



Hoylake, West Kirby & District U3A
Registered Charity no. 1164889
18th Annual General Meeting
Hope Church on Wednesday 5th August 2026 starting at 2.00pm

1. Chairman's opening remarks
2. Apologies received
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Special General meeting & Annual General Meeting held on the 6th August 2025
4. Approval of the Chairman's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Approval of the accounts for the year 31st March 2025 to 31st March 2026
7. Election of Committee Members:

The following member has been duly proposed and seconded to serve on the Committee, and seeks your approval to be appointed. - Catherine Ditchfield.

The following members will continue to serve: Terry McKeown (Chairman) Liz Webster (Treasurer) Peter Wright (Secretary) Jules Lee (Vice Chairman) Mike Waring, Helen Crelley, Carol Bradstreet, Wendy McKeown, Barry Holland, Jean Graham, Ann Thorne, Jonathan Thornton, Marjorie Hargreaves

8. Close of meeting

Minutes of the Special General Meeting and the 17th Annual General Meeting of Hoylake, West Kirby and District u3a held at Hope Church, Hoylake on 6th August 2025 at 2.15pm

In attendance: Officers; Terry McKeown (Chair), Liz Webster (Treasurer), Barbara Kirby (Secretary), Jules Lee (Vice Chair), Mike Waring (Vice Chair)

Committee members: Jean Graham, Jonathan Thornton, Helen Crelley, Wendy McKeown, Marjorie Hargreaves, Barry Holland.

Special General Meeting

1. Chairman Terry McKeown opened the meeting with a welcome to all attending, briefly outlining the order of the official part of the programme and explaining the reason for holding an SGM to precede the AGM. This was to seek members' approval for an amendment to our Constitution if no volunteers come forward to fill essential Committee roles when current Committee members reach the end of their terms of service.

Resolution:

It is proposed that the Constitution of Hoylake, West Kirby & District u3a (adopted 3.12.2015) section 7. Executive Committee & Officers Paragraph VI be amended to include:

"If insufficient nominations are received to fill vacancies for Officers and/or Committee members, a majority decision can be taken by the Committee to ask retiring officer(s)/member(s) to remain in the post until the next AGM".

Acceptance of the resolution was proposed by Hilary Alcock and seconded by Margaret Gascoigne and put to the vote. It was unanimously approved by the members.

Annual General Meeting

2. Apologies for absence received from: Carol Bradstreet, Norma Canavelli, Ron Burke, Sue Shaw, Eleanor Gibbs, Sheila Zuydam, Paul Marriott, Eddie Woodhouse, Pamela Woodhouse, Pat Nixon, Jenny Whittingham-Jones, Linda Walker, Felicity David, Therese Hickland, Ann Thorne.

3. The minutes of the 16th Annual General Meeting had been circulated to all members. Approval for these was proposed by Felicity Davies and seconded by Jo Tibble and put to the vote. They were approved unanimously.

4. Chairman's Report: The Chair opened his remarks with thanks to Linda Trim, the previous Chair, for the commitment and hard work she had given to the role. He referred to our continuing growth in membership which currently stands at just under 400 members. He recognised that the dedication of Committee members, Group leaders and volunteers were pivotal factors in contributing to our success. The quality of speakers at our monthly meetings, the growing number of Interest Groups and the varied social events continued to meet the needs of our present members and attracted new members. Terry concluded his report by thanking everyone who gave of their time to our u3a and in particular he thanked all who had supported his time as interim Chair.

Approval of the Chair's Report was proposed by Margaret Gascoigne and second by Fioretta Evans and put to the vote, It was unanimously approved.

5. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer had submitted a detailed Financial Statement for the year ending 31/03/2025. The accounts have been independently reviewed by Neil Jones, the Treasurer of Heswall u3a. Liz said our healthy reserves position had enabled us to reduce the membership fee from £25 to £20, to give financial support to groups, and to fund meetings. As there were no questions from members regarding the Financial Statement approval of the Treasurer's Report was proposed by Jonathan Thornton and seconded by Jo Tibble. It was unanimously approved.

6. Election of Officers and Committee members:

The following members had been proposed and seconded to serve on, or be re-appointed to, the Committee:

Terry McKeown as Chairman,

Liz Webster for her second term of office as Treasurer,

Barry Holland as Committee member,

Peter Wright as Committee member,

Helen Crelley and Ann Thorne for their second term as Committee members.

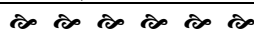
Jules Lee and Mike Waring to continue in their current roles.

Approval of the nominations was proposed by Kate Jones and seconded by Jean Bishop. This was put to the vote and unanimously approved.

7. Chairman's closing remarks:

Before closing the meeting, Terry asked for a show of appreciation from the members present for the hard work by all our committee members, Group leaders and helpers who voluntarily and unstintingly give of their time. He then presented the retiring Secretary, Barbara Kirby, with a farewell gift which reflected her many years of service as a committee member.

There being no other business, the formal meetings closed at 2.40pm.



Chairman's Annual Report

As your elected chair it gives me great pleasure to present the report for the 18th AGM of Hoylake, West Kirby & District U3A.

Our membership continues to thrive with membership at the end of June standing at 443, which is a 12% increase on the previous year. This result, is as a consequence of the hard work and dedication of your Membership Team (Mike, Jean, Ann, Helen, Catherine), Committee, Group Leaders and our band of special volunteers; they are the catalyst of our u3a. We have gained many new members this year and I do hope that you all feel welcome and are joining in with our group and social activities.

Special thanks should be given to Peter Wright who has stepped into the role of Secretary and is making an excellent job of his new position. Peter has the ability to provide clarity in his minutes, when discussions have become protracted.

We are extremely fortunate to have Liz as our treasurer she adopts an analytical approach to keeping track of u3a monies and provides exemplary reports for monthly committee meetings.

The Committee have revised and updated our Constitution to ensure it is fully compliant with criteria set by the Charity commission.

Our Group Leaders work tirelessly promoting events and activities to differentiate and meet our member's needs – we have approximately 49 Interest groups at present, with waiting lists to start new groups.

Helen and her team attempt to create new interest groups as the result of feedback from members, however some obstacles preventing new Interest Groups starting up is due to members registering their interest for a new group, but not responding to emails inviting them to start-up meetings; then there is also the reluctance of many members to be a contact person for a Group. We recently hosted a special event at the Grange to show our appreciation of the work and diligence demonstrated by our group leaders and contact people – sincere thanks were expressed by the Chair on behalf of the committee and the group members.

The Social Team have been extremely active, in organising visit to Conwy Castles, Llangollen canal boat tour, Boundary Mill and Cromford Mill (a different kind of mill!). Carol and Wendy are preparing for our annual Christmas Lunch at The Royal Liverpool Golf Club. We had a marvellous meal last year and I would like to thank all members of the team for making us feel very welcome and special.

The monthly Speaker meetings continue to be extremely popular and forms the core of our u3a ethos of lifelong learning – and provides some fun, light entertainment and refreshments; who could forget the memorable performance in November 2025 of Shaun Higgins portraying The World of Wilfred Owen. A special thanks must be recorded to Jules (Speaker Secretary) for her relentless pursuit of excellence in booking speakers.

The Newsletter is prepared by Marjorie and is a cross between the Eagle and the Bunty, the layout and presentation is exceptional – a very special thank you to Marjorie for her hard work and dedication in bring us the u3a news.

Many of our members receive notice of our u3a meetings via u3a Website – the wizard of sitebuidier is Jonathon (Website & Publicity).

Training and updating our skills and knowledge of Beacon is directly attributed to Mike Waring, our oracle of knowledge on ICT. Mike is present at the entrance desk with Barry when you log in.

It has been a pleasure to represent our u3a at Cluster Group meetings and I have attended a number of u3a training activities to meet the changing needs of my role.

Our u3a cannot exist without Trustees, Committee and volunteers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them on your behalf for all the hard work, dedication and commitment they have demonstrated to create our very special and distinctive u3a and the support they have given to me this year.

The heart of the u3a is our members, I would like to personally thank you for your involvement in the life of the u3a, I hope the guiding principle of learn, laugh and live continue to be with you.

Terry

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 March 2026

Our Income was £25,784 and expenditure was £26,769 leading to a deficit for the year of £985. Our closing reserves were £21,810.

Our aim as a committee is to have sufficient reserves to ensure that our running costs are met and to use any further reserves to improve the U3A for all our members. Our strong reserves position allowed us to offer a discounted membership fee last year. The committee will continue to monitor reserves and ensure they are used to further improve our u3a.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr Neil Jones (treasurer for the Heswall u3a group) who has independently reviewed these accounts.

If you have any queries regarding these accounts, please do not hesitate to contact me at treasurer@hwkdu3a.org

Elizabeth Webster ACA, CTA

Hoylake & West Kirby District U3A
Treasurer's Report
31/03/2026

	12m 31/03/2026	12m 31/03/2025
Income		
Subs	£ 7,405	£ 8,358
Third age magazine	£ 275	£ 246
Gift aid	£ 1,496	£ 2,988
Books & other	£ 378	£ 124
TOTAL CORE	£ 9,554	£ 11,716
Social group	£ 10,230	£ 6,684
Garden group	£ 6,000	£ 5,387
Total	£ 25,784	£ 23,788
Expenditure		
Speaker meeting costs	£ 6,675	£ 5,028
Newsletter	£ 548	£ 425
TAT capitalisation	£ 1,460	£ 1,320
TAT magazine	£ 334	£ 216
Committee Costs	£ 450	£ 591
Zoom/email	£ 381	£ 275
Beacon	£ 365	£ 330
Other meetings	£ 758	£ 225
Equipment	£ -	£ 399
Sum Up Fees	£ 284	£ 223
Group costs	£ 174	£ 1,101
Other	£ 126	£ 146
TOTAL CORE	£ 11,554	£ 10,280
Social	£ 8,905	£ 7,201
Garden group	£ 6,311	£ 5,368
Total	£ 26,769	£ 22,850
Net Income / (Expenditure)	£ (985)	£ 938
Balance Sheet		
Bank	£ 21,699	£ 22,704
Cash	£ 111	£ 91
Total	£ 21,810	£ 22,795
Reserves		
Core Reserves	£ 18,188	£ 20,188
Social Reserves	£ 2,432	£ 1,107
Garden Reserves	£ 1,190	£ 1,501
Total	£ 21,810	£ 22,795

Under Charity Law the Trustees are responsible for agreeing the accounts. I have completed my examination, which is a spot check of items and confirm no material matters have come to my attention.

Examiner Neil Jones
02/06/2026