



## Northumbria Region u3a

### Minutes of the Zoom Committee Meeting

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

From 14.00 – 16.00

**Present:** - Cecilia Coulson (CC), Theresa Mulkerrin (TM), Moira Stokoe (MS), Dawn Tweddle (DT), Malcolm Wilkinson (MW), Ted Watt (TW), Peter Barnett (PB), Ann Carr (AC), Sandi Rickerby (SR), Mary Barlow (MEB).

**Apologies:** - Jean Cubbin.

CC welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Minutes:** - MW proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 be accepted as an accurate record and seconded by MS. The members present agreed they were, and the proposal was accepted.

**Matters arising:** -

IT Workshop – No further information.

Invoice for Sunnyside Club – TM has now received this.

**Reports:** -

**Chair (CC)** – Report circulated.

CC has a meeting with Dr Leslie Mitchell from Prudhoe u3a regarding AI.

**Secretary (MEB)** – No report

**Treasurer (TM)** – Accounts previously circulated. AC asked for an explanation as they were presented in a form she was unfamiliar with.

Regional Subscriptions – After much discussion it was agreed that we should levy them this coming financial year and will be put to members at the April AGM. We have not collected these for two years. It was also agreed that we would charge them at half the 2022 rate but round the figure up to the nearest pound. TM to speak about the subscriptions at the January Quarterly meeting and at the AGM.

**Events (CC)** – Report circulated.

Boldon Auction House – Fully booked (50 people).

Both Cyber Security and Canva Zoom meetings have an extra member since numbers last given.

**Communications (PB)** – Work continues on the new Website mainly updating u3a links.

MW asked about the Speakers List. PB updated members by saying that they had been in touch with the speakers and most people are staying on the list.

PB will be speaking at the January Quarterly Meeting updating members.

**Regional Trustee (JC)** – No report.

**Storage of Equipment (CC)** – DT had got a price for the use of a storage facility in Gateshead. PB said that he could take some small items. Could someone look at the items and see what is actually needed.

CC said Region need a speaker system and screen. MW said he had a spare 6ft screen in his house which Region could have.

It was agreed to set up a small group to look into what we have/need and storage. The group would consist of Arthur Coulson, MS and PB.

### **January Quarterly Meeting**

29 people have registered to date.

CC has ordered 100 leaflets to hand out on the day.

CC to bring the tea, coffee, biscuits etc.

CC was shown around by Tracy Allison, manager at the Metro Centre and we were also offered space free of charge to promote the u3a. She also intimated we could use empty shops to showcase the u3a e.g., line dancing, The busiest time is six weeks before Christmas and the busiest day is a Saturday. They also do a tour of the Centre. The committee thought this was worth investigating although it would take a lot of organising. CC to take to the Events team where they could set up a Working Group.

**Regional Day 2026** MW suggested we would hold one at perhaps Sunderland University by the riverside which has ample parking. He was tasked with looking into cost, viability. SR mentioned that National are aiming to hold another three day event in July in York and we would need to avoid dates clashing.

### **Any Other Business**

SR notified everyone that she is not standing for the National Council and that Kathy Clegg is therefore elected to the Council along with JC from this Region.

Date of next meeting 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025.

<b>Name</b>	Cecilia Coulson	<b>Position</b>	Chair	<b>Date</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025
<b>Name</b>	Mary Barlow	<b>Position</b>	Secretary	<b>Date</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025