Minutes of u3a Thornbury AGM 9th February 2026 (relating to year ending 30th September2025)
DRAFT

1. Members present:.

Committee: Roger Steer, Sue James, Pat Wells, Steve Wells, Helen Moszoro, Pat Light, Sue Bilson, Peter Rendell.

A total of 288 members were present in person, a further 12 devices (some of which may have been used by more than on member) were logged into the live stream on YouTube.

2. Apologies for absence

Received from over 215 members

3. Approval of Previous Minutes from AGM on 10th February 2025

These had been available to members on the u3a Website. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Sue James, seconded by Helen Moszoro and approved unanimously

4. Matters arising from the minutes

None

5. Chairman's Report

The report is based on the Trustees Report which is submitted to the Charity Commission was issued with the AGM documents

Roger highlighted some of the main events in the year.

- There have been successful Open Talks, two in the year February 2024/25 and another since the end of that Financial Year. Open visits are also planned for the year 2026/7
- Coffee mornings in Thornbury and Alvestson have proved successful and will continue
- There are currently about 77 interest groups within our organisation, including two new ones (a second Poetry group and our first Rummikub group).
- The Leaders lunch, given to recognise Group Leaders for their work through the year, was a success.
- Membership stands at around 1550 and remains very healthy.
- There is still a need for new committee members

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Steve Wells, seconded by Betty Cornes-Tomkins and approved unanimously

6 Treasurers Report on Financial Statement

The Treasurer's Report is contained within a separate document which is retained with the AGM papers. To summarise:

The finances remain in good shape and following an overall deficit of some £2,500 for the year to 30/09/25, total reserves (including Groups) now stand at around £63,000. The £2,500 deficit was due to a £5,000 spend for the year on Group Equipment, offset by £2,500 commission received from Riviera Travel in respect of member's holidays. The overall reserves were reduced to just over £25,000 which is still well in excess of the Reserves Policy requirement. This is being partially addressed after the year end by again offering updated equipment to all Groups as needed and holding more Open Talks.
No comments were offered from the floor.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Loraine Grove, seconded by Pat Light and approved unanimously

7. Election of Committee

Four new members were proposed by Robin Gupta and seconded by Pat Light. Dan Freeman as Chairman, Chris Bolton as Vice Chairman, Martin Farrimond as Beacon Administrator and Rita Goss as a Committee member. All were elected unopposed
The other remaining members of the committee (Pat Wells, Secretary, Peter Rendell, Webmaster, Pat Light, Membership Secretary, Sue Bilson, Treasurer, Helen Moszoro (Groups Coordinator), had agreed to continue and were elected unopposed.

8. Appointment of Examiner of accounts

The Independent Examiner, Ian Gross, was thanked for his thorough and thoughtful attention to this time consuming task, Prior to the AGM, Ian had again offered to continue in the role for the coming year and the Committee had agreed unanimously at their most recent meeting to accept this offer, , accordingly, Ian Gross was duly appointed as Independent Examiner for the financial year to 30/09/25.

9.Motion from the Committee

Pat Wells presented the Motion "That Section 10 of the Thornbury u3a constitution dated July 2020 be deleted and replaced by Section 6 of the Third Age Trust Model constitution dated February 2021"

This change brings Thornbury u3a into line with other u3as and the requirements of the Charities Commission.

The Motion was proposed by Pat Wells and Seconded by Doug Fowler The Motion was approved unanimously

10. Motions from the Floor

There were no motions from the floor

11. Closing remarks

Roger Steer, as resigning Chair thanked the committee for their support during his term of office. He also noted that, until his untimely death in 2025, Paige Warr (Vice Chair) had been a kind and willing help to the committee members, especially to the Chair. He also thanked the St Mary's church team for their support and the catering Group for organising the refreshments.

The AGM next year will be on Monday 15th February 2027.

The chairman formally closed the AGM at 11.10

11. Any Other Business

The Chairman was asked whether u3a will be supporting the bid by Thornbury Town Council fort the "Town of Culture" award. Dan Freeman reported that u3a have been in conversation with the Mayor about the potential for u3a involvement in the bid.

A member asked for support for a petition about bus routes for Thornbury.

A member reminded Group Leaders that the Cosham Hall is now available for bookings.

Pat Wells

14th February 2027