

Minutes of the Berwyn and District u3a committee meeting held at Heol Gauad, Cynwyd, LL21 0NE on Monday, 8th June at 2pm

1. Members present

Karin Capp (Membership Secretary), Rhiannon Jedwell (Treasurer), Clive Ashton (Vice Chair), Hilary Dodd (Chair), Jo Price (Secretary)

2. Apologies for absence

Elaine Ford (Publicity Officer)

3. Agree minutes of meeting 7th May 2026

The minutes were agreed.

4. Matters arising

5.2 Clive will put his suggestion of a Fine Dining group on hold, due to the currently high cost of living. He proposed instead to invite members to join a new mobile phone photography group.

We agreed that the committee needs to keep an eye on the potentially high cost of trips.

6. Further to our discussion of how the committee, and the Treasurer in particular, can view groups' accounts, Hilary reported back the information from Elaine Beech on how groups keep financial records at other u3as. Hilary also circulated the form that group leaders at Llandudno u3a use to keep these records.

Action: Jo to circulate this form to our Group Leaders and invite their feedback on it.

9.2 Clive has checked the issue of the security of WhatsApp against our Data Protection policy. If members give consent to join WhatsApp on their application form, we are authorized to connect them to our u3a's WhatsApp group.

5. Berwyn u3a Action Plan 2026-27

5.1 *Raise membership by 10%*

Karin reported that we've lost some members as well as gaining new ones. On the 1st of April, we had 54 members. We now have 57.

Action:

Karin to give application forms and membership packs to the Group Leaders, for potential members whose first engagement is with an interest group.

5.2 *Increase number of interest groups by at least 2*

In addition to Elaine's recently established Board Games group, Clive will propose a photography group, as above (4:5.2).

5.5 *Review all policies where necessary*

As noted in the minutes of the previous meeting, we have undertaken a review of the mandatory policies.

Action: Jo to amend the policies as agreed and circulate them to the committee to read.

6. Treasurer's report

There is currently £3847.36 in the bank. It was noted that speakers are quite expensive: the last speaker cost £75 plus £10 travel expenses from Ruthin.

7. Membership report

The membership is as noted above (5.1).

8. Groups report

The Walking Group currently has 8 members. Table Tennis and Boules are both doing well. At least 8 people go to the Board Games group.

8.1 New group to support members in need

One of our members, Jean Brown, has suggested a group could be formed of people who are willing to visit individual members when the need arises. The committee welcomed this suggestion.

Action: Clive to speak to Jean at the next Open Meeting about whether she would lead such a group.

Karin also suggested that those members who wished to could meet for coffee and a chat once a month.

Action: Karin to find out whether the *Owain Glyndŵr* in Corwen serves coffee and also which day of the month would be best to hold this gathering.

9. Publicity, Marketing and Communication report

9.1 What brings in new members

9.2 Where and how to promote the u3a

Discussion of these items was postponed due to Elaine's absence.

10. u3a National and Regional Events and Meetings

Hilary plans to attend the North Wales Network meeting in Llandudno on Monday. Clive will attend a TAT Zoom meeting on contingency and succession planning later this week.

Action: Hilary to ask Elaine Beech whether she would like any of us to volunteer at the u3a stand at the Denbighshire show on 20th August.

11. Planned events

None to report

12. Training

Clive reported back from the u3a meeting on Equality he had recently attended on Zoom.

We considered the following points from the meeting:

- Carers should be able to attend for free
- Perhaps contact our local Age UK for advice and possible recruitment opportunities
- Contact local religious groups and see whether they could give a talk at one of our Open Meetings and build bridges with their communities
- Accessibility - ask existing members if they require any special requirements.
- New members - ask them, perhaps on the membership form, if they need any special requirements e.g. accessibility, hearing, carer etc

Clive has also produced and circulated drafts of a training policy for committee members.

Action:

- Jo to circulate the most recent version for the committee to read for discussion at the next meeting.
- Jo to send committee members information about the online training workshops TAT is offering in June and July.

13. AOB

At the next meeting we shall plan the AGM. Clive suggested that the agenda include a participatory activity to involve all members in thinking about how to keep our u3a flourishing.

Action: Clive to send round some ideas for consideration at the next meeting.

We could also do another raffle.

14. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is at 2pm on Tuesday, 21st July at Rhiannon's house.