

**Meeting of the u3a Committee held at the Mechanics Institute
10.00 am for 10.15 Thursday 13 November 2025**

Minutes

Attendees:

Paul Webley (PW); Roy Hodson (RH); Francis Marslen-Wilson (FMW); Roger Broadie (RB); Diane Excell (DE); Ranjit Arora (RA); Alison Wright (AW); Anne Stafford (AS) (observer); Debbie White (minute taker).

	Agenda Item	Action	Lead
1	Welcome and Introductions		Chair
2	Apologies – Dave Marshall		Chair
3	Declarations of Interest – None		Chair
4	Minutes of the Last Meeting – 16 should read “Bradford Community Broadcasting” Approved as an accurate record after correction.		Chair
5	Matters Arising Vera Clark died recently – we thank & miss her. 5.5.6 Joan Spencer has been ill.		Chair
6	Notice of AoBs – None		Chair
7	Affiliated Organisations Nothing to report. Jean Blackburn will send any relevant information.		

8	<p>Strategic Items – see papers Updated Risk Map 2 changes – Central Library definitely moving to Britannia House sometime in 2026; Charity Commission sign-in – Joan Spencer was sole person. FMW now has log-in & recognised by site. PW tried emailing them but many weeks to wait for response. Lack of Chair – 1 person may be interested, but too busy this year. No feedback yet from Third Age Trust (TAT); Yorkshire and Humber Region (YAHR) – assuming PW standing in. Someone could fill role as figurehead, chair committee & delegate more e.g. national affairs (currently Jean Blackburn). Roles in Governance section of website – RB will find Chair role & send round for committee to look at.</p>	Yes	RB/committee
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9	<p>Business Secretary Report – see papers. Speaker Meeting Making a loss at Arts Centre but intermittent WiFi at Mechanic’s Institute. Agreed to use rest of McCarthy–Stone money (£200+) to subsidise. To decide future venue in January, when discuss Membership Fee. John Bromley has suggested set up bursary to help those who find travel difficult for meetings/groups out of the city – membership quite spread out e.g. Halifax, Huddersfield. Committee felt inappropriate. To ask re travel in next survey. To explain at next speaker meeting that need to increase entrance charge. Arts Centre hoping café to open in January – refreshments currently poor. Cap for (non-u3a) speaker fee been £50 for years, but they are charging more. Announcements at November meeting – RA will have script for welcoming, phones off etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee morning /quiz Monday December 8. • Appeal for Chair, minutes secretary. • Promote “Team”– Really Useful Group (RUG} etc – dates on website. • December 3 – Leeds Museum visit • Gap in Visits Team <p>Initial Survey Analysis – see report Most 75–79. Comments re people coming but not helping; committee speaking down to members. Suggestions for new groups – someone has offered to start “Nature”– PW to send name to AW. Painting/drawing – 2 may be interested.</p>	Yes	PW
		Yes	PW

10	<p>Treasurer's Report – see papers Communications Team put down amount wanted; PW has altered to make real e.g. business cards. Still in healthy position – £9,964. FMW queried 3 payments in not identified; RH knew 1. Christmas lunch 33 on list, of whom 32 paid in, DM has cheque for other. After discussion, including correction of 2 figures pointed out by RB, committee approved budget. To put reference on payments so know who from.</p>	Yes	All
11	<p>Membership Report 289 members, 7 new. Sent RB new membership forms with changed email addresses (AW to do). Newsletter – new email addresses were at beginning, then old – to be checked for consistency. Updated groups list, RB now contact for Gardens & Green – to go on website. Art Appreciation venue should be Mechanics Institute. The late Vera Clark needs taking off Visits Team.</p>	<p>Yes Yes Yes</p>	<p>AW/RH Editors RB</p>
12	<p>Communications Report Change to domain emails – would not send to gmail but Zen helped. RB has shown the new set-up to Phil Barker. Will have both running for about year. Next meeting of Communications Group 28th January.</p>		
13	<p>Group Secretary Report – see report. AW has been away. Bingley All Saints visit had about 14 (more than usual). Bagshaw Museum (Batley) & Fox's Biscuits to be investigated for next year. AS would like to join Visits Team.</p>	Yes	AW

