MINUTES OF FOUR BORDER ABBEYS U3A COMMITTEE MEETING, 0N 29TH SEPTEMBER 2026 HELD AT ABBEY ROW, KELSO

PRESENT: RS/MB/AG/TB/LM

APOLOGIES: LH

1. WELCOME: RS welcomed everybody to the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF 21ST AUGUST 2026: Noted that RA should read as RS. The Minutes were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING: RS needs a contact for Sprouston archaeological dig for a potential speaker (AG sent him a useful link). Xmas meeting – RS to speak to Alison Fraser of Yetholm Choir for possible choir members to sing at the event. The website is running OK and being updated – noted that RS is back up for Gillian and knows how to update and amend items on the website. Group Leaders tea – it was a very successful event but less food is required in future.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT (including RS introductory remarks): Forthcoming general meeting speakers are arranged to April 2027. The September meeting was well attended and members found it helpful. Some seemed unaware of the existence of some of the groups. Perhaps some GLs can speak at further open meetings. A Resolution for the U3A Trust AGM on 14th October was discussed and will be discussed further at an Extraordinary Meeting (scheduled for 2nd October). RS to share documentation on the matter with Committee members beforehand.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT: There is a £6,000 holding in the bank account (we need to maintain 2 bank accounts) and £554 in Paypal account. The latter is inaccessible as we have not provided a 'letter of authorisation' to change the mandate. We are set up to go to the new Paypal operation. AG signed a letter of authorisation on u3a letter-headed paper which RS will send on to Paypal. It was noted that the current Trustees on the Scottish Charities Register are RS/LH/MB and AG. RS to brief the new Treasurer when the Paypal issue is finally resolved.

6. GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT: New groups and members joining groups are positive news. Noted that the Traditional Music group wish their name to be renamed Accoustic Music. RS to ask members at the next open meeting to be patient when they are waiting to hear back from Group Leaders in response to queries about joining etc.

7. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: There are currently 481 members with 105 outstanding renewals. 376 members have successfully renewed their membership. AG has issued a reminder email to those with outstanding membership renewals.

8. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

   Oct – Jo Bailey – about genealogy and her book

   Nov – Speaker from National Galleries about restoration work

   Dec – Xmas social event

   Jan – (hopefully a speaker from the Sprouston archaeological dig - RS)

   Feb – A Professor to speak about Evolution

Mar – AGM and Garden Question Time (Floors gardeners confirmed) plus plant sale

Apr – tbc

May – tbc

Jun – summer social event

9. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
   2026 - 23 Oct; 27 Nov (this date may be changed); 16 Dec – Cttee Xmas lunch + meeting
   2027 - 22 Jan; 26 Feb; 19/26 (Good Friday) Mar; 23 Apr; 28 May (2027 meeting dates to be confirmed)

10. AOB: - None

Date of next Committee meeting – 23rd October 2026.