

Cestria u3a at Chester-le Street

**Committee Meeting No.100 held in the Eardulph Room
at the Parish Centre, Chester-le-Street on Monday 20th April 2026 at 10.00a.m.**

Those present: Acting Chair/Treasurer: Tony Morrell, Secretary: Angela Hamilton, Groups Coordinator: Anne Lanigan, Membership Secretary: Pat Rule, Rachel Burton, Kathleen Atkinson, Christine Logan

Apologies - Chair- Mike Parker, Speaker Secretary Margaret Chilver, Lorna Thompson

Minutes of last meeting - The minutes were approved and signed off by Tony Morrell acting as Chair at today's meeting

Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the Agenda - There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda

Review of Data Protection Policy - There were no issues arising

Review of Monthly Attendance - Attendance at the meetings have remained steady

Chairman's Report - Mike was not present at the meeting but sent his thanks to the committee members and group leaders for their ongoing support.

Mike will be standing down after the AGM in 2027. The committee were pleased to hear that Harry Clark has agreed to take on the role. Introductions and meetings are to be arranged.

Treasurer's Report

The HSBC bank accounts balance belonging to the u3a as at 20th April 2026 is £4,940.

The accounts and adjusted budget for the year presented to the Committee was completed on the basis that the charity may need to be wound up if no Chair could be found to take office from 2027.

The Secretary stated that a member had come forward to potentially fill the vacancy and the Treasurer withdrew his preparations to wind up the charity. An informal meeting between the Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and potential new Chair should, if possible, be arranged.

The costs for the June Anniversary event was reviewed and found to be within the agreed parameters.

The u3a still has a balance of funds in excess of what is required to fulfil the charities obligations. It was agreed that the Treasurer would, by the next Committee meeting, review what funds could be available to fund additional educational events by interest groups.

Secretary's Report Angela reported that she has posted two promotions of the u3a on Facebook and placed posters in several areas.

The ticket sales for the 20th Anniversary were discussed, there are only a few remaining

Website Administrator's Report- Steve reported on the hits for the website providing a chart and graph to support this. The website allows for a lot more information than we had previously showing what is on with some groups providing a programme for the year. Work for Facebook is ongoing.

20th Anniversary update The sub committee for the celebrations discussed progress on this with final details with the organisation of the event discussed.

Group Co-ordinator's Report - Anne reported that she has contacted group leaders requesting them to amend present risk assessments if required. These have now been updated and can be found in the u3a risk assessment file which is available at the monthly meetings.

The Group Information Booklet has been updated with the names of the new Group Leaders and venues along with the New Groups added. New and current members can be directed to this Book rather than the Groups Overview Sheet.

Anne has organised the next Group Leader Meeting at the Parish Centre for Tuesday 28th April 10.00-12pm

Group Leaders were also requested to contact Steve to alter website 'blurbs' if required and send information to the Newsletter Editor to promote their group.

Membership Secretary's Report - We currently have 205 members (we did have 217 at our last committee meeting at the beginning of the year) We have, however, had 14 new members this year.

Speaker Secretary's Report - Margaret will be starting next year's speakers list from July/August. After this she will be standing down after 10 years. This is a crucial role within the u3a and needs to be filled.

A.O.B. We did briefly discuss Dementia as there have been concerns. It was decided to discuss this in more detail at our next meeting. Steve informed us that there is information on the u3a website which offers guidance within the Equality Diversity and Inclusion Policy. [Diversity and Inclusion - Dementia](#)

Date of next meeting- Wednesday 29th July at 10am in the Parish Centre

Close- The meeting closed at 11.45