

Exe Valley u3a Committee Meeting Minutes held at OHSCC Wednesday 5 August 2026.

Present: K Huntley Sadler (Vice Chair), C Langley (Secretary), P Sadler, A Bush, J Riddiford, D Lal, J Langley, J Jeffrey

Apologies: M Turner, J Kelly

Welcome:

Karyl attending as Chair welcomed the committee.

Minutes of last meeting:

Agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters arising:

To be discussed per reports at this meeting.

Chair's Report:

Karyl informed that following the request for volunteers at last month's monthly meeting she has recruited a greeter plus 4 volunteers for the tea rota.

As the volunteer coordinator she put forward her idea for each committee member to ask a friend to attend a committee meeting with the view to that person taking over a role in due course. The need for additional members to join and support the tech team was also highlighted. It was agreed to ask Tim to train the committee to act as support when needed.

Karyl mentioned that it had been brought to her notice that heavy hardback books brought in by members for the book table at monthly meetings are cumbersome and difficult to carry to and fro. It was agreed therefore that only paperbacks be accepted for the table.

An emailed report received by Carol from Mike, in his absence, highlighted the need to encourage members to take on leadership and committee roles to ensure the future of EV u3a.

The matter to be discussed further at September committee meeting.

Secretary's Report:

The Third Age Trust AGM will be taking place in Manchester and online Wednesday 14 October. Members to be informed via the monthly newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

Per Paul's report

MONEY IN BANK =£4,165.85 UNBANKABLE COINS = £50.07 TOTAL CASH ASSETS =£4,376.42

Website Manager's Report:

Paul advised all contact information now corrected.

Stats - 332 website visits 164 logins over a 30 day period.

Publicity Report:

There are publicity leaflets available for distribution.

Membership Secretary's Report:

Jill informed there are currently 241 members.

IT Report:

Tim attended the meeting from 10.30am. The need for training with the Tech Team was discussed. Tim advised that hands on training to familiarise with the equipment is the best way forward and could be organised

prior to the start of a monthly meeting when equipment is being set up. John's training is ongoing. However cover is always organised for times any team member is away.

Tim informed that EV u3a Facebook page has 130 members with 12 members actively posting. He advised best to keep the page closed to members only to avoid any adverse posting. Anne suggested the subject be included at the Group Leaders' meeting in October. Tim and Joan will continue as the administrators.

Tim has agreed to provide entertainment at the Christmas monthly meeting with a 1960's theme to include a quiz and music.

Tim left the meeting at this point.

Social Coordinator's Report:

Anne informed that the dementia awareness meeting went well with 25 members on the day. Speaker Jean has offered speaking to any other groups people may be affiliated to so Anne will send out a Beacon email with her contact details and additional information, especially as the Alzheimer's website has some useful information sheets available.

Farm walk on August 11th has 32 names so should be well attended.

Exeter canal cruise trip on 21st September has 21 u3a members joining Blake's coaches so that too should be enjoyable.

Current tea float is £8.10.

Beacon Administrator's Report:

Jo informed that there is now a new way to register online for the Beacon training courses including the new course for group leaders - Beacon for the terrified. An email has been sent to Beacon users to inform and to give group leaders the opportunity to register for the course.

There is a proposal to simplify the process of online joining and membership renewals currently using PayPal and to entail the use of debit/ credit cards without getting lost in a loop. Beacon team will forward updates.

Groups Coordinator's Report:

Per Joan's email

1. NEW MEMBERS COFFEE MORNING

The Golf Club is booked for Tuesday 8 September from 11 to 12.30. We will have the partitioned area at the back of the club house. There will be tea and coffee stations and Danish pastries. Cost is £7 per head, they will invoice us on the day to be paid by BACS. I need to know which members of the committee are able to come. Replies are coming in very slowly from the members and I sent out a further e mail last week which generated some more replies. At the moment we have 11 plus committee

2. GROUP LEADERS LUNCH

Anne has booked the Cherith for Tuesday 13 October from 10.30 to 2.30. I have e mailed the group leaders to say it is from 11 to 2 which gives us time to set up and put away. Replies are coming in well, here again I need to know which members of the committee are able to come. We will begin with coffee at 11 with time to chat and then lunch at 1 pm. Could I please have the contact number for the caterers we used last time so that I can book and give them numbers. To date we have 22 plus committee.

3. I have had almost all the updates from the group leaders regarding the update of their members and the remaining groups are very small so I am not going to worry about them

4. Please can I know from the committee who is coming to the coffee morning and lunch.

Programme Coordinator's Report:

The speaker for this month is Faye Stacey - People4Ponies and for September Linda Ambrose - Life in Nepal/Tibet.

John informed that he has been unable to gain a response from Kevin Shaddick regarding the Antiques Valuation Day. He will keep the committee informed if any progress.

Welfare Notes:

Jill advised that 2 cards have been sent this last month.

Items for newsletter:

New members coffee morning Tuesday 8 September

Request for volunteers

Request for suggestions for events and trips

Request for paperbacks only for books table

Third Age Trust AGM Wednesday 14 October

AOB

Jill advised that she is still awaiting a confirmed date from St John's for the First Aid training course.

Date/time/venue next meeting

Wednesday 2nd September 9.30am OHSCC