



Wonersh & District

Minutes of 41st Annual General Meeting

Monday 02 March 2025

Attendees and Apologies

Members: Diane Albery, Linda Baker, Sue Barry, Rosemary Bloss, Jill Clements, Mary Connell, Denise Cooke, Faith Cooke, Marcia Delaney, Andrew Duncan, Colin Frost, Val George, Laurie George, Pat Hawkins, Pam Hewitt, Gerry Hofner, Marian Homar, David Howell, Penny Howell, Bob Jackson, Jill Jackson, Vicki Jackson, Karin Jameson, Graham Jelley, Christine Kateley, Jane Landells, Jean Matthews, Dennis May, Jane Mayers, Alison McClusky, Penny Moran, Cilla Morris, Thelma Mullinger, Laraine Owen, Barbara Pearson, Mavis Rauch, Jill Ridgewell, Judith Riter, Sue Slocombe, Anne Smillie, Barbara Smith, Jennie Smith, Margaret Taylor, Mike Taylor, Maaike Van Raaij, Pam Wilkinson, Barry Williams, Seana Willmot, Roger Wilmshurst, Jackie Young.

Committee Members: Angela Bik, Tim Bullivant, Cheng Co, Chris Christensen, Richard Davies, Sandra Jarvis, Brian Ko, Tony Rivers. Apologies for absence for Jacqui Ko.

2. Chair's Opening Address

Good Afternoon and welcome to you all. It is a pleasure to address you today.

For anyone who does not know me, I am Sandra Jarvis and I have been Chair of Wonersh u3a for one year.

It has been a wonderful first year and I have met so many of you at the groups, events and coffee mornings. Thank you so much for the support and encouragement I have received from everyone.

3. Election Of Committee Members

Since the last AGM there have been some changes to our committee. In March after the last AGM Vicki Jackson and Liz Tingley resigned from the committee and members were notified.

Vicki remains a highly active Group Organiser of Art, Pilates, Outings, pub lunches and is joint organiser with Angela Bik for the summer BBQ.

Chris Christensen has decided to step down after many years as committee member for refreshments. She has agreed to continue doing Speakers Corner teas and anywhere else where she is needed.

Our thanks and gratitude to Chris, Vicki and Liz for all their commitment and hard work over the years.

In 2025 we welcomed some new committee members.

Brian Ko joined us as Treasurer. Richard Davies took on the role of Secretary. Tony Rivers joined as a committee member and advises on legal matters. Sue Joslin, who was our Website Coordinator, returned to America and Cheng Choo has offered to take over the role.

The new committee members were proposed and seconded by Vicki Jackson and Andrew Duncan.

Motion carried.

The remaining committee members are Tim Bullivant Vice Chair, Jacqui Ko Membership Secretary and Angela Bik Social Secretary who are willing to stay in their positions.

Tim Bullivant and Angela Bik will step down at the end of this year.

Remaining committee members proposed and seconded by Marcia Delaney and Thelma Mullinger.
Motion carried.

I personally would like to thank the committee for their guidance and support in my first year as Chair. I am fortunate to have such a good committee.

4. Minutes Of 2025 AGM

Minutes of our 40th AGM held on 3rd March 2025 have been available to view or download on our website. The minutes were approved by a show of hands with no matters arising.

5. Chair's Report

It is a year since I became Chair and it has been a year of huge change for us all.

Over the year the committee looked at ways of securing our finances, which we have achieved with a surplus this year of £2311, and at how future communications with members would be managed and implemented. We knew that the Yearbook and leaflets were expensive to print and post and are onerous and time consuming to produce. We had nearly 300 members who used to receive three mailings a year of printed material.

The decision was made to try different ways of keeping members informed. It was decided that in line with other u3as all information about groups, outings and events should be held on our website.

We know some members may not wish, or are unable, to use the website. To make sure that everyone received programme information the 2026 programme was emailed to all members and posted to those few without email. Further, to ensure that everyone was kept informed of our activities we have continued sending out the weekly diary reminder, the bulletins from Jean Matthews and Cilla Morris covering outings, events and booking procedures and the Chair's Newsletter detailing all up and coming activities and events.

We have done our utmost to keep members informed and we thank you for adapting to these changes over the last year.

It was our intention last year to move from our current operating system to Beacon, an online membership and management system used by u3as across the UK. Due to the relocation of our Website Coordinator implementation has been delayed.

Beacon can store and update all members' records and can create mailing lists and send emails to members directly, including attachments, e.g. outings details and booking forms. At present our current Excel spreadsheets and Google email bulletins cannot cope with attachments precluding us from sending you outings leaflets and booking attachments.

We know that this has been frustrating for members and we will take Beacon implementation forward once Cheng Choo, our new website co-ordinator, is fully familiar with its functionality and operation.

At the last AGM there was a request to pay for membership and outings by BACS as well as cheques. In 2025 were able to offer this option which has been highly successful with 80% of members using this method of payment.

Subject to confirmation by the Charity Commission the membership year will in future run from 1st March to the end of February.

6. Treasurer's Report

There was a surplus of £2311 at year end compared to a loss of £6,903 last year. This improvement was achieved by reducing printing and posting costs, a weekly contribution from the table tennis group to cover hall charges and equipment replacement, a surplus on outings, and an increase in membership. Any surpluses will be used to subsidise some of the u3a wider functions and an unchanged membership fee for this year.

The balance sheet shows capital of £11062 compared to £8751 the previous year. A capital retention is required by Charity Commission rules.

Given Lloyds Bank programme of branch closures and charges for cheque processing the 80% take up of BACS by members has been particularly valuable in cutting costs.

When submitting BACS payments please include the appropriate reference. For example, MEM for membership fee and a code such as HCP04 (Hampton Court Palace Outing) for the event or activity. Members should check with their Group Organisers as to which code to use.

The Wonersh u3a bank account number remains the same and can be found on the website, on bulletins and on booking forms.

The changing of the membership year is awaiting Charity Commission approval.

Karin Jameson and Mavis Rauch approved and seconded the adoption of the income and expenditure account and the balance sheet. **Motion carried.**

We thank Mike Taylor for coming forward and offering to examine our 2025 accounts and propose his reappointment as our independent accounts examiner.

Proposed and seconded by Marcia Delaney and Marian Homer. **Motion carried.**

7 Membership Report

As of 28th February 2026 membership was 262 down from 275 at this time last year.

16 new members have joined since November 2025 via personal recommendations and the website. 47 members have not renewed, compared to 41 the previous year. Reasons given were moving out of the area and health issues.

8. Programmes And Events

2025 was a highly successful year with new activities and a new Play Reading Group. Unfortunately, the Craft Group closed after a few sessions due to lack of interest.

All other groups are thriving due to the dedication of our Group Organisers; Wonersh u3a would not exist without them and their commitment.

We welcome the new Group Organisers who joined us last year.

Sheila Manson who runs The Play Reading Group, Jane Longley who has joined Vicki as organiser of the Art Group, Liz Wix who together with Marcia Delaney organises Speakers Corner, Sue Goodsir who is Tai Chi co-organiser with Bob Jackson and Dennis May and Linda Clements who are now running Listening to Music.

Vicki Jackson has taken over the running of our monthly Pub Lunches from Angela Bik. Thank you to Angela for all the arranging and planning of the pub venues over the years.

There have been some changes of group venue over the year; Table Tennis has moved to Bramley, Line Dancing and Art has moved to Shalford.

Our New Year Lunch and BBQ continued to be exceedingly popular with over 70 attendees.

Last year more social events were added to the calendar. A bimonthly coffee morning at the Percy Arms, a quiz afternoon and a festive Singalong with the Wintershall singers. Already this year we have run another quiz and we will be trying out a Beetle Drive afternoon.

We had another successful year of Outings, Exploring London and Theatre trips. The highlights of the year were the Marlow to Henley River Trip and the annual Chichester Theatre visit to see the musical Top Hat.

2026 has started well. Tickets to Killings at Badgers Drift were all sold and it is now waiting list only for the trips to Sandhurst and Kelmscott Manor.

It is thanks to all the Outings organisers that Wonersh u3a is unique amongst other u3as for the number and variety of its outings.

Starting in April there will be a beginners Croquet Group in conjunction with Guildford and Godalming Croquet Club. The sessions will be every Thursday morning from April to September at the club's site in Broadwater Park. All equipment is provided as well as coaching and support. There will be two free taster sessions. Full season cost is £100 which works out as £5 per session. More information will be sent to in the next newsletter. The Group Organiser will be Madeleine Lamboll.

9. Holiday

The holiday last year was to Wales and Jackie Young announced this year will be to Guernsey on 28th September. The trip will travel via the Poole ferry and will include tours of Guernsey and Sark with free time in St. Peter Port. Currently 36 members have signed up and paid an initial sum with the balance to be paid by early July.

10. AOB

There was feedback from the members including Graham Jelley, Christine Kateley, Anne Smillie, Jennie Smith, Andrew Duncan, Faith Cooke, Marcia Delaney, Vicki Jackson and Alison McCluskie.

A small number criticised member communications and missed the printed Yearbook others welcomed the saving in costs. There were positive views on the committee which were widely shared by members.

All points mentioned will be reviewed by the committee and findings will be added to the website in due course.

The following message was received from Derek and Sue Westmacott via email on the 2nd. of March. "We are unable to attend this year's AGM due to mobility problems. I would like to be noted my appreciation for all the efforts to build up an active number of groups to encourage even more members."

11. Chair's Closing Words

I would like to say a big thank you to all of those who contribute so much and without whom we could not continue, the Committee, the Group Organisers, Cilla Morris and Jean Matthews who circulate the bulletins, Alex Morris who always manages to find something different to write about us in the monthly free magazines, to all the tea and coffee makers who provide the refreshments at meetings and events and to all the behind the scene helpers who generously volunteer their time to support our U3A.

On 25th March I will be promoting Wonersh u3a at a Bramley village showcase for local organisations. If you are in Bramley please drop in for a glass of wine and to say hello.

The meeting is closed.

Signed

. **On**