Minutes of Thornbury u3a Committee Meeting held at 14:00 on Thursday 14th May 2026 at Christ the King church

1. Present:

Dan Freeman, Pat Light, Sue Bilson, Rita Goss, Helen Mozoro, Martin Farrimond, Peter Rendell.

2. Apologies for Absence

Pat Wells, Sue Bilson, Lorraine Grove, Sue James

3. Approval of Minutes of last Committee meeting 5th March 20206 2026 2025

These were approved unanimously and have been placed on Dropbox.

4. Actions from the Previous Meeting

i Members continue to seek volunteers as ordinary members of the committee. Helen has identified members who have been on various committees previously and are willing to help out on specific one off events.

ii Leaders Lunch. Helen has booked Olveston for 25th September. The deposit has been paid. Same format as last year, 'Butties ' de-luxe finger buffet. Helen will talk to contact regarding cakes and Wine group.

iii Tai-Chi 90 members signed up for it. Helen has arranged 4 taster sessions. The first 2 have taken place this morning. 13 members attended the first one and 17 the second. Treasurers have come forward for each group. Payment would be once a month. Venues problematic, Alveston , Oldbury may be considered.

iv Dan and Pat need to meet to discuss what went well and what needs to be changed for next years AGM. We have discussed this previously at our meeting.

v Checklists - committee members need to comment on initial suggestions. Martin has started to put together a guide on how to audit using our database.This is still ongoing.

The committee felt that Helen needed help and Rita will now be assisting her going forward with emails etc.

Newsletter Peter will now contact group leaders rather than Helen reminding them of deadline to contribute to newsletter.

Dan to send out email to members reminding them of our coffee meeting in Alveston.

5. General Items

Publicity

A discussion was held around leaflets, a stall at Love Thornbury events. Costings are being sought from printers and cost of u3a gazebo.

Feedback on recent events.

London Trip went well. 49 on coach so 4 no shows. General consensus was it went really well. Next one provisionally on 15 October. This will be South Kensington so members can visit museums or spend day at leisure in London
The open talk on May 11th was on Poisons by Dr Carolyn Morton. 174 came along and lots of positive feedback. Helen questioning cost of venue as there seems to be no clear price plan. Possible summer and winter cost? The next talk will hopefully be on July 6th. This is a talk by Mandy Dela Mare and is on 'Living with Thalidomide'. The committee was also asked to consider screening a film 'National Emergency Briefing' which features environmentalists, economists. The Armstrong will be screening it but we may wish to arrange a separate screening for our members possibly in October. The link which gives more information is below.
https://share.google/e9DWf0DsxgVz4hMXX

Town of Culture. We have helped with council submission and have not heard back yet.

High St Planters. We will be supporting Thornbury in Bloom again this year by sponsoring a planter directly outside #Coffee1 so a prime spot for us with lots of footfall. We need to discuss putting our logo on side of it.

Thornbury u3a 30th Anniversary celebrations in 2027. Helen suggested a summer party in the Chantry. Hiring the whole of the ground floor and garden. Lots of ideas were discussed including a free glass of fizz and food. We could have live music, perhaps Panache steel band, etc. The party would be held in the summer before school holidays and grandparents duties begin. It would be on a Saturday. A sub-committee needs to be formed.
A date needs to be arranged with Ian Gross to discuss constitutional events.

6 Reports

i. Treasurer's Report:

Report accepted and placed on DropBox.

ii. Membership Report:

Report accepted and placed on DropBox

iii. Group Co-ordinator Report:

Report accepted and placed on DropBox

iv. Beacon Report:

it was agreed that only the Beacon administrator could delete or save members to avoid group leaders from accidentally deleting members in their group. Report accepted and placed on Dropbox Report accepted and placed on DropBox

v. Webmaster Report:

Could an update be added on bounce-back emails. Report accepted and placed on Dropbox.

vi. Equipment Report

The Laptop and table-tennis table have been purchased and both groups are putting their equipment to good use.

vii. Health & Safety Report:

Nothing to report

viii. Armstrong update

Rita has signed up for newsletter. Cosham Hall has opened. Looks very good and is busy. 1.4 million still needed for the Lansdowne Hall to be refurbished.

7 AOB

Newsletter- Peter explained that it is a large document to send out as an attachment to an email, so suggested that we send it out as a link. It is already a link on the website. We will monitor the change to see if members are ok in accessing it.

The next coffee morning in Thornbury will be on 11 July.

A brief discussion was held around future groups- Martin suggested home brew group and the chair said that Monmouth u3a have a pub evening for members to meet in a social setting. Helen said YO-YO do that as well once a month.

Dan Freeman

15th May 2026

Next Meeting 2nd July 2026

NB Further committee meetings will be planned for the first Thursday of alternate months unless other issues intervene