

Minutes of the meeting of Culm Valley u3a
Executive Committee held at the Halfway House Willand
26 March at 14.00

Present: Chair John Hayston (JH), Business Secretary Lorna Knowles (LK), Treasurer Alison Waple (AW), Vice Chair Janet Bryant (JB), Groups Co-ordinator Sue Hooper-Lawrie (SHL)

Minutes: LK Gill Sole (GS) Willand Village Hall – WVH Andy Arnold (AA)

1. Welcome

LK welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies: Membership Secretary Marian Luck (ML)

3. To Agree the Minutes of the meeting 18 December 2024. The Minutes of the meeting 18 December 2024 were agreed as being a true and accurate record of the meeting. All agreed.

ACTION: LK will sign them off
and send to SHL for the website.

4. Matters Arising therefrom – None

5. Officers Reports – All reports and related papers had been circulated prior to the meeting for consideration.

Chair (JH) – JH had been approached by a member wishing to set up a second photography group about help with set up costs. It was confirmed that on contacting the Treasurer a loan of up to £50 could be available and repayable within 12 months. However the group did not have enough interest so will not proceed.

Treasurer (AW) – Currently we have £1,000.00 in reserve when annual running costs and National Office fees are paid for this year. There was a shortfall of £5 following the Christmas Lunch so it was resolved to check all BACS payments prior to handing out the tickets. We are holding £40 for BTS group for their use. AW has the name of an interested party to take over as Treasurer.

Business Secretary (LK) – The PA system was not correctly set up at the March meeting. Andy Arnold, a member and the Chair of WVH will meet on 27 March to try to resolve the issue. With the Business Sec, Treasurer and Membership Sec retiring in September at the AGM, it was resolved to highlight this to the monthly meetings. The Job Descriptions will be checked on the Website. GS is also standing down as Speaker Organiser.

ACTION: LK will announce
Committee replacements at the April meeting.

Membership Sec (ML) – Membership renewals stand at 252 members. 25 members haven't renewed but we have attracted enough new members to make the numbers up to roughly where we were before the renewal period began. ML informed the Committee that we need to have an EDI (Equality, Diversity & Inclusion) Policy in place. The Trust say this is mandatory. LK produced the document for Culm Valley u3a and this was signed at the meeting by the Chair and Business Sec.

Groups Co-Ordinator (SHL) – Groups set up since last meeting: 2nd French Conversation, Speak Up course, Live for Today, Plan for Tomorrow and Learn to Draw for members of Tiverton and Exe Valley u3a's.

Minutes of the meeting 26 March 2025 cont.

Celebrating Art event in September is fully planned. SHL has been working with Tiverton and Exe Valley u3a's in collaboration of Interest Groups. Following a meeting on 20 March the Committee agreed that joint working could be beneficial to all groups. It was confirmed that all those involved would still be covered by u3a Policies and Insurance. LK wanted provision to be in place to ensure an even sharing of Groups and that CVu3a members would have preferential access to any groups set up by our u3a. There will be a 6 month pilot.

ACTION: SHL will draft a document outlining how this might work and how Beacon may accommodate names attending without being associate members.

6. Possible end of year event: It was agreed that we would not have such an event as we had for our 5th Anniversary each year but maybe every other. It could be around the time of the National Day for u3a's

7. Insurance cover for visitors to outings – The Art Event in September is a one-off event so Insurance for those attending will not be an issue. The wording on the National Office document is ambiguous.

8. Generic email addresses for Committee – Currently we all have a google account. There would be cost implications if we used the Website to create new addresses which is not acceptable. SHL had written a useful hand over document, and it was agreed that when a changeover takes place all those concerned meet together and work through the process one by one.

9. Date of next meeting- 2pm 25 June 2025 at the Halfway House Willand. Dates for June and September have been agreed with the Halfway House but the 17 December meeting will be held at the home of JH.

The meeting closed at 15.30

LJ Knowles

These minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by Lorna Knowles at the Committee meeting 25 June 2025

