

MINUTES OF FOUR BORDER ABBEYS U3A COMMITTEE MEETING, ON 15 MAY 2026
HELD AT ABBEY ROW, KELSO

PRESENT: RS/MB/AG/TB/LM

APOLOGIES: JA/LH

1. WELCOME: RS welcomed everybody to the meeting.
2. MINUTES OF 13th APRIL 2026: LM noted that the Group Leader for the Traditional Music group was aware that, whilst advertising the group locally, that any new recruits should join the U3A – amendment to Minutes needed to indicate this (**LH**). The Minutes were then approved.
3. MATTERS ARISING: As noted above.
4. CHAIR'S REPORT: RS had had a meeting with Katy Ayrton about creation of SharePoint. All documentation would be stored there. It is not an overlap with Beacon. Committee aware that there should not be duplication across systems. **RS** to arrange a further shorter meeting with Katy (possibly in June) and it was agreed the Committee needed another meeting with her too.
5. TREASURER'S REPORT: **RS** to discuss points 7 & 8 of JA's emailed report with JA and also request that a monthly management account be available to all Committee members at each meeting in future, as had happened in the past.
6. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: the current number is 474. Membership Renewal will be discussed under AOB.
7. GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT: The feedback from the Group Leaders meeting was good. The draft GL guidelines were accepted. RS noted that the guidelines were for guidance – they are not prescriptive. All were grateful for the work produced by the Walking Group. RS to share the guidelines with the main U3A. **RS** to work on a guideline for all GLs regarding insurance cover and liaise with **LM** on this before it is issued. A thank you summer tea will take place sometime in August, kindly hosted again by **LH**. A budget of £200 agreed. **LM** and **AG** to check financing of this and will also check if CafeU can cater for the event as last year.
8. SECRETARY'S REPORT: LH absent but the Committee thanked her for arranging all future Committee meeting dates.
9. NEXT OPEN MEETINGS: The talk about red squirrels on 7th May had gone very well.
4th June – social meeting. AG and LM have organised a lot of this already. Entertainments will be a quiz, poetry reading, a free raffle, the Singing for Fun will lead all with two shanty songs. RS will be absent but Jerry Strachan will compere.
Suggestions for future speakers/topics: RNID, Rosemary Readway – author, Tweed River.
3rd Sept – this is a welcome back meeting. Suggested that some Group Leaders could talk about their groups.
1st October – Genealogy
Suggestions for future speakers/topics: RNID; Rosemary Readway – author; River Tweed.
10. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
2026 - 21 Aug; 25 Sept; 23 Oct; 27 Nov; Dec – lunch?

2027 - 22 Jan; 26 Feb; 19/26 (Good Friday) Mar; 23 Apr; 28 May

11. AOB: - Noted that the Book Club had agreed to sort through the books and take well used ones to a charity shop.

Quiz and Chips night – agreed this is no longer required as there are quizzes in the June and December social meetings.

Website – only one person has website access and editing rights and they are currently ill.

Access for updates is a very important matter that needs to be resolved. It is especially important for membership renewal. All agreed with the revised membership renewal form. AG had worked hard to get all the necessary information on the form and space was tight.

Potential entertainment for the Xmas social – suggestions Yetholm Choir, Village Voices, Jedforest Band, U3 Band.

Next Committee meeting: 21st August.