

**Pocklington & District u3a**  
Minutes of Committee Meeting

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 10am  
Pocklington Rugby Club, Burnby Lane.

*Present:*

Richard Antcliff, Christina Burn, Simon Eggleston (Chair), Polly Fothergill, David Hebden, Gerry Hutchinson, Rosemarie Kennedy (Secretary), Moira Laverack, Michael May, Les Smith, Margaret Stubbs.

*Apologies:* Neil Barrett, Pauline Slater, Ralph Voke, Rosemary Waugh,

**1. Welcome:** SE

**2. Minutes of previous meeting** 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026 approved.

**3. Matters arising:** *Laptops.*

RA has now purchased two laptops: for DH and Chris Smith.

RA has also purchased a Google licence to update word, Excel, etc.

Beacon a/c is backed up, website is supported, and existing data is backed up on the cloud.

CB now has RV's old laptop as he is no longer a committee member. Although RV has officially left he will complete new member applications until end of March.

**4. Chair's report:** nothing to report.

**5. Vice Chair's report:** nothing to report.

**6. Treasurer's report:**

*Current balances:* Current a/c £1989.75, Membership a/c £9840.48, petty cash £130.74. Current balance = £11960.97.

£9000 to be paid to TATT.

DH was helped by NB with Gift Aid application, which has now been submitted.

*New website:* RA presented this and demonstrated it on a projector screen.

Domain name is now registered to RA. It is not yet live but probably will be next week. Text has been lifted from existing website, with many new features. E.g. it is now straightforward to join Pock u3a, and to renew membership, on the new website. It will immediately link up with Beacon for this. Group details of dates, times, etc, are easy to see. All agreed to accept the new website, and thanked RA for his good work.

DH suggested that the website could be available on the old laptop at drop-ins, with a committee member helping members to use it, and to renew their subscriptions through it.

*Action:* once the website is online RA will cancel the old contract and confirm this to RW so that it can be announced to members in the next newsletter.

*New email addresses:* Google workspace with Office 365 is now in place. RA will now create and register our domain on Google workspace. Email addresses will retain the pockdu3a suffix that we currently use.

**7. Membership Secretary's update:**

CB reported that since December 2025 554 members have renewed. 204 have still *not* renewed. It was noted that in May 2025 members were still renewing after the May drop-in. The 'period of grace' is end of May. 53 members currently do not use email, DH suggested a one-off letter to these members encouraging email use.

RA would like to discourage bank transfer as a means of renewal as some arrive anonymously, or with incorrect payment. LS emphasised our principle of being accessible to all potential members regardless of technical capability or confidence.

*Discontinuation of membership cards:* RA proposed that membership cards will cease in September this year, all agreed. Something in terms of a receipt will be printable in lieu of a card being issued. RA reported that next year's email renewal reminder will carry a link to Beacon, and suggests that we alert members to this matter in the autumn. DH asked that printed letters be sent to non-email members.

*Action: CB to send 2026 renewal reminders by email just before next drop-in.*

## **8. Secretary's report:**

AGM is 14<sup>th</sup> May. An email via Beacon will be sent to members, with required documents: nominations forms, minutes of 2025 AGM, etc, attached, by 24<sup>th</sup> April. Non-email members will receive paper documents to be printed by G.T. Graphics.

*Action: RK to liaise with RW about preparing nomination forms. RW to put date in next newsletter, and remind members that this will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.*

*Nomination of officers at AGM:* as RV is leaving there will be a vacancy. Nominations need to be in 24 days before 14<sup>th</sup> May. Nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will be discussed at April committee meeting. LS mentioned that our current 1 year tenure is particular to Pock u3a and that many u3as have 2 or 3 year tenures. LS suggested that we change our constitution to allow 2 years, but this must go to AGM or EGM. DH suggested that all four officers should have same terms of tenure. **3 years is the maximum permitted**. RA suggested that we change our constitution at May AGM to 2 year tenures for continuity of service. Paperwork needs to be prepared but can be done in time. A 2/3 majority is needed to carry this forward. DH proposed, all agreed.

*Action: SE will draft wording to be considered at next committee meeting.*

## **9. Groups:**

*Safeguarding policy:* LS had sent draft new policy to committee members by email. This was discussed, RA reinforced that we do need a policy. No changes to this draft were needed, RK proposed we accept this policy, PF seconded, all agreed.

*Group leader details:* LS emailed u3a head office and was strongly advised not to put personal contact details on the website. Use contact form instead. All agreed.

*Golf group:* this is now up and running, with its own section of the website.

*Chess group:* RK and SE have both heard from a member interested in setting up a chess group, and he has asked for advice about how to go about it.

*Recommendations:* use the request form on the website, talk with a committee member or present something at a drop-in.

*Amble & Ramble:* MS reported that they now have 10 members, and that some have already met at **K.P. Buddhist** a café.

## **10. Pocklington Town of Culture bid:**

SE reported that this is being led by PRITC. They need to submit a 400 word 'expression of interest' as a formal bid, by 31<sup>st</sup> March. SE and MS hope to attend the meeting on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Agreed there is nothing more we can do at this stage towards the bid, but we can begin to plan Pock u3a relevant activities for 2027. *See next item.*

## **11. Upcoming events:**

*Art exhibition 2027:* MS proposes an art exhibition at BH next spring. 15<sup>th</sup> May was proposed.

*Wolds Day 2027:* agreed this should involve other interested bodies e.g. Heritage group, tourist boards, etc. Discussion about whether this would be a u3a event or community event. Agreed it should be a joint event involving the wider community. Rugby Club to be invited to be involved. MS would organise. SE suggested u3a pay for hire of venue.

*Action: add to April agenda.*

*Music event 2027:* PF suggested that we could have a music event involving all our u3a music related groups, along the lines of the Midwinter Music. Agreed. Suggested spring or summer. For future discussion.

*Indoor games:* MS suggested we hold the next one in the autumn. Agreed.

*Outdoor games:* MS suggested June, possibly with picnic and petanque.

*Action: add both games events to next agenda.*

## **12. Photography project for Arts Centre:**

The subject is to be portraits and NB has asked for ideas for subjects. Freda, and Chris Smith, were suggested, but agreed to wait until NB can explain more about the nature of the subject matter.

## **13. AOB:**

1. There has been a request from Jean for new storage boxes for u3a mugs at BH.

*Action: DH to talk with Jean to establish what sort/size of box would fit in the new kitchen.*

2. DH proposed that we set up a standing committee to deal with any pressing decisions that may have to be made at short notice, so that whole committee does not have to be involved.

*Action: add to next agenda to discuss.*

3. *Committee social. Action: add to next agenda.*

4. *Purchase of projector and screen:* RA suggested we buy a projector and screen so we are independent of equipment that may, or may not, be available at various venues. LS explained that YAHR might give a grant up to £250 for such a purchase. Agreed.

*Action: LS to look into the YAHR grant. RA to investigate options for new equipment.*

**Meeting ended 11.40am**

**14. Date of next committee meeting:** Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026, 10am, Rugby Club, Burnby Lane.

*P.F. 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026*