

Minutes – u3a Farnham committee meeting October 20th 2025

1	Apologies: None. Welcome to Terri McClure (observer)	
2	Previous Minutes Agreed Rejoining instructions have been rewritten and tested by a user that was struggling with the PayPal element. Philip has contacted Third Age Trust again re PayPal collecting data but has not had a response. He has also made the South-East Council representative (Sally Ingledew) aware of the issue.	
3	Succession Planning It was suggested that the Tech Team did not belong under any specific committee member. The structure will be rejigged to incorporate this. Any other updates to be communicated directly to Philip	Philip All
4	Layout of programme Suggestion is to change the font and remove tables. The font used on the website is limited to those used in the u3a style guide. The example given was for a group meeting once a month and concerns were raised about the clarity of dates if there are multiple dates in a month, so removing border lines could make it more difficult to read. It was felt that border lines needed to be kept in for dates of group meetings, but other border lines did not need to be visible. Due to printing constraints, a maximum number of 72 pages is suggested. Fonts seem to be a personal preference.	Annette
5	Email issues update Kall Kwik say that the issue is not with Stackmail but with the internet providers, particularly BT Internet as the Internet providers consider the messages as Spam. Solutions suggested by Kall Kwik were : 1. Use Stackmail directly. However, this can be very slow. 2. Create email addresses that are around the group name. This is difficult when group leaders change as the email address cannot be passed on and no record of previous correspondence is available. Addresses also can't be shared if there are joint group leaders or a leader and secretary that both need to see the emails. As neither of these solutions are workable for us, we think it is better to stick with the current Stackmail system and for anyone that has issues in emails not being received, or error messages being generated then the error messages need to be forwarded to the web support team. Group Leaders to be asked to pass on these messages to web support team	✓ Andrew
6	Members Benefit information distribution	

	Some of the restaurants have some dishes that are excluded, which needs to be included on the website and current flyer. Given that all the links work on the website it was thought that it might be better to send out a link to the web page through an all-members email. It will also be included within eNews each month, in order to encourage companies to provide us with benefits.	Steve Philip
7	Pickleball proposal A decision was taken that a group of 5 committee members would meet to discuss how to deal with the costs of external venues when these costs significantly exceed those we pay the Maltings. At this meeting a majority decided that an allowance of £20/hr would be made against the cost of these venues only when the meetings are weekly, (not fortnightly or monthly) any additional cost being paid by the group members. This decision will need to be ratified at the next committee meeting. Where a taster or trial is being run then u3a would cover venue costs for this. Payment upfront is normally the preferred way with no discounts or refunds given. This should include how monies are passed on to our central funds. Details need to be added into the Group Leaders information and conveyed to new group leaders when appropriate. Pickleball group will be contacted as they raised the issue	Andrew Annette
8	Carers Policy Any feedback to be sent directly to Andrew	Andrew
8	Upcoming events Monthly / Theme meeting 42 tickets were sold at the Cuppa and Chat meeting last Thursday, paying by cash. Philip will aim to take card payments at the next Monthly meeting. Advisory Panel meeting – No need to hold a meeting at present Remembrance Day presence – No invite as yet.	
9	AOB Christmas meeting to be held at The Castle Inn. Cynthia to be invited and Val, as Andrew unable to attend. Committee Details will be updated shortly so please send updated photos to Sally if required Lantern Festival – meet at 5pm on Friday 31st Oct, near the playground in Gostrey Meadow. Steve has made spare lanterns if anyone would like to carry one. A member of the Marketing Group has withdrawn her help due to returning to employment, so the Facebook initiative is now on hold.	Margaret and Andrew to invite others. Sally to book. All

	A number of complaints have been received about a member, due to her language. If another complaint is received Andrew will meet with the person initially to remind them of the member expectations. Tech team members are grumbling that kit is not necessarily in the correct box. Andrew to send a message to group leaders to remind them to put things away correctly. Some of the new kit does not seem to be working correctly, so the tech team needs to be informed. (Sally saw Clive after the meeting and he was aware of the issues and working on them, with help from Alan) Lapsed members are no longer able to renew their membership online. A number of u3a's have been complaining to Beacon about this. Currently we have 138 lapsed members. This would like to be reversed so Annette will feed this back through the Beacon Forum and Philip to contact the SE region rep. Margaret does not want a helper this year as she is still getting used to the role. This frees up the person who had offered to help.	Andrew Andrew Annette Philip All
--	--	--

Philip Oliver

17/11/25.