



Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 2 June 2026 at 14:05

- 1. Present:** Hilary Harris (Chairman) and around 80 members, constituting a quorum
- 2. Apologies:** 13 apologies were received.
- 3. Minutes of last AGM on 3 June 2025:** The acceptance of the minutes were proposed by David Hodgson and Seconded by John Haigh. No disagreements were raised.
- 4. Chairman's Report:** The following report was published in the AGM newsletter circulated before the meeting:

It has been another busy year for our u3a. Our Monthly Meetings have all been well attended. A great deal of work is involved in preparing for these carefully orchestrated events. I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of those involved in setting up the meetings each month. The talks are planned and booked by Gill Scovell, our Speaker Secretary, who always provides us with interesting speakers. Angela Bunting, has compiled the emails that tell you all about the meetings. The office staff and caretakers at The Bridge work hard to give us a venue that is clean and safe. The Meeters and Greeters have welcomed you and the Tea Team have prepared that much needed cuppa after the talk. David Hodgson and Ewan McGregor have been running the sound desk to support the speakers; they come in early to set the system up and get acquainted with the speaker. Everything is in place before you, the members, come through the doors and take your seats for a busy afternoon.

Our groups have continued to flourish this year. I would like to thank our Group Coordinators, Ewan and John and all our Group Contacts, who keep them going. Special thanks go to Ian Fulton for organising the Theatre Group, and 12 Dinners Around the World, both of which have become very successful this year, and take a lot of time to organise.

Thanks go to all the Committee members for their hard work over the last year. I'd like to thank Hanlie Croeser, our Treasurer who keeps on top of our finances so efficiently. Others who support the Committee, as well as Gill Scovell, are Angela Bunting who has continued as Webmaster and Beacon administrator. Her support for the committee and members is invaluable. Also, last but not least, our own Jenny Whitley who is our Newsletter Editor extraordinaire. Jenny compiles news and items to go into our lovely newsletters to keep us all in the loop and share what we have been up to.

I'd particularly like to thank those members who are leaving the Committee: Our Membership Secretary Tom Gateley, has served for three years. He will be very missed. His kindness, sense of humour and quick wit kept our meetings lively. Thank you very much Tom for everything you have done for us, you are a hard act to follow. Our thanks go to Chris Benson and Liz Christian who have been on our Committee for many years. They have both been Vice Chair and their knowledge of the u3a and how things were done in the past is invaluable. A huge thank you to them for everything they have done for our Milford on Sea u3a.

Looking to the future

As my second year of tenure as your Chairman is coming to a close and I am clearing my desk of the paperwork and duties of a chairman, I am finding new challenges within the u3a to keep me busy. We have had an even busier time than usual within the Committee with some resignations and colleagues moving sideways into new

ventures. This leaves us with a different looking committee but one that I hope all you members will encourage and support this next year.

Maria Thompson, our Committee Secretary and myself have set up a new venture - a Social Subcommittee. This is to relieve our Executive Committee of the planning of more social events that our members have asked for. So, Tuesday 2nd June looks like being another busy and productive meeting in the history of Milford on Sea u3a. If you spot a newbie amongst us, smile at them and welcome them in. The kindness of strangers is a powerful thing and you never know where it will lead!

Thank you for your support over the last two years. I wish you all a happy and healthy summer.

Hilary Harris, Chairman

- 5. Treasurer's Report:** The following report was published in the AGM newsletter circulated before the meeting:

Our accounts have been approved by the Trustees and examined by Roger Garlick, our External Accounts Examiner. The Committee recommends that he is re-appointed as our Accounts Examiner for the next financial year – see item 6 of the AGM agenda.

Our u3a finances remain very healthy. Over the past year, we had a surplus of £1,277. Our bank balance, after deducting payments for future events (mostly theatre tickets), amounted to £11,722 at the end of the year. This is more than our annual expenditure.

For the year as a whole, our income amounted to £9,716, which was very marginally higher than last year. This included a donation of £544 from Riviera Travel which, as last year, we re-donated to the Wellbeing Centre at Oakhaven Hospice which provides education and activities that are very much in line with those provided by our u3a groups.

Excluding the donation to Oakhaven Hospice, our total expenditures amounted to £7,895, which was 17% higher than last year. The increase was largely due to higher expenditure on social events, and the cost of our monthly meetings. With the formation of a new Social Subcommittee, the Committee hopes to increase the number of social events available to all our members.

The Committee proposes to keep the membership fee unchanged at £17 per member in 2027/28 (item 5 on the AGM Agenda).

Hanlie Croeser, Treasurer

Nigel Swann proposed the acceptance of the accounts for 2025/26 and this was seconded by Ingrid Brocklesby. The majority of members agreed with a show of hands.

- 6. Membership Fee 2027/28:** The Treasurer gave a brief overview of the expected income and payments over the next year, when the Committee plans to spend about £800 more than its expected income, with increased expenditure on among others social events and workshops. The Committee recommended that the membership fee for 2027/28 remains unchanged at £17 for the 2027/28 financial year. Karen Busby proposed the acceptance of this recommendation, which was seconded by Graham Brown and accepted by the meeting.
- 7. Approval of the appointment of the Accounts Examiner:** The Executive Committee proposed the re-appointment of Roger Garlick as the Accounts Examiner for the 2026/27 Financial Year. This proposal was seconded by John Haigh and approved by the majority of members through a show of hands.

8. Election of officers and members of the Executive Committee: Nominations for election and re-election were as follows:

Officers:

Chairman: Ewan McGregor
Secretary: Kathryn Marsh
Treasurer: Hanlie Croeser

Committee Members:

Annette Hodgson (Membership Secretary)
Jenny Whitley (Newsletter)
Angela Bunting (IT & Website)
Maria Thompson (Social Subcommittee)
Hilary Harris (Social Subcommittee)
Donald Campbell

The committee's appointment was approved by the members through a show of hands.

9. Consideration of any notified motions: None received

10. Date of next AGM: 1 June 2027

The meeting was closed at 14:18