



Northumbria Region u3a

Minutes of the Zoom Committee Meeting

20th March 2026

From 14.00 to 15.35

Present: - Keith Allison (KA), Theresa Mulkerrin (TM), Moira Stokoe (MS), Kathy Clegg (KC), Cecilia Coulson (CC), Peter Barnett (PB), Malcolm Wilkinson (MW), Mary Barlow (MEB).

Visitors: - Jane Mathieson (JM), Arthur Coulson (AC).

Welcome – KA welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes - MW proposed that the minutes of the 20th February 2026 meeting was a true record and CC seconded the motion. The members present agreed they were, and the proposal was accepted.

Matters Arising: - None.

Reports

Chair (KA) – Report circulated.

KA confirmed he will be standing for Chair at the AGM.

Business Secretary (MEB) – Email circulated regarding national agreeing to our change of name which will be going forward to our AGM in April for approval.

Treasurer (TM) – Various reports circulated.

Approximately 180 members have paid to attend the event at Ushaw.

Funds are steadily coming in for other organised events.

Barclays Bank – TM understand that there is no problem with changing the name of the account.

Should the committee agree to asking for subscriptions from u3as in our region using the amounts suggested it would raise £600/700. This is to be discussed at the April meeting and if agreed will be put to the AGM.

Events (CC) – Reports circulated.

The visit to the Hindu Temple has been postponed until later in the year as the leader is unwell.

Catherine Stephenson is hoping to arrange two or three tours of the Pre Raphaelite exhibition in October at the Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle. Details will be circulated when known.

Communication (PB) – Website visits could be better we had 386 visits in December, 687 in January and 954 in February.

A new network has been set up by Mo Brown (MB) and PB noted it is not yet listed on the website. PB to contact MB for details.

Facebook (MEB) – MEB to ask for a report for the AGM.

Messenger (MEB) – In abeyance.

Regional Representative (KC) – Report circulated.

PB asked if a) u3as from outside our region could attend events b) could they also become part of our region. KC replied that they were welcome to our events but were unable to become part of our region.

Constitution (MEB) – In response to a request to national office asking where we stand with the updated constitution they replied: -

“The constitution is with the Head of Advice, please allow a couple of weeks as this is being reviewed. “

KC will see if she can chase this up with a view to us getting it agreed at our AGM. **Post meeting note – KC has copied me into an email sent to London.**

AGM – This will take place on Friday 24th April 2026 at Bowburn Community Centre.

MEB had asked PB to put the Agenda online except the wrong version was sent the relative amendments have since been made.

TM has agreed to do the Google form.

The cost will be £2.00 to attend plus £8 if lunch is required.

TM to forward details of a suitable menu to committee members.

Zoom Licence – TM has agreed to get the new licence when it is due and keep the diary.

It was agreed to continue to pay £50 to Whickham u3a for the use of their licence when used for regional meetings e.g. Creative Writing Group.

Visit by Karen Green – KC to follow this up.

Updating details of Chairs, Secretaries and Treasurers – PB suggested this was done in late May as u3as often change officers at their AGMs in April.

Any Other Business

We would like to record our appreciation and thanks to Ann Carr who died recently for all the hard work she has done for this region. Should members wish to donate they can via the Angel Trust.

The next meeting is on 17th April 2026.

Name	K Allison	Position	Acting Chair	Date 17 th April 2026
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Name	M E Barlow	Position	Secretary	Date 17 th April 2026
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