

## Bu3a Committee Meeting 22 January 2026, 10am

Friends Meeting House, Bakewell

### Minutes

Present: Peter Holt – Chair, Ainslie Kelly, Sam Lewis, Glenys Moore, Richard Tucker

1. **Apologies** – Kath Hopkins, Bernard McMahon, David Thornton.  
Absent: Phil Clark, Pam Walker
2. **Minutes of meeting on 27 November 2025.** In item 3d, ‘Martins’ was corrected to ‘Marches’. They were then approved as a correct record.
3. **Matters arising:**

#### 3a. Roles, powers and access to Beacon of group leaders

It had not been possible to finalise this matter. It was vital that officers, especially those essential to the efficiency of the database, respond in reasonable time. To this end Peter said he would seek to meet with Phil Clarke. Ainslie offered to ‘shadow’ Phil if necessary, with the agreement of Kath, who had already offered.

ACTION PETER to contact Phil

Given the current preoccupations of Phil and David T, Richard was asked to update the ‘Current BU3A Role Assignments List’ in Phil’s paper, circulate it to committee and get it put on the website.

ACTION RICHARD

Group leaders should be able to add and delete members’ names from their group list on Beacon, but not the full list. It was commented that this was probably technically possible, but many group leaders had not taken up Beacon training, and so had not the skills to do so. Group leaders should check that members’ subs had been paid, by about end-February.

3b. **Draft Financial policy [Kath/ David H]** This was still in abeyance.

#### 3c. Theatre Group report.

Ainslie commented that the group had made an excellent start – echoed by Glenys. Hearty thanks were recorded to Lindsay for her labours.

#### 4. Treasurer’s Report.

The accounts had been circulated with the agenda. Peter had gone through the accounts with Kath and spoke to them in Kath’s absence. He was pleased that the branch had had statements from five groups with their own bank accounts, including Meg Laird, the Gardens and Bridge groups - this was progress.

Kath had found the mandate for Union Trust Bank which would give us access to the savings account; the mandate had been signed by Richard, Glenys and Peter.

Cooking by Men: The advance made from central funds to Ainslie to cover Actihire's demand for advance rental payment was discussed. There was a balance to settle, from CBM funds: either £500 or £920.52. Actihire now accepted monthly Standing Orders, but Ainslie needed to check details. S/o's should come from central funds.

ACTION AINSLIE on balance and s/o's, WITH KATH

## 5. Membership Report

David T had sent Peter an email about the ill health of their son Christopher, which was requiring David and Jane to spend alternate weeks in London. For this reason David had not submitted a full report but had been able to keep up the Membership Secretary's duties of welcoming new members – ten this year - and giving them information about the branch. For pastoral and reputational reasons a real-time substitute or back-up to welcome new members was desirable. (None was appointed).

For similar reasons the welcome pack was still outstanding (with some discussion of whether this needed to be a hard copy). Ainslie offered to draft a note with u3a activities to be sent to new members/ enquirers.

ACTION AINSLIE

## 6. Group Report

Ainslie reported that 'all was very quiet'. The Bridge Group was concerned with declining membership, but they still had £1900 in the bank. Glenys suggested a Bridge Group article in the next Gazette, which was almost ready.

## 7. Membership and Engagement Action Group

Peter reported that this was in limbo, with David unavailable and Bernard away.

7a. Proposal to invite **Phil Mulligan**, CEO, PDNPA, to address a meeting on global climate and nature crisis, or locally focused on Peak Park, role of PDNPA, our contribution - update

Sam reported that he had asked Bernard for possible dates but not had a reply. The venue would probably be the Medway Centre as FMH was not big enough.

7b. Day Conference 'Vision for People and Nature', Bakewell Agricultural Centre, 24 January 2026. Details of this had been circulated at short notice to interested group leaders. Ian Johnstone, an active member of Bu3a and Baslow Environment Group, was attending and had asked if he could represent Bu3a. Bu3a Environment Group was happy with this offer, which was gratefully accepted. Ian had written a book on Baslow's ecology and an article would appear in the Gazette.

## 8. Any Other Business

- a. Sam wanted to arrange a joint meeting of the Environment Group and Bakewell Climate Action Group about retrofitting properties, window and roof insulation, heat sources etc.

ACTION SAM

- b. Sam also wanted to arrange a talk about stimulation of the nerves to treat various conditions such as depression and arthritis. He had no speaker in mind; it was agreed a local GP or retired GP [such as Nigel Bartlett] would be able to advise, with ultimately a Meg Laird talk in the autumn.

ACTION SAM to pursue

- c. Glenys pointed out that Alisoun Cunningham was stepping down from the Meg Laird social team. It was agreed that Peter should send her a thank you note.

ACTION PETER

- 9. **Date of next meeting: Annual General Meeting, 26 March, 10am.** Notice of the meeting and nomination and proxy forms needed to appear in the February Gazette, which was going to the printer on Monday 26th. Glenys agreed to add a sheet (= 4 pages) to carry these. Richard was asked to update the notice and forms from the February 2025 Gazette, and to check the terms of office of committee members.

ACTION RICHARD

The AGM 'attraction' was John Hopkins speaking about his time as a school inspector in Dubai.

Richard Tucker

2/2/2026