BUCKINGHAM & DISTRICT U3A

MINUTES

For the 302nd Committee Meeting held at 10:00 am on Monday 21st September 2026 via Zoom

Present: Howard Mordue (Chair), Mark Owen (Vice Chair), Katerina Owen and Arthur Newman (Group Liaison Officers), Andrew Richardson (Treasurer), Sheryl Hargreaves (Newsletter Editor), Steve Warnes (Membership Secretary), Steve Meakin (Technical Support), Ann Elliot (Speaker Secretary), Dorothy Morgan (Web Master), Heather Haydock (Secretary), Angela Macpherson (Observer) (12)

Apologies: None

1. Welcome

HM welcomed everyone to the meeting and we introduced ourselves to AM, who will be joining the Group Liaison Officer team.

2. Minutes of the previous Meeting held on Monday 20th July 2026

The minutes were approved with one minor change to correct the date of the previous meeting.

3. Matters arising

It was agreed that HH would send a message to all members inviting them to observe the October committee meeting; the Zoom link will only be sent to those who express interest. HH will then invite members to put themselves forward for the Committee with the AGM announcement in late October.

4. Treasurer's Report

AR reported that the bank accounts are all in order and there is sufficient money in the account. AR will find someone to check the accounts once completed. A new assistant has offered to help; she has experience of running an office.

5. Newsletter Editor's Report

SH reported that she has requested content for the October newsletter. Four

articles have been submitted so far. She asked for photos of the Summer Social to include.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

SW provided a written report. The renewal process is ongoing with around 400 people renewed so far.

7. Speaker Secretary's Report

AE provided a written report recently. She is preparing for the Christmas Social. This week's open meeting is all set. We are still looking for a speaker or music for the AGM, if possible. We agreed that proxy voting would be allowed at the AGM as otherwise we may struggle for the 5% of members needed to vote on trustee appointments.

8. Group Liaison Officers' Report

KO reported that a Group Leaders meeting will be held at 10.00 on Monday 12th October. AN reported that groups are running smoothly, with some evolution of new groups opening and others closing. Social History is an interesting new group. Line Dancing has closed as there is no-one to lead the dancing. The Handbells Group needs new members and will advertise at the open meeting.

We discussed a situation where a group leader is worried that one of the group members is unfit to undertake the group activity. Some groups ask members to confirm they are fit and able to join; others do not. This will be discussed further at the Group Leaders meeting.

Lace Hill Community Centre is asking for a deposit for a room booking. The GLOs will liaise with the new administrator there.

9. Webmaster's Report

DM will initiate the self sign-up for the AGM on Simple, and send the link to HH. She will also set up Open Meetings as self sign-up. She recently issued the updated groups list. She reported that she has been keeping the website up to date, checking and deleting spam.

10. Technical Support Report

SM reported that someone who is profoundly deaf has complained about the system at the Community Centre, which provides a Hearing Loop only. A system called Auracast would allow multiple people to listen at once. This might be useful for small groups as well as open meetings. It was unanimously agreed to purchase an Auracast device.

The sound and lighting in the Community Centre is not ideal but it remains

the best venue for meetings and socials because it is central and accessible. It may be possible to borrow some mood lighting for the Christmas Social.

11. Any Other Business

We agreed to retain the current constitution including the requirement for trustees to be re-elected each year.

Next Committee Meeting (303rd) to be held via Zoom on Monday 26th October at 11.00.

Charity No. 1177534