

Minutes – u3a Farnham committee meeting March 17th 2025

1	Apologies: None	
2	Previous Minutes - agreed	
3	Matters arising not covered elsewhere Web statistics – Annette explained that we obtain statistics from KallKwik each month that show how our website is used Web Review meeting – A brand guide for our website is being worked on which is a subset of the u3s brand guide. By reducing the range of colours and font types etc used it should make the website easier to access. This needs to be created before changes are made to our website. Contents of Programme – to stay the same as the current programme. The Maltings are in the process of allocating rooms but have already encountered dates where the Group Leaders preferred dates (eg 1st Monday of the Month) cannot be met. 2 different methods of allocating dates have been tried which either means that the gap between monthly meetings is different, or that the meeting moves from the first week of the month. Group Leaders are contacted if there is a significant issue in providing them with the dates they have requested. This cannot be done for every group due to the workload involved. Audio/Vision – Clive is obtaining speakers and a handheld mic for Courtyard Kiln and South West Kiln. He is also looking at a rolling programme of replacing laptops.	
4	Safety update. The Maltings have been slow in responding to our suggestions around how to deal with people who need assistance in the case of a fire. If the Maltings have not responded to Andrew by 21st March, then Philip will write to Pete Glanville. We have also started looking at safety procedures for other venues that we use. When we look at new venues we should consider the safety arrangements in place. We have also contacted UCA to see what their view is on the safety within the Maltings but have not heard back yet.	Andrew
5	Budget If we do not claim Gift Aid, then next year's budget will be in deficit so we may need to put up the membership fees once we have clarified what the situation is with Gift Aid. Shree and Philip to discuss the Gift Aid situation and then come back to the committee.	Shree and Philip
6	Collaboration with Space to Grow	

	Following a discussion, it was felt that the best way forward with this group offering horticultural and social opportunities for around 8 people is to publicise the offering through eNews and to make our Horticultural Group Leader aware of the offering. Space to Grow to be contacted to provide a paragraph of what is being offered.	Jane and Philip
7	Pickleball Group 28 members have shown an interest and The Bourne club can rent us a hall to play in. It is proposed that a 10-week trial is run until May 25 on a weekly basis. We can buy 4 paddles and balls for £100, which is a better alternative than hiring the paddles at £10 per paddle per hour. There is an Aldershot and Farnham Pickleball club which does not cater for beginners. It is also played at Senior Sports Club, and this could encourage people to join Farnham u3a. It was agreed that the trial should go ahead, and paddles be purchased.	Annette
8	Events: Monthly / Theme meeting committee attendance The need for committee members to attend was discussed and it was felt that it is useful for this to continue as it gives an opportunity for members to talk to committee members. The fire safety element should be considered when we know more. Volunteers were set up for the rest of the u3a year. Following the request in eNews only 1 new speaker came forward. Group Leaders meeting An agenda has been shared by Andrew Social event Great response from members and 60's disco is going ahead in the early evening. Open Day Date set AGM speaker Waiting for a response from Ian Lynch, the Town Clerk.	
9	Member benefits 4 new businesses have been signed up, with Howden's giving u3a some money rather than a discount for the member. These will be publicised through eNews and a page set up on our website.	
10	Increasing awareness of Farnham u3a	

	Collecting photographs to share through website and social media was discussed and it was suggested that WhatsApp could be used as an easy way to collect photos. This will be brought up at the Group Leaders meeting on Friday.	Lynda
11	Policy on displaying personal emails of group leaders A group leader has asked to use a personal email address rather than a generic one. We decided that this was not appropriate but that our policies also need updating	Annette and Sally
12	Storage of previous eNews in Dropbox As only the last 3 copies of eNews will be available through the website it was felt that back issues should be stored on Dropbox so that they can be referred to by committee members if required	Annette and Sally
13	AOB Croquet – ongoing Pétanque – First meeting being organised by a member, who then wants to step down. Without a leader the group cannot go ahead. Chair yoga groups are being started. Spam emails are being received by many committee members. These should be reported to webmaster and asked to be blocked through stack mail. Shree would like some help and has a couple of contacts that may be able to help with the Treasurer role. Farnham Connects Meeting on 25 th which Philip will attend. The Maltings Big Give runs from 18 th to 25 th March and is a matched fundraising initiative to raise funds for less well-off families to attend activities at The Maltings. The Maltings would like to attend all group meetings, but we would prefer to send out an all members mailing.	Sally Shree Philip



14th April