

**Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the Laura Trott Centre at 1.30pm on
Thursday 18 June 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
Peter Harris (PA) Committee Member	Brian Peel (BP) Committee Member
Rob Scott (RS) Treasurer	Tony Knight (TN) RUGS Coordinator

- 1. Apologies: Sue Allum {SA}**
- 2. Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 21 May agreed.**
- 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

None

4. Chair's Report:

Once again, we had an excellent speaker at our May meeting, Steve Dimmer who entertained us with background to and clips from Only Fools and Horses. Thanks go to Debbie Horwite who had agreed to set up the laptop for the speaker but then also ended up operating the sound system after a little training from Peter. With Bob Clarke also capable of stepping in we are now in a good position regarding operation of the technology.

Sales of tickets for the summer dance went much more smoothly than I expected. The queue was steady and manageable and everyone complied with the instructions to bring cash and a membership card, so maybe they do read the emails. At the end of the meeting 110 of the 120 tickets were sold which was perfect: a very good take up and nobody left disappointed. Subsequently I have sold another 9 tickets to members who have been in touch which means that we have virtually sold out. The printer gave us 130 tickets so if the last person wants 2 then I can oblige with numbers hitting 121. Financially, we are therefore in a good place and I will provide additional details under AOB.

I am away next week so will not be able to attend the monthly meeting but I am sure that it will run smoothly in my absence. Debbie has agreed to set up the computer for the speaker.

Finally, a word on the East Herts Cluster. Since the last meeting I have heard nothing regarding the updated group share agreement and am very disappointed that there appears to be a complete lack of intent to actually achieve anything from this group. As I said at our last committee meeting it was verbally agreed to continue with a modified version of the original agreement so as far as I am concerned, we can continue as we have been doing.

The group share agreement was discussed and FS pointed out that on the link Cheshunt u3a was not included in the cluster groups but was separate so our group sharing opportunities were not visible at the same time. VL said she would see if she could amend it and SW2 said he could send an email to the cluster group informing them of Beginners Line Dancing and Michelles Ballroom dancing groups which are in need of additional members.

Action: VL to look at making changes to the layout of the website and SW2 to send email to the cluster group informing of our group sharing opportunities.

5. Vice Chair's Report:

I Thoroughly enjoyed the Only Fools and Horses talk last month Sue. It made me laugh out loud thank you.

With regards to the £250 grant that we received from TAT for the marketing of our Summer dance, Brian has once again been putting his new AI skills to good use and produced super posters that will not only be used for the Summer dance but also have longevity for use at other events. A lot of hard work thank you Brian. I had a chance to view our monthly meeting notice board last month and I noticed that it is double sided. We don't currently utilise the reverse side, but this would be a good medium to display the 'group schematic' of what groups are on and on which day of the week or month and after July, once we've had our much anticipated Summer dance, this would be a good medium to display Brian's posters.

With regards to Motability scooters and wheelchair users entering and registering at the monthly meeting, Christine Luff and Marilyn had a great idea. To reduce congestion and the risk of accidents in the registration queue, they have taken and recorded the names and u3a numbers of our mobility impaired members, when these members enter the main sports hall, Christine and Marilyn will register them as present, without the mobility impaired members having to queue.

Also, a thank you to Stewart Wagstaff for picking up 550 monthly programmes last month, as we did not run out of programmes before the monthly meeting had ended and there were enough copies to refill the front foyer.

6. Secretary's Report:

I have been away a couple of times this month so has been busy. Have dealt with any web enquiries and was able to complete our Annual Return after several frustrating attempts to get a log in. Mainly my fault as the emails were going into my junk box. Not sure why

because none of my other u3a emails have ended up I there. I will be away for 10 days this month but will be at the main meeting.

We received an email from Teens Unite asking for assistance in promoting their work. I mentioned to Frank about offering the Community Table but it is booked for a few months anyway and not sure if appropriate. This charity is supported by Lyn and Tesco and not sure if she has suggested to contact us. What are everyone's thoughts on whether we should get involved.

Teens Unite was discussed and it was agreed to offer to include information that they supply on the information table at the main meeting and also offer them the use of the community table at a later date when available.

Action: HD to contact Teens Unite with our suggestion for marketing at our u3a.

7. Treasurer's report:

Cheshunt u3a

Monetary Values at 16th June 2026

Main Account	£ 6,529.17
Groups Account (Restricted)	£21,387.73
Saffron BS 1 Year Investment Bond	£5,000.00
	£32,916.90
Cash Floats:	
Membership Secretary	£ 50.00
Books	£ 5.00
Cash in Hand held by Groups	£ 6,301.33
	£39,273.23

Although we are looking quite flush in the main bank account at the moment, I have now received our membership subscription invoice for £3248 from the Third Age Trust, which I will be paying shortly.

During the month, we have received £451 in membership fees and visitors, less £4.97 in Square charges, I have paid in £12 for books, £15 for puzzles and £28.95 for refreshments, while Sue paid in £99.65 for last month's raffle. Group Leaders have paid in £19090.70.

Payments have been £192 for printing, £135 for the speaker, £89.72 for bank charges, £262.75 for refunds to members cancelled trips and £14598.90 paid out for the groups.

Finally, I have now filed the Annual Report and Accounts, together with the Trustees' Report and Independent examiner's report with the Charity Commissioners, so everything is up to date.

SW2 informed of a grant available to charities through John Lewis. To be eligible we need to be register with an organisation called Benevity. He is going to apply on our behalf for a contribution to the hearing loop system. Evidence of charity status has to be provided for the registration process.

Action: RS and BP to sort out appropriate evidence:

8. Membership Secretary's Report:

Membership renewals have slowed down to a trickle. At present we have 771 members plus one renewal in the post. 89 to 90 have not renewed yet. We had around 100 members last year who did not renew. Norton Renewal is outstanding.

Action: RS and AS to discuss the Norton renewal and move it forward.

9. RUG Coordinators Report:

Everything ok for the meeting and TK to ask Panny to help on the door again. TK is also going to provide extra water at the meeting because of the predicted heatwave.

10. Speaker Secretary's Report:

Bernard Lockett is the speaker for this month. He will be arriving by train from Kent and is planning to arrive by 1.45. He has an illustrated presentation and is bringing a USB but using our equipment. He will not require a table and is bringing his bank details for payment. SW2 will speak to SA before the meeting to get further information on his illustrated presentation.

11. Group Coordinator's Report:

Group Leaders were aware of the banking changes required due to the closure of Lloyds Hoddlesdon branch. Some leaders were going to pay in at other branches.

Lesley Casson has changed the M.O.T.O.W.N group name to Solo Social Network Group Sharing and already spoken to Vanessa regarding brochure and website changes.

The Community Table was being used by Cuffley Day Centre at this month's meeting, Power of Attorney at the July meeting and Age Friendly in August.

12. Web Coordinator' Report:

VL will look at the Group Sharing page on the website and amend as appropriate and also amend the brochure and website to reflect the changes to the name of the M.O.T.O.W. N group.

There have been many people looking at the website including 177 from Singapore and 82 from China. Generally, just look at the opening page. There has been a total of 650 hits in the last 30 days

13. Programme Editors Report:

550 copies of the brochure are required for this month.

14. Events Coordinator:

The new layout worked well at last month's meeting so will continue this month.

There are around 100 membership cards still to be picked up this month but as the number of renewals has now reduced a separate table will not be required so the membership table will be moved back nearer to the door.

15. AOB

Policies (JW)

The Exclusion Policy has been updated by the u3a central office. The content was discussed and it was agreed our own policy needs to be updated to reflect the needs of our group to ensure it protects everyone.

Summer Dance (SW2)

Ticket sales have gone well with 119 tickets sold. Tony Tutton will be paid the balance of his fee £650 on the night. The balance of the venue costs will be paid against invoice. With the income from tickets sold there is estimated to be a balance of £40 once all cost have been met which can be used for raffle prizes on the night, together with any money left over from the £250 grant, if required. Both the Bulls Head and Raj Vogue have offered dinning vouchers as raffle prizes.

The posters BP has produced are superb. A big thanks to him. Bernie Broomhead has offered to be our photographer as a requirement for the grant we received. PH offered to help in 18 July in moving the display board to the venue.

Newmarket Races (SW2}

The proposed date is 8 August at a likely cost of £47. A 49-seater coach has been booked. Any remaining tickets after members of walking football and pickleball groups have purchased theirs will be offered to other u3a members.

Main Monthly Meeting: 1.30 on Thursday 25 June 2026

Next Committee Meeting: 1.30 on Thursday 16 July 2026

Meeting finished at 3.10