

Minutes of the Meeting of the Filey and District U3A Committee

Held: 8 December 2025 at St John's Church Centre commencing at 2pm

Present: Chris Place (CP); Dave Thompson (DT); Howard Mitton (HM), Peter Crooks (PC),
Tony Dawson (AD), Martin Hirst (MH), Dorothy Caller (Mins) (DC)

Apologies: none

Guests: Pat and Anthony McKay, David Smith

CP opened the meeting and welcomed Pat and Anthony as prospective member(s) to the committee.

1. Matters arising from previous meetings:

The Minutes from Committee meeting held 17 November 2025 were subject to 2x changes:

- a. Membership numbers were corrected from 325 to 324 members.
- b. Point 7(b) which read "No membership fees" was corrected to "No existing members fees"
- c. Brought forward from September meeting was resolved and closed: HM asked what was the length of the lease/contract on Beacon and the website? DS had updated HM on discussions previously held and offered to supply correspondence supporting the Beacon and website decisions.
- d. The minutes were subsequently approved by PC and seconded by DT.

2. Preparation for Members Monthly Meeting, 18 December

- a. The meeting was advised that the Bridlington Ukulele group could consist of up to 20 members. They were not expecting a fee for the performance but would like an interval. The committee agreed to HM's proposal that a second serving of tea/coffee could be served during the interval.
- b. The Ukulele group would be offered to play on the stage and the chairs, intermingling with tables could be facing the stage.
- c. DC to pick up circa 100 mince pies and Christmas cake, there were sufficient biscuits to cover the second serving. CP checking for napkins and table covers.
- d. Pat suggested a "welcome" table be positioned closer to the door to direct people visiting for the first time to the meeting.

3. Chairmans' Report

- a. CP advised the meeting he was stepping down from the chairmans' role to move home to pastures new.

4. Treasurers' Report

- a. HM advised the cash balance £115.36 and bank balance £2,227.08 (excluding calendar monies £381). The current membership increased from 324 to 325, with new members charged at the pro-rata amounts.
- b. HM had submitted a projection of monies for the 2026 based on spending in 2025 and proposed that existing members going forward should continue to pay £10. It was also proposed that new members joining would be £12 and then pro-rata throughout the year. Following discussions on the proposals, a vote was taken resulting in 5 for and 2 against the proposition.
- c. The financial records for 2025 need to be independently checked and sanctioned by independent assessors. Anthony and DS agreed to meet with HM before 12 January to review.

5. Secretary Report

- a. AGM:
 - i. DC advised the alert and draft AGM agenda had been issued via Beacon and also through the Bulletin to all members. The agenda asked for any motions that members wanted raised, at the time of this meeting none had been received.
 - ii. DC asked for HM to provide the financial statement for 2025 by date of next meeting (12 January 2026).
 - b. Constitution: The central u3a were approached for changes to the constitution, only one needs approval by the membership:
 - i. Clause 16(2): The u3a were content to remove the position of Vice Chair position from clause 16 Officers and trustees. This was approved by u3a a couple of years ago to all u3a groups but not implemented in Filey until now. The Committee were content to pass this into the constitution.
 - ii. Clause 16(7): They were also content to extend the “maximum total period of service of any trustee shall be 12 years” from the current “9 years. This included the caveat that a trustee can only serve in a role for 6 years and then must have a one year break from the role. The Committee were content to pass this into the constitution.
 - iii. Clause 16(8): We suggested a third term in office but central u3a were not content with our suggested wording. The u3a suggested replacing the clause in its entirety with the following: “If insufficient nominations are received to fill the vacancies for Officers and/or Committee members, a majority decision can be taken by The Committee to ask the retiring officer(s)/member(s) to remain in post until the next AGM.” The Committee were content to pass this into the constitution.
 - iv. Clause 12(2)(a): The constitution requires 5 members at a general meeting to form a quorum. Any changes to this figure (up or down) need to be approved at the AGM. DC proposed that the figure of 3 members be proposed to the AGM. The Committee were content for this to become a motion for the Agenda.
 - v. Committee Positions specified in the Constitution for 2026/27 are currently
 1. Chairperson: CP resigning – PC stepping up from Vice Chair to Chair.
 2. Secretary: DC resigning – position vacant
 3. Treasurer: HM remaining in post, supported by MH
- Committee position, not constitutional:
4. Groups Co-ordinator: position vacant (can be shared role)
 5. Membership Secretary: DT remaining in post
 6. Beacon administration: PC sharing administration with DT

6. Group Co-ordinator

- a. David Smith (DS) advised the committee meeting that he had applied for a ‘movement fund’ to replace 2x kurling stones (cost circa £500 each). DS explained his dilemma that the fund was for a minimum of £3,000. DS expanded that the additional funds could be used to assist mobility issues for new members reaching Hunmanby and also kurling from a seated position. He expected to hear the outcome late February/early March 2026.

7. Membership Secretary Report

- a. Membership increased from 324 to 325, new members paying pro-rata fee.

8. Speaker Finders Report

- a. CP updated the committee with the prospective speakers for April, May, June and July:
 - i. Sal Cook: has the prospect of 4 talks, chosen subject to be agreed.
 - ii. Eddie Lawlar: has 3 talks to choose from – possible talk on Saltair in Scarborough or “What do you Yorkshire?”
 - iii. Liz Hallett: Nurse’s life
 - iv. Stephen Husband: doctor
 - v. Sheila Cardaman: life as a fisherman
 - vi. Christmas 2026 to be organised with musical option
- b. DT/PC have access to and agreed to share the speaker lists from Probis.

9. Communications

- a. The Bulletin was sent earlier than the meeting, but did include the nomination form and AGM alert notice.
- b. The constitutional changes discussed during the Secretarys’ report including the motion to be included in the next Bulletin.

10. Any Other Business

- a. DC raised that the Filey u3a had moved from the Methodist Church to the Sea Cadets 3+ months and asked if all were content to remain at Sea Cadets or make enquiries at moving back to Methodist Church. To be raised at next members meeting for discussion.

Date & Time of Next Meeting

Next Committee Meeting will be Monday 12 January 2pm in St Johns Church.
Next Members Meeting – AGM - in will be Thursday 22 January at Sea Cadets.