

ARNOLD u3a
Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Tues 10 February 2026 10.00am at
The Salvation Army, High Street, Arnold

PRESENT

Hazel Ward
Viv Purkiss
Glynis Hunt
Gwen Whitehouse
Tina Palingedge
Cathy Van Baalen
Barbara Eustace
Sue Matthes
Kevin Fallen
Heather Roberts

Chair
Vice Chair
Treasurer
Business Secretary/Minutes
Health and Safety
Membership Secretary
Assistant Treasurer
Groups Coordinator
Publicity
Committee Member

APOLOGIES

Pete Hewitt
John Heeson

1. Minutes of Last Meeting:

January Minutes approved and signed.

2. Matters Arising

Re grievance Viv advised that the Group Leader does not want to make a complaint. If it happens again, she will let us know.

3. Treasurer's Report

General account holds £4245.48
Membership account 19587.44
Interest groups account 10394.88
Gift Aid received for 24-25 of £1160.18

As our general running costs run at under £10,000, the money we hold covers this year and more than 6 months of a subsequent year, I recommend membership fees for 26-27 remain at £15. Last week, I visited Southall u3a to look at sum up machines in use at a meeting. If a partnership between the person recording the payee and the person in charge of the chip and pin machine work closely together, it is an efficient method of payment. They used a machine which gave receipts, so both the group and the member had a copy with their name on. They are going to purchase next a machine which has folders so income can be easily added to a particular activity. At present they have them for membership, theatre, outings not interest groups. For us to take them on, we will need to start with 1 and I or Barbara sit with the group leader to use the machine if they are happy to add this method to their payments. For now, it would be better to continue to encourage bank transfers for membership. If we need to refund for that to be done by BACS and not by cheque. Committee agreed that the £900 Riviera donation recently received be used to purchase the Sum Up Machines. Agreement to £50 spend on Thank You gifts at AGM and Committee agreed to a similar spend on a Thank You gift for our independent Auditor.

4. Timings at Main Meetings

Viv will mention at the AGM the 6 months trial of new main meeting times and in the Newsletter as follows:-

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| • Doors open | 1.15pm |
| • Sign Ups for Activities etc | 1.15 – 1.45 |
| • Speaker | 1.45 - 2.15 plus extra 5 mins for questions |
| • Announcements | 2.25 – 2.40 |
| • Refreshments and further Sign Ups | 2.40 – 3pm |
| • Doors Close | 3.30pm |

5. Nottingham Advocacy for Older People

Viv advised Notts CC have an initiative on advocating for older people (don't know if it's a Committee or a project) and Judy Dabourne, one of our members, will investigate and report back

Hazel Ward

6. AGM

Counters at the Main Meeting will be Tina and Viv – half of the room each. Will confirm 10% attendance. Will count votes – against and abstaining.

7. Public Liability Insurance

Gwen has sourced the Third Age Trust Insurance Cover Note which covers all aspects of u3a insurance including Public Liability which Group Leaders may be asked for by venues used by the Groups. Hazel suggested that we should be charging visitors, say, £1 to ensure they are covered. Gwen will look into this and report back.

8. Portal Contact

Third Age Trust to be contacted re process for getting our Portal Contact changed.

9. 2026 Charity to be supported

Hazel had asked for suggestions for a Charity. Heather put forward Nottinghamshire Hospice which the Committee unanimously agreed to be a worthy cause. Heather presented a very comprehensive report of all the Hospice does to help those needing palliative care and their families. Nottinghamshire Hospice relies totally on fundraising.

10. Council Representative

Rosie Allen has volunteered to stand to represent our East Midlands Region as a Council representative. There are 2 reps for each region. She has to be nominated by the committee of her own u3a. The Arnold u3a Committee must reach a majority agreement and our decision to do this must be minuted. Rosie is well known for the tremendous amount of work she has done for our u3a as a founder member, committee member, past Chair, holiday organiser and leader of many Arnold u3a interest groups. In addition to this Rosie has continued to work hard for our u3a movement as a leading light in the Notts Network of u3as. The Election will take place on 2/3/4 March. The Committee unanimously agreed to support Rosie. HW has registered to Vote at the Election.

11. Any other Business

Publicity

Hazel, Heather and Kevin to meet on Thursday 12 Feb at 10.30 and will report Back to Committee next month.

Excess Postage

Gwen advised 13 large letters enclosing AGM papers had been sent out with only small letter stamp. She will make sure all those who had to pay excess postage of £1.50 are reimbursed.

Website

Tina to request her role on the new Website be Health and Safety with no reference to Risk Assessments.

Meeting closed at 11.45 am.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 10 March 2026 at 10.00am.

Hazel Waver