

Christchurch u3a Committee Meeting
MINUTES
Tuesday 20 January 2026
Somerford ARC, Christchurch

Present: Rosemary McCulloch, (RMcC), Sue Fillery (SF), Kathleen Smith (KS), Ian Peterkin (IP), Sue Crosoer (SC), Paula Watton (PW), Jackie Sherman (JS), Elaine Trayler (ET), David Mobbs (DM), Jan Hartley

Apologies: Eileen Lancaster (EL), Paul Heighes (PH), Gillian Walker

RMcM welcomed Jan Hartley to the meeting. Jan will be assisting PW with Publicity.

<p>Minutes of meeting 18 November 2025 were approved. Proposed RMcM seconded by IP</p>	
<p>Matters Arising</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RMcC thanked SF for the AGM Minutes which had been sent to all committee members. It was agreed it was a good report and should be approved at the next AGM. 2. SF thanked IP for helping with the response for the First Aid Workshops. The Workshops will be held on 11 and 19 February with 4 for sessions on each day. 3. In the absence of EL it was agreed DM and EL will provide details of the Beacon system for the website at the next meeting. DM said the software for the current system needs updating. If the Beacon system is adopted it will simplify matters for future use as we would become a user instead of an administrator. 	<p>DM & EL</p>
<p>Chair's Report</p> <p>RMcC said initially there had been interest in attending the u3a South West workshop for u3a committee members on 4 March 2026 but it is being held at Taunton Racecourse which is considered too far to travel for the day. RMcC will reply to Marian Luck, the Council Representative, and query whether this workshop will be covering all the topics originally proposed.</p>	<p>Rmcc</p>
<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>KS provided the budget forecast for 2026-27. The major considerations in the forecast are venue costs, membership fees and number of term weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was unanimously agreed to increase the membership fee 	

<p>for 2026-2027 to £52, equating to a membership fee of £1 a week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was unanimously agreed to keep the number of weeks in the academic year at 34. • The above decisions and other financial issues forecast for 26/27 were made in accordance with the commitment to reduce the reserves to the TAT recommended level of 6-12 months. It was agreed a gradual reduction of approximately £8K a year over a period of 5 years would achieve the recommended amount to be held in reserves. • PH will provide details investment of the CCLA funds at the next committee meeting. 	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>PH</p>
<p>Programme IP had circulated the Programme 26/27 schedule to all committee members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed to continue to provide a printed Programme. • A print run of 2000 Programmes was agreed. • The Programme launch date of Saturday 27 June at Druitt Hall was agreed. • It was also agreed that the launch coffee morning will have an informal format with no speakers. Group leaders will be able to promote their group at a designated table. Coffee/tea will be served throughout the meeting 	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p>
<p>A.O.B.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promotion of non u3a events It was agreed non u3a events will not be advertised in What's On. 2. Group Leaders Lunch Following a discussion on the most suitable venue it was agreed to hold the Group Leaders Lunch on 11 July 2026 in KS's garden. 3. Monthly meetings. To give the Monthly Meeting a more sociable sounding event it was agreed to change the name to Tea and Talks. SF to let Jennet Lambert know of the change of name. 4. Mahjong Group The group leader of the new mahjong group asked if 3 mahjong sets could be purchased at a cost of approximately £25-£30. It was agreed initially the minimum number of sets should be purchased and further sets purchased depending on how many members signed up for the group. ET will check if there are mahjong sets used by a previous mahjong group stored in the Epicentre. 5. Pickleball venue It was agreed that the Pickleball venue 	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>SF</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>ET</p>

<p>should be listed on the Website.</p> <p>6. Epicentre repairs It was agreed that ET will look into the repair of a gate at the Epicentre.</p> <p>7. Travel Groups It was agreed Christchurch u3a is not responsible for making a ticket refund if, due to unforeseen circumstances, a travel group does not arrive in time to see a performance. All participants in u3a activities do so at their own risk.</p> <p>8. New Groups IP's proposal that new groups set up during the financial year should be subject to committee approval was agreed. Costs which may be incurred by a new group will not have been included in the budget</p> <p>9. The Runway. SC is reviewing the Runway costs.</p>	<p>DM</p> <p>ET</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>SC</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting 24 February 2026 at 14.00 at Somerford ARC, 20 Southey Road, Christchurch BH23 3EH</p>	