

Tetbury u3a Committee Meeting 23 June 2025 Upton Mill, Tetbury

Present: Bernadette Bell, Martin Doidge, David Smith, Anne Cox, Maggie Smith, Alan Harris, Caroline Hose, Julia Walter, Maggie Roberts

1 Apologies
None

2 Minutes of meeting held 21 May 2025- matters arising, review and approval

Bernadette reported that the council do not want a tree planted in anniversary garden to honour Jeremy as it sets a precedent for future requests. Helena Court or the Goods Shed area were put forward as other possibilities.

The minutes were presented, approved and seconded as a true reflection of May's meeting.

3 Open Day

The subcommittee reported on its work in preparation for the u3a Open Day in July. The committee were informed that the mayor, Steve Scott, would attend at 11am. There has been a lot of support shown by members for this event and a wide range of groups will be represented on the day. The subcommittee needs to make the display boards for the Chair and the Art Appreciation groups. The subcommittee reported on further work that has been done. The cafe is unlikely to be open because since our last meeting a key barista has left the Whistlestop Cafe. Plan B for refreshments means the use of urns as for our monthly meetings with wrapped biscuits because we are offering refreshments to everyone.

It was felt it was important to have a place where we can store a "Steps to Success" document encompassing the steps needed to create any event and to include a debrief summary after the event. This would be a helpful resource moving forward.

A key discussion was how do we measure success. It was agreed we would provide a space for visitors to give their feedback.

4 Updates from Committee members

Chair - Bernadette Bell

Bernadette informed the Committee that she had spoken to Mark Janaway about the possibility of joining the Committee with a focus on publicity.

Treasurer - Martin Doidge

Reserves policy

Martin proposed a reserve fund of £1600. This was approved.

Action point

Martin to update the Finance Policy to reflect the agreed reserve level

Budget

There is a surplus budget. A query was raised about whether groups would find a projector and screen useful to enhance their groups.

Action point

Caroline to email Group Leaders to ask whether they would use a projector and screen were one to be purchased.

Financial Report

We are still waiting for HMRC to send our Gift Aid!

Groups and Newsletter - Caroline Hose

Caroline said that she often gets good suggestions for new groups, such as a Metaphysics and Mindfulness Group or Signing, but there needs to be someone who is prepared to lead such a group for it to be possible.

Members Secretary - Maggie Smith

61 members and 6 visitors came to the talk on Nelson.

Two members have joined since our last meeting.

We have a total of 388 members which includes two link members.

Maggie felt there should be more publicity for the monthly speakers' meeting. The Tetbury Talk and Tetbury Noticeboard were given as two suggestions to publicise the speakers.

Speaker Secretary - Anne Cox

July's speaker is Jeff Evans an author and television historian known for "They Think It's All Over! A History of Sport on TV"

IT Support -David Smith

David reported there were no major issues with Beacon. He is supporting Group Leaders on how to use the system.

No major work is required on the website at the moment and David is just doing some "weeding" to tidy up small things such as name updates.

The website stats sheet was shared with the Committee and showed we have a bounce rate of only 39%. It is useful to see what pages people are visiting. It was felt the Notices feature is a good one.

The old website will be closed in early July and David believes it will become the new website will then be the only one that Google will show.

Caroline raised a concern regarding the Newsletter as she has set up a generic email to avoid using her personal one. She will need to set up another account to get a non-personal email address.

5 Any other business
None

6 Date of next meeting
Monday 14 July 2025 10.00 Upton Mill

