

Meeting of the Whitley Bay u3a
held Monday 12.30pm
St Andrew's Church, Monkseaton 13.04.2026

Present:

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| David Slater DS Chair | Yvonne Bedwell YB | Anne Hudspith AH |
| John Stirling JS Vice-Chair | Jean Cubbin JC | Dorothy Chapman DCh |
| Helen Perfect HP | Paul Charvat PCh | Tracey Haswell TH |
| Peggy Robertson PR | Edith Charvat ECh | |
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Quorum: Y

In attendance: Tim Cook

| Procedural | | |
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| Item No | | Action |
| 1 | Apologies for absence The committee consented to apologies for absence for the following committee members: Kath MacEachen Declaration of interest: none AOB notifications to the Chair: HP beach maths | |
| 2 | Approval of minutes For approval Minutes from meeting on 2.3.2025 | Approved |
| 3 | Matters arising not on the agenda. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trustee induction to be undertaken. 2. John Appleby group possible start in May 3. Donations from holidays booked through Riviera received. 4. Post AGM DS will take over managing u3a WhatsApp from YB 5. DS to send Role & Responsibilities to Committee 6. JC change of email. Do not use @u3a.org.uk but please do use jeancubbin@icloud.com. | |
| For discussion and agreement | | |
| 4 | Programme Activities Report JS nothing new to report. Bookings arranged for one year. | |
| 5 | Chair's Report – report sent in advance. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Google workspace. HP to liaise with Chris Turnock once in post. 2. AGM – AGM papers sent in advance. Discussed agenda. Declarations of interest to be updated by PCh with new committee members. ECh asked DS to change sewing group to floristry group. Last | DS to amend report. |

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| | <p>year's AGM minutes and treasurer's report to be placed on notice board at AGM. Committee to speak very briefly at AGM.</p> <p>Brian wishes to step down from register duty. DS to ask for volunteers for future. At AGM, PR and Ian Bedwell to assist with registration. Amended – Brian is unable to do May but happy to continue.</p> <p>3. Year of Literacy. DS suggested more opportunities for intergenerational working. Group proposed for 'Reading in schools'. DS met with charity worker Susan Lawrie of SchoolReaders. https://www.schoolreaders.org/national-year-of-reading.</p> <p>JC informed the group about Philosophy for children in schools. Proposal to start a Grandparent Group if there was enough interest.</p> | <p>DS to bring 5 hard copies of past minutes to AGM.</p> <p>DS to remind members to identify themselves for emergency evacuation assistance. DS to remind members to supply ICE to group leaders.</p> <p>DS to circulate further info from Susan.</p> <p>Committee members interested in intergenerational work to contact DS.</p> |
| 6 | <p>Treasurer's Report – report sent in advance.</p> <p>YB needs to relinquish her ability to sign cheques after AGM. 2 signatories needed.</p> <p>Money received for renewal subscriptions is going very well after reminders. Fewer than 200 left to come in during April.</p> | |
| 7 | <p>Membership Secretary's Report - report sent in advance.</p> <p>AH reported 81 new members during the year.</p> | |
| 8 | <p>BEACON /web page</p> <p>PR discussed Yellow Book updates for next print run. Distribution of booklets discussed. Decided to give out at May's monthly meeting registration tables plus group leaders present to take away their batch for their members. Non-attending group leaders to collect their batch from a central point address.</p> <p>PR continues to seek a buyer (£15) for the old printer. DS thanked her efforts but said ultimately it could be disposed of.</p> <p>DCh thanked Tim Cook for offering to take over. TC to remove resigning Committee members and add new Committee to Beacon.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>Business update</p> <p>PCh confirmed circa £2k to be sent to u3a Trust for per capita membership of u3a.</p> <p>Annual return to Third Age Trust (TAT) was ready and with Treasurer's agreement will be submitted.</p> | <p>PCh to send u3a Trust returns</p> |
| 10 | <p>Group Coordinators' Report – report sent in advance.</p> <p>Discussed group leaders' and helpers' training session. Decided on Cullercoats Crescent Club and £7.50pp buffet. One of Committee who is a CCC member will book the upstairs room in their name to take advantage of free room hire. 10th or 11th June proposed as date. Tbc. Tim Cook 'Real Ale' offered to feature as May's group of the Month.</p> | <p>ECh to book 50 ppl and buffet.</p> <p>DS to send ECh list for sending invitations. £100 Deposit to be paid.</p> |
| 11 | <p>Regional / National updates</p> <p>u3a York festival 1-3rd July still able to be booked.</p> | |

| Other information or business | | |
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| 12 | <p>AOB</p> <p>1. DS expressed his thanks to all retiring Committee members for their hard work.</p> <p>2. Intergenerational fun Maths project. HP displayed a poster for Maths on the Beach 6th and 7th June. It will be promoted to all schools. Open to anyone of any age to participate or simply watch the day's event and talk to mathematicians. https://beachspectres.com/</p> | |
| 13 | <p>Confidential items</p> <p>none</p> | |
| 14 | <p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Monday 11.5.2026 12.30pm</p> <p>St Andrew's UR Church, Eastfield Ave, Monkseaton, NE25 8LU</p> <p>Meeting closed: 1.40pm</p> | |