



Mansfield u3a – Committee Meeting

Date: Friday 8 May 2026

Time: 10:00 AM

ATTENDEES	Title	11.04.2025	16.05.2025	13.06.2025	11.07.2025	12.09.2025	17.10.2025	14.11.2025	16.01.2026	13.2.2026	13.03..2026	17.04.2026	08-05-2026
Carole Harrison	Committee Member	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Christopher Kennedy	Chair	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
David Drew	Committee Member						A	✓	✓	✓		A	✓
Elaine Huckerby	Vice Chair	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A		✓	A
Gill Mallinder	Treasurer	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A	✓
Jean Hatton	Membership Secretary/Helping Hand	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓		✓	✓
Jacqueline Harkin	Committee Member						✓	✓	✓	✓		A	✓
John Lawes	Committee Member	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓		✓	A
Kathryn Henshaw	Business Secretary	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Linda Kennedy	Groups Co-ordinator	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Philip Tucker	Speaker Finder	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓		✓	A
Sheila Pegg	Groups Treasurer	A	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	A	A		A	A
Yvonne Kennison	Newsletter Editor								✓				
Bill Harrison	Publicity Officer/Facebook Administrator						✓						

Venue: **Mansfield Bowling Club, Chesterfield Road South, Mansfield, Notts. NG19 7A**

1.	Welcome and Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Sheila Pegg, Elaine Huckerby, John Lawes, Philip Tucker and Pat Cleland thanked us for the invite but	
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	could not attend today.	
2.	Minutes of Previous Virtual Meeting (13 March 2026) The Minutes of the Meeting were AGREED to be an accurate record, signed off and placed on the website. <i>Proposed by Carole Harrison and seconded by Jean Hatton</i> The constitution has been checked in relation to the production of Minutes and reads as follows:- . The Executive Committee shall ensure that minutes are taken of all its meetings and those of any sub-committees and are available for inspection should a member request it. The minutes are now posted on a separate page on the website in order that the number of views can be tracked.	Action – place on website KH
3.	Matters Arising from Committee Reports Finance - see membership notes Groups Finance – No matters raised Business - The Festival in the Forest site meeting is arranged for 22nd May and KH/CH/BH will attend (anyone else is welcome too.) A member has pointed out an error on the Bus Timetable to Edwinstowe which will be corrected when it is circulated again. KH may invite members to volunteer as greeters for the festival at the next meeting but the idea of medieval costume was not thought necessary. Pens have been printed and Carole brought a sample to the meeting. The cost is approx. £1.97 per pen – much cheaper than the u3a brand site. Discussion was held about how we might use similar “Mansfield u3a” pens as	Appendix - A: Appendix - B: Appendix - C: Action – Circulate the publicity again and amended transport options via Beacon. KH Action – Bill will start work on the design. All to check for usable

	giveaways to our new members. We have 131 leaflets which we can distribute at the Festival. Bill will start work on the design for a new leaflet. We have a new Gazebo but does anyone have any Tables that we can use? Groups The Dementia Speaker has asked if we have a projector and screen. As we are uncertain about the quality or whereabouts of what we have Linda will ask the speaker to provide her own if possible. One of our members is an enthusiastic ukelele player and has offered to provide background music at the Membership Renewal Day. Members do like to stay and enjoy coffee and cake and chatter but the event is very busy and the background noise may create problems for committee members carrying out the signing up work. Linda will include the group in arrangements for one of the interactive meeting days. • Social Committee Meeting held 20th April – Notes now att. • Communication; Social Media; Publicity • Speakers Philip was unable to attend today but has been in touch with the speaker and everything is organised for the next meeting. • Membership Secretary report	tables. Appendix - D: Action – discuss Projector and Screen with speaker LK Action – Linda will speak to the Ukelele Band leader. Appendix - F: Appendix - F:Appendix - F: Appendix - G: Appendix - H:
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4.	Items for Discussion/Decision 1: Discuss Treasurers proposal for increase in Annual Membership Fee. Gill has proposed an increase in the annual membership fee from £18pa to £20 pa. We are required to have a contingency fund equal to 6 months overhead costs, which we have, but we expect costs to rise and did not increase fees when we moved to the more expensive meeting venue. Gill is also concerned that we preserve a cushion to allow for any unexpected expenses and take account of the loss of donations from the Councillor. The Committee voted for the increase to Members £20 – AGREED UNANIMOUSLY The Committee voted for the increase to Associated Members £16 – AGREED UNANIMOUSLY 2. Consider Membership Form and Procedure for 2026-2027. The Membership Form will need updating this year. Jean has started to do this and will include the Fee increase. The Membership Secretary address is included on this form and as Jean is resigning she asked Jacqueline Harkin to confirm that she is comfortable with having her address on the Form. Jacqueline confirmed agreement. The procedure for Membership Renewal was discussed. Rather than hand out forms at the July meeting it is proposed that we end them electronically and remind everyone that they are on the website to download (many were wasted last year) AGREED We may be able to do online payments this year – Chris is still working on this. Chris agreed to research the value of including anything on the Form to cover Copyright as the Committee felt this may be unnecessary.	Action – Chair will advise members at the Meeting. CK Action – Jean will complete the revisions and send the membership form for inclusion on the website. Action – Jean will lead on the new procedure and document it in her Contingency Plan/Role Description JH Action – Research online payments and Copyright disclaimer. CK Action – Carole & Bill to obtain costings for plastic. Chris to further investigate the Beacon ability for barcode. CK
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	Membership Card Design was discussed. Beacon can produce basic information membership cards for us. The Committee were asked to vote on agreement to use Beacon Cards printed by either Mick & Yvonne or professionally on a plastic card (to be costed) – AGREED UNANIMOUSLY 3. Discuss actions following the Copyright presentation at the Notts Network Meeting. Information provided by the Network relating to recent fines for breach of Copyright has been useful. It appears that Mansfield u3a are covering themselves but there are still some pitfalls we have to avoid. Yvonne has all the information to check the Newsletter content but some old copies on the website do contain breaches. It has been decided that all the old copies will be removed – Bob & Mike will carry out this work. To prevent any breaches in future it is suggested that we ensure that all Newsletters are proof read and checked prior to print. The Committee agreed, in her absence, that Elaine would be their preferred candidate and Chris will approach her. Chris will provide wording if necessary to ensure we have attributed anything we reproduce. Bill is aware of the issues for Facebook and will remain vigilant. Bob & Mike are doing further checks on the website. We hope that TAT will shortly provide a guide for use by u3a's. Website: The proposed front page for the website has been accepted with some amendments. The video will be removed. The Top Strapline will be replaced with "Welcome to Mansfield u3a"	Action - Bob & Mike to remove old Newsletters from website. Action – Chris to ask Elaine to consider acting as Proof Reader for the Newsletter. Chris to provide standard wording for attribution. CK Action –The new page will be loaded later this month CK
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	communicate more effectively with members signing up for events. All agreed that this seemed sensible. Lost in TV – a ticketing company – has offered free tickets to our members to attend the recording of Brain of Britain in Manchester in May. Bill has started work on the design for the Mansfield u3a Wreath – this will be circulated.	about it. CK Action – KH to verify company is real and send out the email. Error! Reference source not found.
5.	Action Tracker Review The Action Tracker will be updated and circulated.	Action – Chris to update and circulate. CK
6.	Date of next meeting • Friday 12th June 2026 – 10:00 am, Mansfield Bowling Club	

Table of Contents

Appendix - A:	Treasurer Committee Report.....	8
Appendix - B:	Group Treasurers Report.....	9
Appendix - C:	Business Secretary Report	10
Appendix - D:	Group Coordinator Report	11
Appendix - E:	Social Committee Report.....	12
Appendix - F:	Publicity Report	13
Appendix - G:	Speaker Finder Report	15
Appendix - H:	Membership Secretary Report	16

Appendix - A: Treasurer Committee Report

Figures for April:

Book Brought forward	£9,736.82
Receipts for April	£1,244.10
Payments for April	£805.12
Book Figure	£10,175.80

Statement Figure	£10175.80
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I'm sorry that I won't be at next Meeting as I wanted to discuss increase or not in Membership Subscription fees .

Before the end of the year I estimate that we will have another £2500.00 in expenses (£750 for Civic Corner, Approx £300 Speakers, £250 network and TAT subs approx £1200) .

We also have £1293 in advance ticket sales.

These figures do not allow for any unexpected invoices

This will mean there will be approx £6500 in Main Account. Our Payments for the year are likely to be around £10000 so we will have 6 months payments in Account which is in the financial requirements.

I don't think it gives much 'leeway' for unexpected expenses.

If you do think we should increase the Subscriptions I would suggest £20 (still excellent value I think) as it is an easy amount to collect! If it helps, Sherwood charge £21 and their rent for meeting room is under £100.

Gill

Appendix - B: Group Treasurers Report

Income £1712.80

Expenditure £2048.94 (Rents £735, Serco Leisure 163.95, Soft Tennis Equipment £40.99, Houses of Parliament Trip £594, Tai Chi Instructor £360, Garden Group Speaker £155)

Sheila

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=91685c6db5&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1864171381394504635&th=19deddfe9c77fbbb&view=att&zw&disp=safe>

Appendix - C: Business Secretary Report

The plans for the NNNG Festival in Sherwood Forest continue to progress and there will be a site meeting on 22nd May to enable a few key members to consider the layout and H&S considerations and be available to direct others on the day.

At the next members meeting it is suggested that we ask for volunteers to act as Greeters. It would be appropriate to have a few people in medieval style costume rather than Hi Viz directing visitors to the u3a stalls and entertainment. (but Hi Viz is allowed if anyone wants to do that!)

The publicity and transport options have been sent out once via Beacon and will be repeated. One member pointed out that the bus which drops off directly at the Visitor Centre is only a Sunday Service – this correction will be made in the next mailing. KH

Role Descriptions – I have an outstanding action point to check the April revisions on TAT and compare against what we have – this will be re-visited after my holiday. KH

Forest Town u3a have plastic credit card style membership cards but Kathryn Cope their Chair was unable to provide any details of how this is managed as the person who set it up has since left. Kathryn thinks that it is a spreadsheet, updated manually, which provides the member details but agreed that this has probably been superseded by Beacon. She will speak to a few other members and come back to me if she can source where they purchase the cards. – KH

Group Coordinator Committee Report April

Groups

Table tennis and Curling group was well attended and so another date has been arranged for the 18 May, I just need the group leader to confirm its regular day of the month.

A new member has shown an interest in restarting the popular music group, 7 people registered an interest, and I am just in conversation with him about venue etc.

Dip in and Discover

At the last members meeting I asked for people to register their interest for various activities. The results were:

- Archery -10 people, we have got information, and I will try and organise the archery for this summer, dependent upon spaces available
- Cheese and chocolate tasting – 3 people, I will explore and look to do later in the year
- Christmas wreath making – 2 people, I have a member who has expressed an interest in running a small group closer to Christmas
- There was no interest for indoor karting or clay pigeon shooting.

Other

At the last members meeting I asked for suggestions and ideas from members.

- Name tags so you know who you are speaking to. Makes it easier to open a conversation.
- Some tables to sit at so we don't have to have drinks on the floor.
- If someone is unable to get a drink can a buddy or member offer to help and get their drinks first.
- When it's the arrival/break time it would be helpful to have a few tables and chairs out. This means people don't have to struggle with hot holding drinks it also gives you a better chance for people to mix and chat rather than going to pew seat.
- A trip to Giltbrook retail park
- A taster session for Pétanque
- Say out suggestions for Stratford and British Car Museum at Gaydon

Appendix - E: Social Committee Report

- **Notes from U3a Mansfield & District Social Committee 11th May 2026**
- **Present:** Irena Dubowski, Elaine Huckerby, Julia Hyde, John Lawes. Janet Whitlam
- Apologies: Marie Barrow, Jennifer Hicks, Gill Mallinder
- Resignation: Sue McGarry, thank you for her hard work.
- **NNNG – Picnic in the Forest – 17th June.** Set – up decorations by 10.45am and leave up until 3pm . Bill and Carole are decorating. Dukeries are manning the car park. We will do the Bean bag game again and the **Sweetie jar which** are classified as smaller games . Gill/Marie to run the sweetie jar. Elaine/Irena to run the morning session of the bean bag game and Janet/Julia the afternoon session.
- **REFINED LUNCH – Friday 22.5.26** 24 places have been sold and pre-order form sent to Refined.
- Friday 12.6.26 24 places will be on sale at the Main Meeting on Tuesday 19th May.
- **RUTLAND WATER – Tuesday 8th September** - all 15 places are sold. Unfortunately, the mini bus is now £1.50 a mile
- **CHRISTMAS LUNCH - Tuesday 8th December** Forever Green. 77 places sold. Deadline for final numbers is end of April. 3 remaining seats on sale on May 19th. Collating menu choices has been a nightmare as a number of people did not put their names on the yellow sticky notes. Balance to be paid September/October.
- **MEMBERS' DAY Tuesday 11th August.** The Social Committee will run a raffle and a cake stall. Irena will ask members to create stalls. **Update- Marilyn Jones has asked for 2 tables.**
- **WRITE-UPS** 1. 22.5.26 Refined lunch Julia 2. NNNG Picnic Elaine 3. 12.6.26 Refined lunch Irena. Unfortunately, Yvonne did not publish the photos of the French Evening.
- **SIGNING-UP SHEETS-** Must have a phone numbers on the sheet.
- **AOB**
- Discussed other possible trips – Knitters/Ruddington, National Motor Museum/Warwickshire and Taylor's Bell Foundry will look at Autumn trips.
- Decided to book 20 places with Johnson Bros for Whitby on Saturday 8th August. Cost £24.50. Places on sale at May's Main Meeting. **Update- Julia has provisionally booked 20 places held until 25.6.26.**
- Ticket sales

Refined lunch 12.6.26	Irena/Julie
Whitby	John
Xmas lunch	Irena

Publicity Report for Friday 8 May 2026 Committee Meeting

Leaflets

- We have contacted, Steve Yermm, our MP to see if he would display some in his constituency office, so far not received a reply
- Continue to keep placing some in the reception of the Odeon cinema

News Journal

- Flyer for Festival in Sherwood Forest

Closed Facebook page

Moderators: Sarah Spurry, Jean Hatton and Bill Harrison

- Our private group now has 113 members, a significant increase
- With regular updates from some Group Leaders

Open Facebook Page

Moderators Marilyn Jones and Bill Harrison

- It continues to gather momentum, with plenty of likes each week
- There are now 90 followers, with a majority of the posts being shared by John Butler on the u3a North Nottinghamshire Network Facebook page, so the word is getting out there

North Notts Neighbourhood Group

- A Publicity grant for £250 has been obtained from the Third Age Trust. This has been used to purchase u3a pens and yellow and blue balloons. We will pay £25.00 for the licence to Sherwood Forest following the event. This leaves approximately £25 to be used for refreshments for any guests on the day

- The publicity flyer for the Festival in Sherwood Forest has been distributed to the other u3as at the meeting held on Wednesday 29 April 2026 together with the balloons
- We are now in receipt of the pens which will be given out on the day, approximately 10 per u3a now Bolsover have said they will not be attending
- We have purchased a gazebo from the Mansfield u3a funds for our use
- We have got a plentiful supply of bunting, banners etc
- Flyers have been placed in the Mansfield Woodhouse library and Morrisons, Sainsburys on Nottingham Road and in the John Eastwood Hospice reception

Media email address – news.mansfieldu3a@gmail.com

- These reports are on both the Open and Closed Facebook Groups and shared with the North Notts Network Facebook page

Appendix - G: Speaker Finder Report

Speaker Finder's Report to Committee – March 2026

19 May 2026	Andy Smart	What Ruddy Cucumber?
16 June 2026	Michael Burton	The River Trent
21 July 2026	David Price	The Truth about Les Miserables
15 September 2026	Graham Keal	Oprah Winfrey Touched My Elbow
20 October 2026	Mike Storr	Masters of Mirth

Appendix - H: Membership Secretary Report

We had 2 new members join at the last meeting and have had one since

Total membership 295

One new member found us on the website and two were word of mouth from current members

We have also had requests from 4 members to join the closed Facebook page, making a total of 113 on there

Agenda Item - Confirm the renewal form and the procedure for this year.