

**Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the Laura Trott Centre at 1.30pm on
Thursday 21 May 2026**

Stewart Walter (SW2) Chair	John Durrant (JD) Events Coordinator
Jo Ware (JW) Vice Chair	Heather Douglas (HD) Business Secretary
Frank Sluter (FS) Groups Coordinator	Malcolm Luff (ML) Committee member
Stewart Wagstaff (SW) Asst Prog Editor	Margaret Partridge (MP) Committee member
Andy Smith (AS) Membership Secretary	Vanessa Lucas (VL) WEB Coordinator
Sue Allum (SA) Speaker Secretary	Brian Peel (BP) Committee Member
Peter Harris (PA) Committee Member	Tony Knight (TN) RUGS Coordinator
Rob Scott (RS) Treasurer	

- 1. Apologies: None**
- 2. Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 16 April agreed.**
- 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Ongoing-AS still to supply some extra stamp pads and JW documents to be added to the website .

4. Chair's Report:

Our April meeting which incorporated our AGM was again well attended with over 300 members. The AGM passed off smoothly with no questions raised by any of the reports and no nominations for any of the Committee positions. Thankfully our entire committee was prepared to continue in their roles and so we are very fortunate to be able to continue with a full complement, something that other local u3as seem to struggle to achieve. Some of our committee members have now served for many years. u3a guidance seems to be that members should only serve for 3 years, but our constitution does allow for longer periods if members are prepared to stand, except for the posts of Chair and Vice-Chair can only be held for 6 years. The experience of our long-serving members is very valuable and much appreciated.

Our speaker for the day was Tony Tutton who once again gave a virtuoso performance. He is a natural entertainer and I'm sure we all look forward to his band performing for the summer dance on 18th July.

Myself and Jo attended another East Herts Cluster Group meeting earlier this month. The main objective is to sort out a new group share agreement, a task which has now taken 4 meetings over a 9 month period. I believe that we should now have reached the final version and hope that it will be ratified by Cheshunt committee today. Several formats have been tried for these meetings to make them more productive, a process which is still evolving.

5. Vice Chair's Report:

Hello everyone. We have received a £250 marketing grant from TAT to promote our Summer Dance in July, celebrating our 15th year Anniversary.

The marketing of the u3a at the event was discussed which is a requirement for the grant. BP offered to help out with promotional material needed. JW to check the board at the meeting and the committee will discuss everything again at the next committee meeting.

6. Business Secretary's Report:

Quiet month. Have sent responses or forwarded any enquiries.

I have my group holiday on Saturday so may not get minutes out before the monthly meeting. If I get a chance will do them on Friday evening if I have all the reports.

I had a request for the library to attach a flyer to an email to members to promote their Carefest Event.

Carefest promotion was discussed and agreed it would be put on the website.

Action: HD to forward Carefest flyer to VL to add to the website.

7. Treasurer's report:

Cheshunt u3a

Monetary Values at 15th May 2026

Main Account	£ 6,344.26
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Groups Account (Restricted)	£17,258.68
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Saffron BS 1 Year Investment Bond	£ 5,000.00
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£ 28,602.94

Cash Floats:

Membership Secretary	£ 50.00
Books	£ 5.00
Cash in Hand held by Groups	£ 6,301.33
	£34,959.27

During the last month, we have received £1155 in Membership Fees, less the Square charges of £12.55. Sue paid in £99.50 for the Raffle and I paid in £25 for Books, £20 for Puzzles and £34.30 for Refreshments. Through Jo's work with the Third Age Trust, we received £250 Publicity Grant. Collectively, the Groups paid in £22,048.25.

I have paid postage to Heather £3.85 for her trial run of the new cheque posting operation, £210 for the printing of two Newsletters and £138.60 Subscription to Third Age Matters until March 2027. There was a further cost of £123.82 for the Renewal Afternoons, £125 for the April Speaker, £50 Subs to Third Age Trust for Siteworks until March 2027, Bank Charges of £98.30 and dry cleaning of the Banner - £12. Finally, £23,976.27 was paid out for the Groups.

8. Membership Secretary's Report:

There are 744 paid up members. At the end of the month 110 will be lapsing. Reminder emails have been sent with little response so far. We usually lose around 100 members per year. Group Leaders will be able to see members who have not renewed on Beacon.

The Norton Antivirus for Business is about to expire. The package covers 5 laptops. The cost is £70 the first year and £130 for subsequent years.

The Norton renewal was discussed at it was agreed to go ahead with the purchase including the clean up as it is essential for our u3a laptops security.

9. RUG Coordinators Report:

Catering for the meeting was covered. Door cover is yet to be confirmed but would be sorted by the meeting.

The list for RUG'S requiring dance tickets was done.

10. Speaker Secretary's Report:

This month's speaker is Steve Dimmer 'Only Fools and Horses'. He will be using his own equipment and will park round the back.

Lesley now needs a table for the Members on Their Own Group so will not be helping Sue anymore. Margaret will be covering for Sue when she has her surgery.

Help at the raffle table was discussed and it was agreed to ask members if they could provide support.

Action: SW2 to ask for ongoing help at the meeting

11. Group Coordinator's Report:

FS provided a list of group leaders who required dance tickets. All group leaders will need information and also stamps and pads if regularly have a lot of cheques to pay in.

The Community Table is booked for the next 3 months. May-Age Uk, June-Cuffley Day Centre and July-Power of Attorney.

12. Web Coordinator' Report:

Steve Beech had asked if the website had gone down but it had not it was an internet provider issue. The average hits were 25 per day. There were 42 visits to the Summer Dance page.

13. Programme Editors Report:

The dance advert to go in this month's programme. JD and ML provided updates for the community events section in the brochure.

550 copies are required for the monthly meeting.

14. Events Coordinator:

ML will be covering for JD at next week's meeting. A table will be needed for the dance tickets and also the membership for the membership card collection.

15. AOB:

Banking Arrangements (RS)

The new banking arrangements and associated costs were discussed.

Action: Information regarding the new banking arrangements will to be circulated to Group Leaders by RS. AS will be providing 4 extra stamps with the bank details on and pads. FS will be distributing at the meeting, pre addressed envelopes to all Group Leaders and stamp pads to those who regularly have a lot of cheques to bank.

Group Share Agreement (JW)

A copy of the updated agreement was previously circulated.

Buntingford and Harlow have been taken off the group sharing agreement.

Groups who have the capacity for group sharing will be coordinated by FS. A number of groups already participate including bolivia, model making, music in the afternoon, musicians united, short mat bowls, rummikub and back gammon. Line dancing has asked to be included.

Summer Dance (SW2)

A table will be required at the meeting for the sale of the tickets. HD has a plastic stand for the A4 poster for the table.

Tony Tutton will be paid in cash from the ticket sales £700. Tickets will be cash only. The balance of cash collected will be paid in to the account for payment of the invoice for the hall hire.

Main Monthly Meeting: 1.30 on Thursday 28 May 2026

Next Committee Meeting: 1.30 on Thursday 18 June 2026

Meeting finished at 3.30