

Minutes of Sandbach & District u3a Trustees Meeting
held at 9.30am Monday 15 September 2025

Item		Action
1	Present: Kate Ashcroft, Linda Bilsborrow, Alan Casey, Barrie Hacking, Alice Holmes, Stuart Naylor, Steve Roe, Ken Talbot Apologies: Moira Egan, Gillian Curtis, Paula Reilly Cooper, Linda Williams	
2	Minutes of July meeting Accepted as a correct record of the meeting. Matters arising Item 2 – cable protectors have now been purchased. More to be purchased by the Patchwork Group.	Stuart
3	Feedback on members renewal and group leader working lunch in July/August Linda W noted at the meeting that any critical incidents should be reported to her immediately. Alan will liaise with her to get her contact details on the website as Health & Safety coordinator.	Alan
4	Level of participation in the AGM and how to improve it It would be helpful to have a single click to take members to the voting form, with a separate click to take members to the AGM papers. We agreed to encourage members to vote at any face to face opportunity, including members meetings and Sunday tea & cake sessions, with paper forms available for voting on these occasions.	Alan Ken
5	Problems with and alternative payment systems for membership renewal The number of problems with online payments seems significantly higher this year. Some problems will be with members who have not paid on line previously (ie user error), though not all. We don't know the actual number having problems, and there are other ways to pay. BACS payments would not be ideal as not all members will include their membership number. Using a third party company also would not be ideal as many members will be reluctant to register with a third party. We agreed that online payment will be an agenda item for the next u3a cluster meeting and that we can make reference to the issues with renewal in an update, noting that we are working on it.	Linda B Alan, Ken
6	Purchase of PA system Stuart will ask KD if he is willing to store a PA system, and if the response is positive he will go ahead with purchase.	Stuart
7	Legality of copying sewing patterns for members This is clearly illegal, as is made clear on the Third Age Trust website. Linda B will write to GLs to make this clear to them.	Linda B
8	Finance Report for August 2025 The finance report was accepted. Linda B will contact Gillian about the overall trend in our finances.	Linda B
9	Membership update The membership report was accepted. Barrie will send out an email reminder about renewal at the beginning of October, including an email helpline for people experiencing problems with paying online.	Barrie Ken

	We will also have a renewal desk at the October members meeting and Sunday tea & cake. Ken will liaise with Barrie about the information to go in an update.	
10	Update on groups The tutor for Tai Chi is ill at present, so the start of classes has been delayed.	
11	Trustees admin Nothing to note.	
12	AOB a) The Town Hall does not have a hearing loop. Although they use the Barclays Bank loop at present, this is likely to be removed soon. Kate will keep checking on progress with the Town Hall. b) Kate will be away for the October members meeting; Ken will deputise for her. c) Library duty is becoming unpopular with volunteers. Kate agreed to step in on 22 October. We agreed that from November to June library duty will only be the 2 nd Wednesday of the month. Alan will publicise this on the website and Ken in an update in November. d) We agreed that it would not be appropriate to invite our MP to address a members meeting. e) Ability Net recently offered some free updating IT skills sessions for members, but at the time there was no interest. However Linda will be doing a face to face support session, and if interest is growing we will consider further sessions, either with Ability Net or through a u3a group.	Alan, Ken
	Meeting closed at 10.49 am. Next Trustees meeting on Monday 20 October at 09.30 am	