Ian and Jo. Jane will send the notification to members this week. Discussion followed about issues concerning Committee members: • necessity in having 13 members • need for attendance at meetings • formal roles to be filled, • informal contributions essential to smooth running. Alison to draw up list of current roles etc. as preliminary to further discussion.	AR IC,JC JH
12	Date of next Executive Committee meeting 2nd March, 10 am at Oaklands, Harley.	
15	AOB • Think Pharmacy First to be posted on Facebook page. • Wenlock Edge will consider a discount code for Film Group members if it happens. • Glynn suggested a Musical u3a event in the future featuring our Guitar and Ukulele groups.	GE

Meeting closed at 12.05 pm