

August Committee Meeting Minutes

Corran Halls, 2 September 2025

Present: Sue Pollard, Interim Chair; Graham Cameron, Vice Chair and Publicity; Richard Bosworth, Treasurer; Julia Bateson, Secretary; Neil Sutherland, Membership and Beacon; David Hughes, Groups Coordinator; Mary Freer, Speakers and Lunches Coordinator; Charles Woods

	<p>The meeting commenced at 12:15</p>	
1/25	<p>Welcome and Interim Chair’s Comments Sue welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for making time to attend after a busy morning at the open day and AGM.</p>	
2/25	<p>Introduction of Committee members and Apologies for absence There were no apologies, all committee members were known to each other.</p>	
3/25	<p>Minutes of the last meeting The minutes of the meeting of 5 August had been circulated and were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.</p>	
4/25	<p>Urgent Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Succession Following the change of membership of the Committee at the AGM, there were now some roles to be filled, and Committee members volunteered to take the following responsibilities: Groups Coordinator – David Hughes Speakers (liaison and identification) – Mary Freer Publicity – Graham Cameron (Oban Times & Facebook) Beacon – Neil Sutherland for the time being Website – to be confirmed <p>Charles is to have a ‘roving portfolio’ taking on tasks/issues as they arise.</p> <p><i>Have some speakers already been found for this year?</i> There are already speakers booked for October and November, and the previous coordinator had also identified two for 2026.</p> <p>Mary advised that she has already identified another speaker, and it was suggested that the Head of the Luing Slate Quarry revival project might be a further person to approach for later in 2026.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graham was congratulated on the Oban Times article for the open morning. There was a discussion regarding the use of Facebook to find new members. • Membership report – a report had been circulated and Neil advised that there are currently 179 members plus those who have signed up today (about 5). 	Mary

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups report from Joy had been circulated before she retired at the AGM. Ukulele has a new Group convener. Two new groups were started at the Open Day, Astronomy and Drama. The Creative writing group is being re-structured, and a venue has been offered for meetings. • Christmas Dinner – Mary reported that she had been in contact with three venues but that there were no prices or menus yet available. She hopes to progress this in the next couple of weeks. It was agreed that a large room for a ‘sit down’ meal was preferable to a ‘buffet’ style function. Last year there were 63 people who attended, about half of whom were paying guests, the rest were either committee members or Groups convenors. The cost per head had been about £23 as a guide for arrangements for this year. <p>It was agreed that a discussion regarding offering free/subsidised lunch for convenors and committee should be taken at the next meeting. It was recognised that people giving of their time were deserving of thanks.</p>	Julia Agenda
5/25	<p>Election of Vice Chair for the Third Age Trust Sue spoke to the meeting. She advised regarding the background of the two candidates. The Committee unanimously agreed that her suggestion that the Oban u3a support should go to Shiela Crawley, should be followed.</p> <p>It is not clear how the voting will take place with the Change of Chair of Oban u3a, and it was agreed that Sue should take this forward with the retiring Chair.</p> <p>AOCB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Possible creation of a mailing box for all committee members to ensure all are included – this should be possible for all within your own email system. Graham will set up a system. 2. Changing of Officers details on the TAT portal – Julia to do in a few days 3. Change access to Beacon, Dropbox & email accounts and amend information on the website – Sue in due course. 4. Change access to ‘speakers obanu3a’ email account to Mary from Rosemary – Mary to liaise with Sue about this. Sue will also take over the Chair email from Penny. <p>Sue also reminded us that we will need a new Vice Chair in the fullness of time.</p>	Sue Graham Julia Sue Sue
6/25	<p>Date of next meeting 7 October 2025, 009:15, Corran Halls</p>	