

## October 2025 Arnold u3a Committee Meeting

Tuesday 14 October @ 10am

### Present

Hazel Ward	Chair	HW
Viv Purkiss	Vice Chair	VP
Glynis Hunt	Treasurer	GH
Barbara Eustace	Vice Treasurer	BH
Gwen Whitehouse	Business Secretary	GW
Tina Palingedge	Risk Assessments	TP
John Heeson	IT	JH
Cathy van Ballen	Membership Secretary	CB
Sue Matthews	Group Coordinator	SM

### Apologies

Kevin Fallon	Publicity	KF
Pete Hewitt	Minutes	PH

### Minutes

1. **Minutes of September Meeting approved and signed.**

2. **Matters Arising:**

**CB** advised Committee that only one member has asked not to be included in photographs.

**TP** advised that anything to be with Health and Safety ideally kept for 5 years unless exceptional circumstances.

3. **Treasurers Report**

As of 30th Sept our accounts are as follows:

The General account had £599.25; minus the bills so far this month there is just over £70.

During the year membership cheques and cash have paid for most of our costs.

I have transferred £2000 from our BACS membership account to cover our costs.

We will have to pay the rent to the Salvation Army this month and any other invoices that come in so more will need to be transferred.

The membership account has £17912.82 as of 30th Sept. Membership for the new year is already coming in.

The interest account has 10,400.13. All groups are in credit to cover costs they know are due.

4. **Membership Secretary Report**

Current Membership is 482. This year there have been 54 new members down 7 from last year – 49 individual and 5 of that number are associated with other u3a's. 6 people emailed to say no longer going to renew and gave valid reasons.

Pat continues to put together the new members packs which includes a lanyard which holds the plastic membership card. The cost of the lanyards has increased from 60p to £2.10. Cost of printing a badge, accessories and P & P for new members has increased to £3.60. It was agreed that whilst we are happy to cover the increased cost for now maybe we should look for cheaper lanyards possibly online. We could look for blue ones with u3a on.

## 5. **Website Report**

**JH** The u3a has paid for a six month extension to the 'Go Daddy' hosting contract, after which it is hoped migration to the new platform will be complete and Go Daddy will no longer be required. The new website is practically finished, the remaining tasks are to password protect certain non public facing document areas and perform test communications via the contact form with all interest group leaders.

JH will create an announcement for the November newsletter explaining about the new website and it's features.

The site will be put 'live' in the new year.

## 6. **Newsletter**

The team compiling the Newsletter is now Viv – Editor, Judy Briggs – Proof reading and Amarajyoti doing the layout. Question raised as to whether we should include a list of dates and Groups. It has also been raised that the printed copies are not as clear.

The point was raised that we must give due respect to the Altar area in the main Church. With this in mind it was felt the table with the printed newsletters can go in the same place thus avoiding the pinch point in the foyer. Theresa to be asked to give out the printed newsletters.

Sandra is happy to stay on the reception desk. It was suggested that there is a Information Sign on the desk and Sandra is to be asked if she would be happy to prepare one. Also to ask if she would like to do a sign promoting events. She already prepares a sign telling members who that days Speaker is. It was suggested that part of Sandra's role could be to try to move people on to the various areas in the Church i.e. printed newsletters, Interest and Activities rooms and where tickets for events can be obtained. Sandra could also have a box for collecting foreign currency in addition to having the signing on sheet for members who come without membership card. These suggestions to be discussed further.

**HW** agreed to email Sandra to gain approval for suggestions made.

## 7. **15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Disappointing sign up initially. Trying to involve people speaking and people being recognised i.e. founder members and past Committee members. So far past Chairs speaking i.e. David, Rosie, Neil and Sylvia.

Time is 1-4pm

There will be the 3 Arnold u3a Songs, Fuddle and Chatting.

### 8. Christmas Party

Following Glynis's conversation with Sylvia Hale from the Drama Group, Glynis clarified to the Committee that the Drama Group is not an Interest or Activity Group. It was set up purely to provide entertainment at the Christmas Party for Arnold u3a and there it was agreed that we should cover the cost of all their rehearsals at the Venue and the Arnold Community Centre. Glynis to contact Drama Group later today to confirm this.

### 9. Any other Business

HW explained that the MP was not at the Church for our u3a meeting.

Michael Payne asked HW for a meeting to find out how he could help the u3a - in parliament. He requested the meeting on Tuesday before our main meeting so he could stay on and meet our members. John Perry (from Bingham u3a) the Public Relations Advisor for our East Midlands region, joined VP and HW to work out a plan of action with Michael. Our next steps are to introduce Michael to the u3a CEO and other trustees and head office staff, as well as working with him at a local level.

**Date of Next Committee Meeting – 11 November 2025**

***Added following the Committee Meeting on 11 November 2025***

***"Hi Sylvia.***

***At the committee meeting this morning, we have agreed u3a will pay for your rehearsals at the community centre plus previously agreed costs.***

***This will be reviewed in the new year after all income and expenses are in. From there we will decide what to pay for in future.***

***Hope that is ok.***

***"Glynis."***

***Sylvia's reply which she asked to go in the Minutes.***

***"Thank you, that is perfectly acceptable. Thank you to the committee for agreeing to pay for all rehearsal dates and any props up to £50 in total for the Christmas party.***

***Could my response be minuted in the November minutes please***

***Thank you***

***Sylvia"***

*Hazel Ward*