Washington Village U3A Committee Scout Hut 10.00am, 18th June 2026

1. Welcome
Welcome from the chair to members attending the May meeting.
Attending:John Edwards (Chair), Helen Edwards, Richard Mulvey, Jackie Robinson, Ian McIntosh, Lyn Bossons, Tania Le Marinel, Ann Dodds, Derek Ginsberg, William Hird, Maggie Porter.

2. Apologies: Full committee present.

3. Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 18th June 2026
Acceptance of last month's minutes (with stated amendments) proposed by Lyn and seconded by Richard. Future minutes to be sent to committee members within a week of meeting to allow time for action points to be completed.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes not elsewhere on the agenda
Environment No update
26.53 Ongoing: Bill to send out U3a Environment Policy to Group Leaders

5. Review of WVu3a Constitution Section 7 Executive Committee And Officers
Constitution needs one-third of, or 3 committee members, whichever is greater. John suggested changing Section 7: The name of the charity is Washington Village U3A, hereafter referred to as "The U3A". Any change would
d need to be agreed by Charities Commission. This was discussed and decided to leave as it is until next AGM.

6. Treasurer Report
Treasurer's monthly report was presented and accepted.

7. Business Secretary Report.
A thank you from TAT was received via Cath Clegg.
A pickleball injury was reported, accident form to be kept for three years.

8. Group Co-ordinator Report
Currently we have 38 groups.

Ian suggested that we have twice-a-year training for Group Leaders including website and Beacon.
We need to try to get deputy Group Leaders to enable cover of GL absences.

The Walking Group will be giving an overview at our next monthly meeting.

9. Speaker Secretary Report

Previous speaker was not well received, the talk on Bob Dylan was too in-depth.

The entertainer for Christmas has been booked. It will be Mea Dean (last year's entertainer).

Recent bookings are musicians Fool's Gold- back with a new theme on Dickens, and speaker Frank Sandon with a talk on Walking across Africa. (Both for 2027)

26.57 Ongoing Jackie to contact Brian and Ged to find out their availability at short notice should we need it.

10. Members Liaison Report

4 Get Well Cards have been sent this month.

11. Membership Secretary's Report

We currently have 321 members and 13 associate members. 63% are male and 37% are female. We had 12 non-renewals this year. Only a few do not have email so they are contacted by text (or emergency contact).

Some people do not attend anything. Lyn previously had investigated this via a poll on Beacon. Ian knows of leaving interviews in other areas, which could be useful to us so we learn why people don't renew. People who don't attend meetings may need an update. We could send out an occasional update on groups or ask for ideas for new groups.
AP26.68 Action: Richard to find out the number of people who don't attend any groups or meetings

We had four outstanding membership forms for subs paid - now only one to be identified. If no membership form is received there is no record of individual on Beacon so no insurance cover for groups etc for that person.

12. PR Update
u3a PR Team do not respond or communicate even though they've promised to.

Tania will design tickets for our October and Christmas chargeable events.

13. IT/Website Update
All email communications should go via Beacon and be made clear who it's going to eg committee/all members etc. Group Leaders need training / reminders, Helen would normally do this.

One third of people access our website using phones, a quarter use a laptop or computer.
For our Social Event, Helen will publish details on the website
AP26.69 Action: Helen to add the October Social Event details to our website.

14. Social Event in October.
Event confirmed as Wednesday 14th October and booked at The Stella 2-5pm (set up from 1pm)

As well as Ukuleles, Jamming, Shanty Singers, Bridge group, Cath Mills singing and Photography, the Line Dancing group are willing to do a demo - they need to know numbers suitable for dance area. Also jumbo cards are available for a game of "Play Your Cards Right". A programme list / timetable to be organised once all the groups have been agreed.Buffets are booked, we need to confirm time and choice of menu.The bar will be open at the Stella for refreshments excluding tea and coffee.A £4 (subsidised) charge was agreed, tickets to go on sale at August and September monthly meetings.
AP26.70 Action: John to message all re: October Event, and Group Leaders of performing groups to get potential numbers. Performers will get preference for tickets as there will be a maximum number overall.

15. Regional and Network Update
Lyn attended the NE Treasurer Network Forum, only 8 people at the meeting. Proposed changes to regions were discussed but not agreed so they will remain the same.

John found out about a zoom meeting from a Washington U3A member - chairs had not been informed.
AP26.71 Action: John to feedback to originator of zoom meeting to request better comms.
There has been a national re-organisation to fit in with new council, now North East, and Yorkshire- previously Northumbria had included part of North Yorkshire. At the AGM, a new chair was appointed by a unanimous vote.

Usher Moor event was positive and venue has been approved for next year's event although there were learning points including underpricing of tickets, and programme timings.
Derek is now on the Regional Events Team.

Regional and Network updates are on the website including Gift Aid rules, guidance on being non-political, and updated role descriptions.
A026.72. Action: John to follow up on "Being Non-political" guidance

Finance Policy explained including the amendment (section 3.1 Receipts pt 4)
"Where applicable, receipts will need to be given to group leaders, or acknowledged by email."
Helen proposed the policy, Lyn seconded.

There's an updated Expenses Form because mileage costs have been increased.
No cheques to be used.
Next year, Bill will be replacing Lyn as assistant treasurer. Tania suggested we apply to bank 4 months ahead to get authority for Bill as it is a notoriously slow process.
26.62 Ongoing: John to contact network chairs to arrange another meeting.

16. AOB

At our monthly meetings, some people have had trouble finding seats because people have been keeping them for friends.
AP26.73 Action: John to mention at next monthly meeting that seats at tables cannot be reserved for friends.

Derek suggested Succession for committee members, and the need to plan for the future.

Tania asked for agreement on the name for our Autumn Social Event.