



Northumbria Region u3a

Minutes of the Zoom Committee Meeting

17th April 2026

From 14.00 to 15.20

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

Apologies: - Jane Mathieson (JM),

Welcome – KA welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

Matters Arising: - Items brought up during meeting.

Reports

Chair (KA) - Report circulated.

On a recent visit to Amazon one of the ladies tripped and was seriously hurt. She was taken to hospital by ambulance where unfortunately she later died. One of the problems this raised was the lady was a committee member of her u3a and getting access to information she held proved difficult. We need to remind people that more than one person must have access to the information eg: - membership lists and accounts.

Business Secretary (MEB) – Nothing to report.

Mike Cook has not sent a report on Facebook will remind him for the May meeting.

Communications (PB) – He arrived back from his holidays yesterday and is catching up on his emails. He has requested help with Beacon due to the death of Ann Carr who previously assisted him.

Treasurer (TM) - Report circulated.

Ushaw is on course to come within budget of between £1K and £1,200. There are 187 people signed up.

Events (CC) – Report circulated.

Ushaw – 187 people have signed up for the event.

A Bothwell who was going to show members around Ushaw is no longer their and CC is arranging cover. CC is holding a meeting with some members of the Events team after this meeting.

CC will be sending an email to all going giving an update and asking them if bringing laptops for an activity to make sure they are fully charged. KC has said she will be able to borrow the church's flip chart stand if one is required.

KA reminded people that relevant equipment must be PAT tested.

Banners – KA and CC hold one each.

Trinity House visit – MS has had positive feedback.

Information on Chairs, Secretaries and Treasurers – We are aware that we may not have the latest information of who the Chairs etc., are. Information and forms are on the Website for u3as to use when officers change. Also we are aware that information is not forwarded to committee members or to members in general of a u3a. This is an on going problem.

Regional Representatives (KC) – National are looking at the possibility of each u3a having a publicity/marketing person.

Attracting new members – It is suggested that a copy of the national magazine is put into libraries, estate agents etc. If there are large firms near where u3as meet perhaps they can ask if they hold retirement meetings and would they be prepared to provide information on u3as.

The national event taking place in York later this year is encountering problems as the organising chair has left and no replacement is yet in place..

AGM – Only 20 people so far have signed up to attend.

TM will either provide copies of the accounts or put them up on a screen.

MEB has printed off copies of the agenda and previous minutes.

As so few have signed up to attend TM is going to look into the availability of a smaller hall.

TM will also order the food this week-end.

TM will during her talk on the accounts mention that we are proposing charging each u3a regional subscriptions. A first since Covid.

Tellers – MW and AC

K Green Visit to Region – Unfortunately KC has had to leave the meeting and this has therefore been held over until May.

Any Other Business

With the region expected to change its name at the AGM various items such as the bank account, headings etc., will need to be changed. This will possibly need to be looked at the May meeting.

Zoom licence – TM has been told the current licence runs out 4th May. KA informed the meeting that Zoom have a special offer on at the moment which TM will look into.

The date of the next meeting is 15th May 2026.

Name. K Allison	Position. Chair	Date 15 th May 2026
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Name. M Barlow	Position. Secretary	Date 15 th May 2026
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