<u>Saltash u3a Executive Committee Minutes 07.11.25</u>

<u>Meeting commenced</u>: 1358

<u>Present</u>: Amanda Smith (Chair), Barry Olver (Secretary), Peter Payne-Hanlon (Treasurer), Chris Masterson (CM1/Shadow Treasurer), Rose Olver (Membership), Rob Jenkins (Groups), Dee de Beaufort (Publicity), Ray Williams (Speakers), Jason Lamb (Webmaster), Rosemary Nankervis (Safeguarding), Trevor Earl (CM4), Sue Pym (Minutes).

<u>Apologies</u>: Ray offered his apologies for having to leave the meeting at 1440 and Sue also apologised for having to leave by 1520. Rose kindly volunteered to finish the minute taking for her.

<u>Minutes</u>: The minutes from 03.10.25 were accepted, proposed by Dee and seconded by Peter.

<u>Speakers</u>: Ray confirmed that the speaker Pamela Vass would be arriving at 1330 as she will be the first speaker to start off the meetings at 1400. She is using her own equipment and her fee including travel expenses is £72.25. She is a lively and experienced speaker, her talk 'Reason or Rebellion' tells the story of the Suffragette Movement.

<u>Chair</u>: 1. Chairs' forum – a variety of subjects were discussed: (1) Reflection on the National AGM where disappointment was expressed regarding a low turnout attributed to rising costs, location and inadequate publishing; (2) Membership, Growth and Recruitment which currently is not in line with National objectives, although some u3as are successful in recruiting a younger element. Suggestions forwarded included removing the reference to retired and semi-retired. (3) The meaning of 'Political', must avoid any form of political criticism and offering a possible platform for political views; (4) AI and the u3a, how it can help with a suggestion that 'Top Tips' for u3as would be useful; (5) The rising costs of Bank Charges and Charity Accounts felt by many u3as. Barry pointed out that as we have a Community Account we have no bank charges but this does mean we do not receive interest on that account. Peter mentioned that some banks are planning to remove the use of cheques sometime in the future and it was agreed that we do need to encourage the use of Direct Debits or BACS payments for the Annual subscriptions. **2. Showcase** – Amanda felt this had been very successful with a good buzz all around. The Mayor had taken lots of photos and these had appeared on the Saltash Community Page by the end of the afternoon. Rob had completed the risk assessment beforehand and ensured that the kitchen volunteers were aware of their roles. He also suggested that in future there needs to be a clearer allocation of Committee /member roles at both the set up and particularly the end of the day when there was too heavy a workload clearing tables and taking them downstairs for so few volunteers. Rose and Peter also requested that they have a relief period during the afternoon so that they can visit the Group Tables. **3. 20th Anniversary** – The date is 4th September 2026, a contract has been agreed ready to be signed with the China Fleet Club. A non-refundable deposit of 25% based on a minimum 60 covers totalling £306.75 is required on signing. This includes room hire, a buffet style Afternoon Tea and

access to the bar. It is hoped that many more will attend. The individual cost of £17.95 will be subsidised by the External Funding Account and the cost to members will be considerably less than this. Final price to be decided by the Committee in the new year and then conveyed to members. *Action : Amanda will sign the contract and Barry will invite the new National u3a Chief Executive Officer. **4. AGM** – The Financial Statements and last year's Minutes have been forwarded to members in the time scale required. Barry has received four apologies to date which he will forward to Amanda and Sue. Two members, Sue Matheron and Lynn Parker have put themselves forward to join the Committee. This will take Committee numbers to twelve with three co-opted vacancies. A Committee de-brief meeting was agreed for 1100 on Tuesday 18th November at the Tamar Nurseries Café.
5. Christmas Social – To be held on Thursday 11th December. Numbered tickets will be available on proof of membership from Thursday 13th November, Sue and Dee will sit in the foyer to record names against numbers and make note of specific requirements. These tickets will double as a raffle ticket and those wishing to partake must hand them in on arrival at the Social. Rose has made a cake for the raffle and Amanda and Rose will purchase goods. Rose, Dee and Sue offered to help Amanda with the cooking. *Action: Amanda to email members with all the information.

Secretary: **1. 'Saltash Together' Meeting** – 30 voluntary local organisations were represented and Amanda and Barry attended on our behalf. The meeting was hosted by James Jenkins and afterward Amanda spoke to Liz Hewer from MHA (Methodist Homes Association) about what Saltash u3a have to offer. We will now be featured in their quarterly magazine. The Wesley Church announced that that they would be re-starting their 'Warm Spaces' initiative offering lunches on Wednesdays and Thursdays 12-1330. As our monthly meetings are booked from 1300 on a Thursday Barry queried this but did not receive a satisfactory reply. *Action: Barry to write to the Wesley asking for clarification and at least it is hoped that we will receive a small discount for our inconvenience.
2. Remembrance Parade Wreath – The wreath has been purchased and Peter confirmed that he was available to attend the service and lay the wreath on our behalf. *Action: Barry will prepare our logo to be attached to the centre and deliver to Peter. **3. National AGM** – This was held on 15thOctober, two resolutions were passed unanimously. Head office will continue to press for an increase in membership which currently stands at 420,320. Income for 24/25 was £3,474,000.00, expenditure was £3,402,000.00 leaving a surplus of £72,000.00. It was announced that there will be an increase of 20p on the 'Third Age Matters' magazine due to increased postage costs. *Action: Barry will ask for clarification regarding whether this is per issue or annually as if the former it will have implications on our annual subscriptions. Once all details known we may have to call an extraordinary AGM to agree an increase for 26/27. **4. Our u3a Laptops** – 'Windows' will now stop supporting Windows 10 resulting in no security upgrades. An expert has looked at our current laptops and the two older ones cannot be upgraded so it was agreed to remove the hard drives and dispose of them. The newer one will be upgraded for £70 and used by Chris. This was unanimously agreed.

Treasurer: 1. Accounts – Payments totalling £1168.50 were made last month. As of 06.11.25 the Accounts stand as: **Main Account** - £5669.55 includes Group ring fenced monies of £940.58; **Social Account** - £2245.50; **External Funding Account** - £1238.57; **Business Premium Account** - £6091.59. It was agreed that Anne Kelly who had examined the accounts should be thanked and presented with a Miller and Carter meal voucher worth £50.

Groups: 1. New Groups - Rob will carry out risk assessments for the two new groups, Quizzers run by Rachel Lindford and Women's Talk with Lynn Parker.

Webmaster: 1. Fasthosts – Jason is still waiting for more information regarding the recent problems. **2. 'All About'**– Amanda will be the point of contact for content and Mike Corber has kindly agreed to continue assembling the magazine but is having problems with his computer. **3. Website** – The Committee was asked to look at the website and note any adjustments or updated required. Jason has been asked to take down the old pictures in the gallery.

Membership: Current numbers – There are now 270 fully paid-up members. The 26 outstanding have been informed that if they do not renew they will no longer be eligible to attend Groups, the Monthly Meetings or Christmas Social. *Action – Before the 13thNovember, Rose to provide Amanda with the names of those unpaid as they will not be eligible to vote at the AGM.

Publicity: No report.

Safeguarding: Portable Hearing Loop – Rosemary shared paperwork she had received from the RNID. As the Wesley Church already has a hearing loop it was agreed that for those wishing additional help this was a personal issue with which we could not offer help.

CM1: Chris now has full banking authorisation alongside Peter.

CM4: Trevor reported that the Table Tennis Group finances are now stable.

AOB: 1. Committee working calendar to be updated. **2.** A date for a Committee Lunch in January will be discussed at the next meeting. **3.** December Committee meeting now put back to original date.

Meeting closed: 1615

Next Meeting: 05.12.25, 1400 Shado Centre.

Approved:

Date: