Charity Registration Number: 515733

Minutes of Tynedale u3a Committee Meeting
held on Thursday 28th February 2025 at Hexham Golf Club

Present: Barrie Mellars, Kate Stephenson, Michael Brockway, Ian Diggory, Lesley Parson, John Dark

No.		Action/ person
1	**Welcome and Apologies:** Apologies were received from Tim O'Brien and Ann Atkinson	
2	**Minutes of last meeting:** Minutes were accepted as a true record.	
3	**Matters arising:** There were no matters arising	
4	**Chair's Report**: Barrie announced that there were Proposers and Seconders for the new committee members. There was a Proposer for last year's minutes but as yet no seconder Barrie raised the issue of whether the event should be filmed. The consensus of those present was that if there was a good non-live audience for a regular monthly meeting it was likely there would also be demand for a filmed version of the AGM. The issue of people speaking from the audience rather than the stage was raised and Barrie felt that a swivel camera would be available. The treasurer Kate stated that the accounts would be available on the screen. There was some discussion about future AGM's. Whilst Colin will undoubtedly be amusing there was concern that some of the rest of the content would be a little tedious. It was suggested that Helen McGuigan, who's dealing with the Internet security presentations might be asked to speak next year. Copies of the 40 year history would be available at the AGM. It was likely that the summer party would at least be mentioned although no date has been fixed. It is very likely to be held at the racecourse and there was discussion about transport from the town centre, perhaps even renting a bus. The race-course people will give a presentation to the committee in the relatively near future. Discussions about the amount of financial support and the cost of the summer party were ongoing but it will likely cost £10 a person. The only other issue to be discussed at this stage was access to the Torch Centre. This seems to be an ongoing problem affecting a number of groups although there was a key member of staff about to return from holiday.	BM
5	**Business Secretary's Report:** This had been circulated	

6	**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer felt that there was not too much to say. The account now has more than £19,000, up for instance £80 in January. We now have an Asset Registry. There was some brief discussion about moving money from one account to another but this was felt pointless.	KS
7	**Events Secretary's Report:** There was no report as there is as yet no Events Secretary. It is hoped that Fran Fuller will be appointed at the AGM and will come to the next meeting. There was some discussion about another individual who'd also shown interest and it may be that we have two people doing this relatively arduous job. They would also bring different perspectives of what events were most attractive to the membership.	
8	**Group Liaison Secretary's Report:** Michael had three issues to discuss 1. The first was that Liz Barnes was looking to form a new group of cinema and theatre outings. This would be advertised in the newsletter but it was felt that this might well be an attractive group. There had been a previous unsuccessful attempt to set up a group interested in French cinema but the people who had shown an interest in that *could* also be interested in this new group. 2. Michael was hoping to set up a Convenors lunch at the Mart, and it was already being planned for Wednesday April 9th. The Mart had agreed a welcoming drink a buffet with a series of round tables so that convenience would allow convenors an opportunity to talk amongst themselves. This event will be mentioned at the AGM but in due course Michael to set up the event formally and circulate all the Convenors. 3. There had been a concern from the Convenor of Art Appreciation 3 that there were people coming along who will also in one of the other art appreciation groups. After some discussion it was concluded that members can join as many groups as they like but this has to be acceptable to the convenor Finally, Michael was thanked for his work as the Group Liaison Secretary and welcomed into his new post.	MB
9	**Newsletter Editor's Report:** The newsletter editor was not present and there was no report	
10	**Programme Secretary's Report:** Ian felt that the programme planning was going well with almost a complete repertoire for the rest of this year. There was some discussion about authors bringing books along for sale. This had certainly happened when Ian Jackson gave the talk but it should be remembered that the proceeds of his books go to a local charity	

11	**Membership Secretary's Report:** The steady flow of new members continues, with 10 in the five-week period since the last committee and 7 in February. One was an Associate. It was observed that this individual was stated as being a member of the Skiddaw U3A but his address was in Wolsingham. The conclusion was that we could not dictate where people attended their local U3A Three members have been spotted by Kate as not having paid, despite them being renewed. They have been successfully chased Coffee Morning We had one of these in November which was a great success, and it was felt that another fairly early in the New Year would have been valuable. It was suggested that the week of the 24th, and ideally Friday the 28th would be suitable. The membership secretary would approach Owen at the Abbey and if a room was available people would be invited and again it will be mentioned at the AGM. It was felt important that the new Group Liaison Secretary Steve Rozario must be at the coffee morning.	JD
12	**Beacon Administrator and Website Manager's Report:** Nothing to report	
13	**Regional and Third Age Trust**: It was noted that Wendy Dale had joined the regional events planning team	
14	**A.O.B:** There was some discussion from JD about the extent to which the U3A should support local community projects. The Hexham Arts Town had been described briefly by Clare Mwande at the monthly meeting last month and this generated quite a lot of interest. An item had gone in the newsletter. There was a secondary discussion about supporting the fund-raising efforts at the Forum Cinema something again which JD is involved in. Whilst there was concern about supporting other organisations particularly if they were charities this is not a charity. Barrie suggested that a piece on the Facebook page would be the most appropriate. Finally JD mentioned a book that had been described at the History Group and there was a feeling that this again would benefit from publicity. Again, it was suggested that the Facebook page would be an appropriate place to spread this information	JD
15	**Date and time for next meeting: March 27, 2025, 14.00**	

Minutes Approved **Dated: 27th March 2025**