

Exe Valley u3a Committee Meeting Minutes held at OHSCC Wednesday 04 March 2026

Present: D Lal (Chair), C Langley (Secretary), M Turner, J Riddiford, A Bush, J Langley, J Jeffrey, J Kelly, K Huntley-Sadler, P Sadler.

Apologies: None.

Deborah welcomed the Committee

Minutes of last meeting:

Minutes of the committee meeting held 11th February 2026 were agreed with no amendments and signed by the Chair.

Amendments: None.

Matters arising:

To be discussed per the agenda of this meeting.

Chair's Report

Deborah advised that positive comments had been received regarding the first of the two BT Digital Training sessions. The handouts given are considered useful. However one member has given a questionable opinion by email concerning the content of the session. The second session will be held on 13th March. Anne will email the website support link to members after that session.

Anne suggested that a general 'mobile phone corner' could be held at the end of each monthly meeting to enable members to seek answers about use of their phones.

The provision of printed newsletters being made available at the monthly meetings was discussed. Jill agreed to print 3 copies each month for sale at £1 per copy.

Tim has responded regarding the IT equipment held and confirmed that he wishes to retain all items. It was agreed that only the more up to date items be Pat Tested in future.

Grenville (Peters) has been contacted regarding the request for a key, enabling EV to have direct access to The Cherith. He has advised that Exe Valley u3a holding a key is not an option as it would call into question the security arrangements for the property, especially from an insurance point of view.

Secretary's Report

The Council Representative of The South West Region Network has advised that The Trust would like to invite all members to take part in a national survey that explores what u3a means to them and how being part of a u3a has impacted their lives. Those who undertake the survey will be entered in a John Lewis £100 draw. Carol will email details to the members.

Information shown on The Trust website confirms that Paul Ward will join Marian Luck as a South West Council Representative from April 2026.

The u3a Trust are looking for members to share their skills and become Trust Volunteers to give support across the movement overall. Carol will email details to the members.

No further committee nomination forms have been received. AGM preparations are in hand.

Roles and Responsibilities within the committee were briefly discussed. There will be full discussion after the AGM at the 06 May committee meeting.

Treasurer's Report

As at 28 February 2026

Balance at bank £6,233.72

Cash in floats £160.50. Unbankable coins £17.86

Total Cash Assets £6,412.08

Year end accounts to 31 December 2025 have been finalised and are approved by Tricia Clarke. Paul will report at the AGM.

Website Manager's Report

Paul will continue to update the website with any new items submitted.

Publicity Report

The publicity poster designed some while ago will be reviewed and redesigned. Some copies of the tri-fold leaflet are missing. Further printing to be considered at a future date.

IT Report

See Chair's report regarding information from Tim.

Membership Secretary's Report

Jill advised there are now 223 members including 4 new. There are still 25 members yet to renew this year.

Social Coordinator's Report

Anne advised 25 tickets sold for the Box Museum trip on 6th March 2026.

Second BT Digital Training to be held 13th March 2026.

Beacon Administrator's Report

The Local History Group are now using the Group Ledger on the Beacon system.

A Beacon query raised by Carol has already been submitted to the Beacon Team by another u3a and is being investigated.

Jo advised that an email with a Free Tech support link has been received from Mick Harrison of DCC Police. This will be forwarded to members after the second BT Digital Training session.

Groups Coordinator's Report

Mike advised that the liaison between Exe Valley, Culm Valley and Tiverton u3as is ongoing. It was agreed however that main focus should remain with our own groups and their members.

Programme Coordinator's Report

John confirmed that speakers have been booked for January, February and April 2027.

The speaker for this month March 2026 is Tim Stoneman - Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC).

Welfare Notes

Joan advised that appropriate cards have and will be sent.

Items for newsletter

AGM

BT Digital Training session

AOB

None

Date and time of next committee meeting

Wednesday 06 May 2026 9.30am OHSCC