

Exe Valley u3a Committee Meeting Minutes held at OHSCC Wednesday 03 June 2026

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

Apologies:

D Lal

Welcome:

Mike welcomed the committee.

Minutes of last meeting:

Agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

Amendments:

None.

Matters arising - to be discussed at this meeting.

Chair's Report:

Mike thanked Carol and Jill for producing the May Newsletter. Mike reported that he has spoken with Tim regarding the administration of the Exe Valley u3a Facebook page. General discussion regarding the items posted and comments made on the secure site which cannot be viewed by the general public. Joan volunteered to liaise with Tim to become a deputy administrator.

Mike has received a message from Lynne Lyddon giving information about the Alzheimer and Dementia Society who are willing to provide an informative 60 minute session. It was agreed that this would be arranged as a one off on a Friday date.. Anne will contact the Society for date(s).

Secretary's Report:

Carol advised that The Third Age Trust AGM will be held on Wednesday 14 October 2026 which can be attended in-person or online. Notice of this will be sent to members at a later date.

It was agreed that the u3a Friends Newsletter be mentioned for general information in this months EV newsletter.

The format of the revised Exe Valley u3a publicity poster was discussed and it was agreed that Mike will contact Robin Thompson who has expertise in this subject.

Treasurer's Report:

Per Paul's report

Total assets £4,519.81

Paul advised that EV is in a good financial position with Beacon and per capita fees now paid.

Website Manager's Report:

Paul reported that Simon Thomson, the new u3a South West Region Webmaster has emailed requesting help to take a project forward. Paul will contact him to discuss issues including Data Protection which could be involved in publishing photographs, although verbal permission is always obtained from EV members beforehand.

Publicly Report:

None

Membership Secretary's Report:

Jill informed there are now 242 members including 2 new. There are 27 new members since April 2025.

Jill advised that 20 members have shown interest in attending a First Aid Course. It was agreed for the training course to be provided by St John Ambulance on a suitable Friday date. Jill will contact the organisation to arrange.

IT Report:

Mike agreed to contact Ray each month to view the content of the Power Point Screen before it is displayed at the monthly meetings.

Social Coordinator's Report:

Anne advised the current tea/coffee/biscuits, milk and raffle prize balance is £18.59.

Maggie from Tiverton U3A and Anne did a farm walk recce and decided to go ahead. Anne has emailed Charlotte from the Land group to chase up the farmer for a date. We may have to arrange a date separately from Tiverton U3A as it's proving difficult to arrange a mutually available date. Anne will email all the members as soon she hears and give feedback.

The proposed Dartmouth and Naval college trip will clash with the October monthly meeting so it was opted to try for the Exeter canal cruise from Exmouth to Exeter Quay using Blake's coaches on Monday 21st September costing £32. Anne will email the membership.

Karyl confirmed that she will buy a book of raffle tickets and provide a float to Anne as backup when she and Paul are absent.

Beacon Administrator's Report:

Jo advised that the Beacon Team are introducing a new training session for Group Leaders - 'Beacon for the terrified'

This slower paced session is ideal for group leaders who are not confident in using online tools. Covering the basics of logging in, sending emails and adding/removing group members, it's a great way for those who are nervous or hesitant to get started.

It was agreed that the group leaders be made aware of the opportunity to attend this online course in the future.

2 group leaders have been set up as Beacon users in the last month but as yet have not actually logged into the system.

Group's Coordinator Report:

Joan reported that she has contacted all group leaders to check and if necessary amend their group's membership list but is still waiting for 6 to respond.

Following discussion it was agreed to arrange a social coffee morning for new members who have joined in the last 12 months together with the group leaders. This will give the new members opportunity to be made aware of the various groups and to gain information directly from the group leaders. Suggested date Friday 10th July. Anne will check availability for the meeting to be held at Cherith Hall.

Programme Coordinator's Report:

John advised that a thank you letter has been received from Devon Air Ambulance.

Terry Chapman is the speaker for Wednesday 15 July Monthly Meeting. His subject is - A Member's Career in the RN Fleet Airarm.

Welfare notes:

No cards sent this last month.

Items for newsletter:

New members coffee morning
u3a Friends Newsletter

AOB:

None

Date/time/venue next meeting:

Wednesday 8th July 2026 9.30am Cherith Hall

Joan to record minutes as Jo away.