MINUTES

Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 16th July, 2025

Present:

Stuart Kirkman (Chair)	Stephen Doyle	Veronica Murphy
Robert Baker	Jim Farrell	Janice Parr
Pat Bright	Marie Gornell	Ted Southworth
Jane Clarke	Michael Jolley	Kate Williams
Roger Darling	Irene Molyneux	

1. **Apologies**
   Apologies for absence were received from Sue Jones and John Latham.

2. **Minutes**
   The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 18th June, 2025 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by Stuart.

3. **Matters Arising**
   3.1 Stuart reported that to date nothing further has been heard from Mawdesley Parish Council regarding their request for our assistance in a project to walk the paths of Mawdesley in order to determine their condition.

4. **Business Secretary's Report**
   The following document was received by designated officers –
   - U3a July update from the Third Age Trust

   The following document was forwarded to committee members –
   - Friends Newsletter for June

5. **Treasurers's Report**
   Roger had previously circulated this month's figures to the committee and reported that we are financially in good shape. Roger reported that he proposes to transfer a further £5,000 into the newly opened easy access savings account. Stuart, as one of the signatories on this account, proposes to make a withdrawal to check that the system works.

   Any groups who do not send payments to Roger should send him a register of participants, for example the cycling group. This is for insurance purposes.

Two canoeing sessions have been held recently and it is proposed that these sessions will continue. Roger stressed that it is essential that he has sight of the necessary public liability insurance before this can be acknowledged as one of our groups. Stephen will then add it to the groups on the website. Pat as Groups' Co-ordinator will need to be kept informed regarding this. Group leaders need to be aware that the relevant insurance is in place for certain groups, ie where tutors are involved and activities that are considered a hazard in any way.

It was pointed out that some of the information on the slideshow shown at the community morning is incorrect. Stuart gave Janice details and she agreed to amend this for us.

6. Sub-Committee for 20th Anniversary

A sub-committee for the 20th anniversary of our U3a to take place next June will comprise of Marie Gornell, Joan King, Kay Kirkman and Sue Jones. A lady called Wen has agreed to collate relevant items from the archives.

7. U3a North West Committee

Christine has now taken up the role of Chair of the above committee for a period of twelve months.

8. Overcrowding at the Community Morning

Veronica raised the issue of overcrowding at the community morning. Considerable discussion took place regarding this matter, particularly with regard to the possible use of the annexe. It was agreed that renting the annexe on a permanent basis was not a good idea but that it could be used on certain occasions throughout the year to ease overcrowding when certain events are taking place. For example when it is renewal time for membership there is a lot of overcrowding at the membership table and that could be done in the annexe. Similarly when holidays are being booked the social table could use the annexe (as they did earlier this year). Another example is when Roger has several philharmonic group trips out at the same time the annexe could be used then. It was agreed that Veronica would review this for us in a few months time.

9. Any other business

9.1 It was agreed that two sets of boules be purchased for the boules group at an approximate cost of £50 per set.

9.2 Michael recently attended the MVH committee meeting as our representative but had nothing in particular to report. Several members of our committee raised issues that need addressing by MVH, for example problems with keys to open the annexe and the kitchen. Michael made a note of issues mentioned and will take them back to the MVH committee. He will also ask for clarification on what should be done in any emergency situation, ie a burst water pipe that requires immediate attention. Any other issues that require attention in the future should be sent directly to Gurby or contact Stuart or Pat.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 20th August, 2025.

J. Clarke