

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Javea

Minutes of the monthly meeting

Held on February 23rd 2011

At the Parador hotel Javea

PRESENT:	Vice-President:	Paul Wessendorff
	Treasurer:	Geoff Milnes
	Secretary:	Jeni Oldfield
	Membership Secretary:	Wilma Stevenson
	Groups Coordinator:	John Bellinger-Smith
	Communications Officer:	Carol Pilgram

APOLOGIES: President Shirley King

Paul opened the meeting by welcoming all new members

The minutes from the last meeting having already been circulated, as there were no matters arising, were proposed by Angela Chantry and seconded by Cheda Panajotovic. Paul announced how pleased and relieved he was that at last someone had come forward, offering to stand as the new Vice-President. He duly introduced **Peter Allin** who gave us a brief resumé of his wide experiences and was warmly welcomed by all. Paul then spoke of matters pertaining to the AGM. The date was confirmed as March 30th when there will be no guest speaker. Annual reports will be given by Committee members then voting for new Committee will be finalised, having already been started with ballot papers to-day and continuing on-line. The new Committee will outline plans for 2011/2012

Paul announced that Angela Chantry and Pat Johnson, after several years of working in our travel section, had decided to stand down after the summer break. Both had contributed significantly to the travel activities which our membership have appreciated and enjoyed over a considerable period of time and he thanked them for their hard work and dedication to the travel team whilst they have been involved with it. However, two Travel organisers are now needed from the summer but preferably as soon as possible so they may learn how it's done. Ineke Butcher is taking over Care & Share.

CARITAS. It has been decided to make collections of food each month and boxes will be available for this at the meetings. There is also the facility for collecting clothes and household items. Sally Wells is going to investigate this further. At the AGM we will be presenting two cheques of 500€ to representatives of Caritas. John Harding said that every Monday and Thursday evening collections are taken at the Fishermen's Church in Javea Port.

Geoff gave his report but said that if people wanted to ask questions would they please send them in an email a week before the AGM when they will be answered. The accounts for 2010 are on display on the notice board. Average funds at 31st December were similar to a year ago at 3300€

The budget, rounded off was:

Parador	3800€
Charities	2400€
Capital purchases	2100€

Discounts: another car insurance company, Indigo, offers 10% discount on the web plus another 5% to U3A members.

UNICEF is opening a branch soon in Javea. If anyone is interested in finding out more please speak to Shirley.

Teulada/Moraira and Val de Pop U3As are holding Balls to which we are invited and MABS are also holding one at El Canor on June 11th at 45€.

To-day the Charity Shop Library has been allowed to distribute leaflets as they need new members if it not to close. Many involved in its running are U3A members too. The Costa Blanca Samaritans have indicated they need more helpers.

Geoff gave the Treasurer's Report. Little had changed from his last report, having around 13000€ in hand and we are within budget. Some money may be required to cover the cost of some new venues. New members are still joining and returning, providing subscriptions each month.

Wilma said 20 members had joined to-day bringing the current total to 992. There is to be no more pro-rata rate for people joining throughout the year, January to June is 12€ and those joining between September and November will pay 4€ plus 12€ for the following year.

Nick apologised for not being around to answer any queries, due to a family bereavement. There was the possibility of a new group starting, run by Derek and Marie Guyett. This is a post-card and stamp group, swapping, buying and selling and will take place initially at their house every 1st and 3rd Monday each month. Anyone interested should give their names to Nick who will forward them to Derek and Marie.

Shirley introduced to-day's speaker, dog listener Bruno Goffin and his two Labradors. Bruno explained that he was wearing blue which is the colour of communication. He gave a lively talk while his dogs mostly enjoyed being fussed but responded to his commands immediately. He answered questions from the floor afterwards and gave advice when possible.

The meeting ended at 12.15. Date of next meeting is May 26th

igned.....

conded.....

Asociación Social de le Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on March 30th 2011 at the Parador de Jávea

PRESENT: President: Shirley King
Vice President: Paul Wessendorff
Treasurer: Geoff Milnes
Secretary: Jeni Oldfield
Membership Secretary: Wilma Stevenson
Communications Officer: Carol Pilgram

APOLOGIES: Groups Coordinator: John Bellinger-Smith

Shirley opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and reading the minutes of the last meeting which were proposed by Betty Milnes and seconded by Angela Chantry. Before the AGM itself Shirley presented two cheques, each of 500€, to representatives of our chosen charity, Caritas. The two representatives were from both the pueblo and the port and thanked us very much for our generosity.

Thanks were offered to Group Leaders whose groups had had to close, these being: Alan Ewins on Getting the most from your i-pod, Derek and Valerie Guyet on Postcards, Barbara Garrard on Scrap-booking, and Gordon Edwards and Robin Race on Sailing. All were presented with a thank you gift of wine.

Other groups had had a change of leader and the outgoing Group Leaders were also presented with thank you gifts of wine and flowers, these being: Foodies – Barbara Cottam-Craven, Tuesday Lectures – Alan Oliver, Backgammon - Bob Denton, History – Sally Wells, Petanque – Lin and Terry Jones and Angela Chantry for Solos and Care & Share.

Shirley also thanked the outgoing secretary, Jeni Oldfield, for the work she had done for the Committee and presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

The meeting continued with the President's Annual Report, found in full with these minutes. There followed annual reports with Power point presentations from the Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Groups Coordinator, and Communications Officer. The Accounts for 2010, having been detailed by the Treasurer in his report, were offered by Shirley and accepted by the membership. Details of voting for these are in the voting table.

There being no other business for the current Committee the election of Committee Officers for 2011/2012 took place. Shirley King and Jeni Oldfield left the Committee table along with the rest of the Committee until the results were read out. The results of voting can be seen in the voting table:

- President - Paul Wessendorff
- Vice-President - Peter Allin
- Secretary – Tom Stevenson
- Treasurer – Geoffrey Milnes
- Groups Coordinator – John Bellinger-Smith

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Javea

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 30th March 2011

President's Annual Report

My report this year starts with a review of the objectives that were set at the AGM last year. **Objectives 2010/2011**

Accommodation

Over the last couple of years many hours have been spent by members of the Committee looking at the various options for accommodation available to groups for meetings and events. A presentation was given by the President in November outlining the findings of these investigations, which concluded due to the high cost, renting or buying a premises was not viable, therefore a review of accommodation available for use by our Society either free of charge or at minimal cost to members would be carried out. Our Groups Coordinator John Bellinger Smith is currently undertaking this review and will report back to the members when completed. Sally Skelton at the Ayuntamiento has been extremely helpful in identifying various premises owned by the Ayuntamiento that can be made available to our Society. These will be included in John's review.

Statutes/New Committee Structure and Job Descriptions.

The revised Statutes were approved by the members at the last AGM, following that meeting they were submitted to Alicante for approval. I will not bore you with the long detail but Alicante has a year long backlog of this type of work, of three people that work in the office responsible for approving these documents two are on long term sick leave and the other one either is on holiday or nowhere to be found. At the beginning of February I received a note from Alicante advising that one of the laws referenced in our Statutes had been updated so we were requested to amend this paragraph. This was done and new signatures obtained from Committee members and duly sent to Alicante where they now sit at the bottom of the pile awaiting their turn again. I would reiterate this is the edited version, Spanish bureaucracy at its worst.

Due to the delay the Committee made the decision to publish the revised Statutes both in English and in Spanish on the website with the word uncertified embedded in the document. As soon as they are approved this word will be removed. The committee will advise members when they are approved.

New Committee Structure

The new committee structure was implemented following the AGM and has worked extremely well. Paul Wessendorff Vice President has volunteered to take over as President this year which ensures continuity on the Committee. Next year we hope that a couple of the deputies will volunteer from the Non Executive to join the main Committee when other Committee members have to step down in accordance with our Statutes.

Twice a year the Non Executives are invited to join the Committee meeting to be kept upto date on what is happening behind the scenes and are able to voice any concerns and ask questions. Again this has been very successful and appreciated by the non executives

The biggest threat to our Society is the reluctance of members to put themselves forward to serve on the Committee or to become Group Leaders. Carol and John were new members to the Society when they volunteered as were Paul and I. With almost 1000 members it is regrettable that more people do not volunteer. Many times I have heard "I could not do it, I have done my time on committees when I was working, or I am only here part of the year", none of these reasons should really debar anyone from stepping forward to fill a role on the Committee or elsewhere in the U3A structure. The Societies aims are to encourage the lifelong learning and friendship for those no longer in employment by members exchanging skills learnt over a lifetime and passed on to those who wish to continue to learn and have fun. If everybody puts into the Society as much as they get out it will continue to thrive and grow.

Communications Officer

It took some while to find someone willing to take on this role and we were very pleased to find Carol Pilgram. Carol's background in IT and management is ideal for this role and Carol nearly did not volunteer as she had only been a member for a short while. Since taking on the role Carol has taken over the production and editing of the Newsletter, where she has made some changes and introduced new features. Carol has also worked with Sam on some technical aspects of the website and also with Tom Miller to raise the profile of the Society in the Community. Carol has more plans for this year which she will tell you about a bit later on when presenting her end of year report. On behalf of the Committee and members our thanks go to her for stepping forward and taking on this role so effectively.

Charity

This year we adopted the Charity Caritas and through a couple of fund raising events held by members, a raffle at Christmas and contributions from Brenda Bates from the book swap we have raised over 2000€ a 1000€ of which was given to Caritas at Christmas and another 1000€ today. We have also organised food donations here at the Parador and will continue to do so as the situation with people in dire circumstances is getting worse in Javea and in Spain in general as well as in many other countries. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Area U3A Meetings

Paul and I attended the annual area meeting of U3A's including Denia, Calpe, Oliva and several others including from as far away as Torrevieja. Following the meeting Javea hosted two specific area meetings one on Travel and the other on Insurance.

It would appear that due to the economic climate many Travel Groups including Javea are experiencing problems with filling trips. The outcome of the meeting produced a process and procedure which enabled trips to be offered to other U3A's in the event they were under subscribed. Only a couple of U3A's decided not to adopt the new procedure this included Moraira which was disappointing, particularly as we have successfully run joint trips in the past and it will no longer be possible to do so in the future. However, I am sure the new policy will work well with the other U3A's in the area.

With regards to insurance many other U3A's do not have insurance and were astonished when we advised why we had taken out insurance and many of them are now looking at taking out policies for the protection of all of their members. By working with other U3A's we have managed to reduce our cost of insurance which Paul will tell you about in more detail in a few minutes.

Events Organiser

- Membership Secretary – Wilma Stevenson
- Communications Officer – Carol Pilgram

The new Committee took their places at the Committee table.

Paul presented the outgoing President Shirley with two gifts, one from the membership and the second from the committee.

He then outlined the Committee objectives for 2011/2012.

Questions were invited from the meeting. Tim Ladd asked if the level of monies donated to charities was commensurate with our associations' aims. Paul responded that this was not U3A money, but comes from charity events and is held in the U3A accounts. A further question was raised on whether there would be an electronic referendum of members on the level of subscription fees. Paul replied yes, but first the committee have to decide what is feasible.

Betty Milnes asked for help in arranging flowers for the May Ball. Several people responded, and Paul requested that they see Betty after the meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.38pm.

There followed a hunt for Easter egg tickets, found under the chairs of lucky people.

Proposed 

Seconded 

At last years AGM we announced the recruitment of Peter Speer as our Events Organiser and in September Peter, with a little help organised the Line Dancing Evening which was a sell out and enjoyed by all that attended.

Peter is now busily organising the May Ball which again is proving to be very popular so if you do not have your ticket please see Peter today as there are only a few left. More details of events planned for this year will be advised after the election of the Committee for 2011/12.

Monthly Meeting

We have had a diverse range of very interesting speakers again this year which Paul has been responsible for organising and he has already booked many speakers again this year. Many members have said how much they enjoy coming along to listen to the speakers who usually give their time for free. On very rare occasions do we pay for a speaker and usually we thank them by giving either a bottle of wine or flowers.

The November meeting was standing room only and I do not think it was because of the mince pies and sherry but maybe the male committee members presenting the Hungarian Cinderella. This was well received by those that attended and nearly as good as the previous year when the female members of the committee performed to Feliz Navidad.

Discounts

Over the last year we have been approached by a number of companies offering discounts these are always welcome if they offer a genuine saving and service to our members. To obtain discounts it is essential you show your membership card. The Committee cannot guarantee that the discount or service offered is the best so remember Buyer Beware and check references and prices before parting with your cash.

Accounts

Geoffrey Milne our treasurer has done an excellent job in keeping track of our finances and once again Ken Robinson has audited our accounts and found them to be correct and in order. We started the New Year with a very healthy bank balance up on the previous year, Geoff will explain the accounts in more detail in just a few minutes.

Since the accounts have been published we have had a few members complaining about some of the expenditure for instance the purchase of cutlery and crockery, these items will be self financing over the next couple of years. They were purchased with a view to renting them out to members as the availability of good disposal items is difficult in Spain, so far these items have been rented out on a number of occasions, and we are sure over the summer they will be in great demand.

We have also received complaints about the amount of money we have spent on gifts and flowers, as mentioned earlier we do not usually pay for speakers and to spend between 15€ and 20€ on a gift for them is not over generous and not unreasonable. We also spent less than 100€ at the November meeting on mince pies and sherry, something that seems to go down very well amongst members and encourages people to stay after the meeting to socialise.

The last complaint is about the amount of money spent on Groups, sadly due to circumstances beyond our control and the unwillingness of anyone to take on the role as Groups Coordinator last year there was not as much support for Groups as the Committee would have liked. We believe that Group Leaders are aware that if they need equipment to run their group the Committee would view such requests favourably. It has been the policy of the Society that all groups are self funding and we do not finance consumables. Equipment is only purchased if it is available for use by members for group activities.

A number of people have complained about our fees, I would start by saying that 12€ is not a huge amount of money to most members. We are aware that Moraira and Denia have reduced their fees, but both of these U3A's have considerable support from their local Ayuntamiento which we sadly we have not. This is not for lack of willingness but because the Ayuntamiento have no premises suitable or large enough in Javea. As you can see from our accounts the largest part of our income goes on paying for the Parador to house our monthly meeting.

Last year we advised we would not drop our fees in case it became necessary to use the money to pay for accommodation and as reported in November we shall not be taking on our own premises at this time. It will be up to the incoming committee to decide if lowering fees is an option but please remember every organisation needs some money in the bank because you never know what expenditure is going to be needed in the future.

For some while we have been trying to change our Bank Account to a bank that will allow members to pay their fees on line, sadly due to the bureaucracy and delay in getting our papers back from Alicante this is taking longer than expected or liked. It has been extremely frustrating and time consuming, but we believe we are nearly there and a change maybe made in the next couple of months.

Membership

Wilma Stevenson has been doing an excellent job as Membership Secretary and through her work the Committee have had a much greater understanding of where our members live and how many attend the Parador meetings. The open meetings and November meetings are also well attended.

Our membership appears to be settling down to around 1000 members on average through the year. Sadly this year we have heard of many people returning to the UK or relocating to other countries as the financial situation has continued to cause hardship. Having said this we are still getting new members joining every month as the word spreads what benefits can be had by joining and paying their 12€.


Groups

Sadly due to family circumstances Nick Winter had to step down as Groups Coordinator in the middle of the year and it took sometime to recruit a replacement. John Bellinger Smith volunteered and we are pleased to say he has hit the deck running and we are sure in his capable hands or for those that attended the November meeting his magic wand; the groups will be receiving full support. John apologises for his absence today he has had to return to the UK for a few days to sort out some family matters.

The Committee apologises to Group Leaders and members for any lack of support they may have felt, but our thanks go to Jenny Wessendorff who has held it all together and arranged the open meeting last June and she was also very involved in the organising of the January meeting.

Secretary

Last but not least the Committee wishes to extend their thanks to Jeni Oldfield who is stepping down today as Secretary. The Secretary's role is so important both to ensure good governance of the Society and to keep the President on the straight and narrow. "Shirley have you signed the minutes yet" is a common question. On a personal note Jeni thank you. I know that even though on many occasions you have been in pain and even when admitted to hospital, the minutes have always been produced and circulated on time. We wish you well for the future (flowers).

 30/3/11
Jeni Oldfield 30/3/11

VOTES CAST

Total entitled to Vote 979

Votes Received (296)

SECTION A

Committee

President Paul Wessendorff
 Vice President Peter Allin
 Secretary Tom Stevenson
 Treasurer Geoffrey Milnes
 Groups Coordinator John Bellinger-Smith
 Membership Secretary Wilma Stevenson
 Communications Officer Carol Pilgram

Yes	No	Abstain	% Yes	% No
289	0	7	97.6	0.0
284	2	10	95.9	0.7
290	0	6	98.0	0.0
278	7	11	93.9	2.4
287	0	9	97.0	0.0
289	0	7	97.6	0.0
286	0	10	96.6	0.0

Section B

Approvals

Accounts ~~2009~~ 2010
S.J.S. Wells 30/3/11

Yes	No	Abstain	% Yes	% No
271	2	23	91.6	0.7

NAME S.J.S. Wells
 (Webmaster)

Signed *S.J.S. Wells*

DATE 30/3/2011

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Meeting held on 27th April 2011

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

President	Paul Wessendorff
Vice President	Peter Allin
Treasurer	Geoff Milnes
Secretary	Tom Stevenson
Membership Secretary	Wilma Stevenson
Groups Coordinator	John Bellinger-Smith
Communications Officer	Carol Pilgrim

LOCATION:

Parador Hotel, Jávea

The meeting commenced at 11:00

President's Report:

New Members

Paul welcomed the eight new members who had joined that morning and Carol outlined the Welcome process which had been trialled for the first time today.

Previous Minutes

Paul stated the minutes of the AGM had been circulated and described the Addendum to the Presidents Report. There were no comments from the membership and the Minutes were duly approved by John White and seconded by Joanne O'Keefe.

Appointment of Treasurer

Paul advised that due to ill-health, Geoff Milnes had had to tender his resignation as Treasurer. A vacancy on the Committee therefore existed for the position of Treasurer, and Mike Cox, currently Deputy Treasurer, had offered his services to fill this position. Paul confirmed that following discussion, the Committee were pleased to accept Mike Cox in the post of Treasurer, and in accordance with Article 16 of our Statutes, had provisionally appointed him to the post, which will be held until the next Annual General Meeting of the Association. However, a vacancy now existed for the post of Deputy Treasurer, and Paul invited applications from members for this post.

Objectives

Paul reported that the committee had made a start on delivering the objectives set for 2011-2012. The Welcoming process had started; Peter would be running a review of Subscriptions and reporting back to the Committee in May, with the outcome to be advised to members subsequently. John would update the meeting on Group Funding later in this session. The Committee had also started consideration of the other objectives – Social Activities, Fund Raising for Charity and Online Payment of Subscriptions.

Travel

The Travel Team would be losing Angela Chantry and Pat Johnson at the end of June, and Mike Frost at the end of the year, leaving just one person in the Travel Team. Paul stressed how important it was that replacements come forward and repeated the invitation for people to apply.

Statutes

These have now been returned approved and will be published on our website. It is now necessary to record the new Committee with Alicante.

Annual Ball

To be held on 6th May with around 320 attendees booked. There are still a few tickets available, and Paul asked anyone interested to see Shirley King.

Vice President

Peter reported he had now been in the position for one month and his main task so far had been the to arrange the Parador for this meeting. He would now be looking at the advantages and disadvantages of changing our current Subscription rate. Requests from companies seeking to provide discounts for U3A members continue to be received and Peter asked that if members identified anyone willing to offer our members a discount they be directed to him.

Treasurer

Geoff reported that he had enjoyed being Treasurer. The financial position had hardly changed since the previous month. The U3A was in the process of switching banks; the current bank was charging 70-100 Euros per annum and the new bank would be free – and it was also expected to be more efficient. He thanked Mike Cox for stepping up and advised the handover had commenced.

Membership Secretary

8 new members had joined this morning taking membership to 1030. Wilma advised that a number of members had not collected their membership cards and were invited to do so at the end of the meeting. A number of “newsletter” emails had been returned undelivered and members were reminded to advise Wilma if they have changed their contact details.

Communications Officer

Carol outlined the New Members Welcome process – a point of contact, information on activities and communication with groups. The process was trialled today. The members of the Welcome team would rotate and Carol invited more members to volunteer for this. The aim was to keep contact with new members over their first three months in the U3A. Some issues had already been identified and ideas are welcome on how to improve the process. There is also the suggestion box and Carol asked that contact details be left with submissions. Comments can also be left through the website.

Groups Coordinator

John advised the funding of Groups had been reviewed and nothing had been changed. He summarised the current principles noting that Group Leaders should submit requests for assets through him. Consumables should normally be funded by the Group itself; however in exceptional cases the Committee may approve expenditure on consumables. The Car Treasure Hunt was cancelled last month due to lack of numbers, but has now been rescheduled for May. A new group has been proposed, the Vindaloos, a curry meal group. Contact Tom and Jean Miller. Moraira have approached Jávea to start a Skittles group, which they will assist in getting started. The bi-annual Group Leaders meeting will take place next week, and John asked that members pass comments on to the relevant GL for Tuesday. John noted that New Members can contact him for Group information in addition to the Welcome Team.

Paul amplified one point about Group funding, that John can authorise asset expenditure up to £100, over that it has to go the Committee for approval. He noted that around 40 GLs are expected at the GL Meeting, around double the attendance at the previous meeting.


AOB

Cheda Panajotovic suggested that members' comments be available through the Discounts page on the website. This was felt to be a good suggestion. Peter was directed to amend format of Discounts page to include feedback from members. Pat Robinson suggested a "star" system, which is used successfully elsewhere.

Speaker

Chris Duffin gave an interesting and highly amusing talk on her experiences in the UK Prison Service. Paul presented Chris with a gift as a token of thanks from the membership.

The meeting closed at 12:05.

Proposed	BRIAN MATTHEWS	Seconded	J. O'Keefe
Signed	Brian Matthews	Seconded	J. O'Keefe
			T.H. Stinson
	PRESIDENT		SECRETARY

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Meeting held on 25th May 2011

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

President	Paul Wessendorff
Vice President	Peter Allin
Treasurer	Michael Cox
Secretary	Tom Stevenson
Membership Secretary	Wilma Stevenson
Groups Coordinator	John Bellinger-Smith
Communications Officer	Carol Pilgrim

LOCATION:

Parador Hotel, Jávea

The meeting commenced at 11:02

President's Report:

New Members

Paul welcomed the new members who had joined that morning.

Previous Minutes

There were no comments from the membership and the Minutes of the April General Meeting were duly approved by Brian Matthews and seconded by Joanne O'Keefe.

Appointment of Deputy Treasurer

Paul advised that Cliff Leslie, a new member, has come forward to fill this position.

Objectives

Subscription Review - Paul reported that the committee had made its report to the Executive Committee and Peter would talk about this later.

Group Funding – the Executive Committee has allocated a budget of 1500€ to support Group activities. Group Leaders should apply for funding through the Groups Coordinator.

Welcoming Committee – this is now in operation and the process is being tweaked based upon experience so far.

Social Events – Peter Speer and his team are working upon events such as Barn Dance for later in the year. Other ideas are also under consideration. He asked all to look in the Newsletter for further details on future events which will be announced of the coming weeks ahead.

May Ball

Paul felt this was a fantastic occasion with 320 attendees. Many thanks are due to Peter and Pauline Speer for doing such a great job of organising, along with their team of volunteers.

Travel Organiser Vacancies

Paul reiterated the need for people to come forward and fill these positions, with 75% of the team standing down by the end of this year.

June Meeting

AOB

Paul thanked the committee for their reports.

He also thanked Angela Chantry and Pat Johnson for all their work on behalf of the U3A, over many years, in the Travel Team. He presented Angela with a gift voucher for a meal for two; Pat was unable to attend today due to ill health but Paul will make sure she receives her voucher.

Paul then congratulated Pauline Speer on her birthday today and recorded that both she and Peter are strong supporters of Jávea U3A. Today is their 50th Golden Wedding Anniversary and Paul presented them with two bottles of “bubbly”.

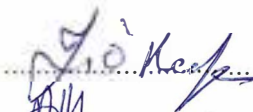

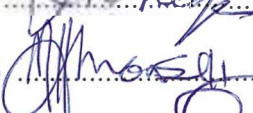



Speakers

Pat Lee-Patton and Judith Goodall (Chair and Vice-chair respectively) then provided a very informative and interesting overview of the activities of “HELP” of Denia and the Marina Alta. Paul thanked Pat and Judith for a very useful presentation on what is clearly a complex organisation, and congratulated them on providing a very impressive service to the people of our local area. Leaflets outlining the work of “HELP” were made available to members. It was suggested that if any members wished to make a donation to “HELP”, a box would be available at the exit of the meeting room. A cash collection was subsequently taken.

After note: Monies collected on the day from members attending amounted to 281.54 Euros. Donation made on this occasion from U3A funds amounted to 100 Euros, making the total donated on the day to 381.54 Euros. With many thanks to all those who contributed this excellent amount to such a worthwhile cause.

Paul wished all our members a good summer break.

The meeting closed at 12:15.

Proposed by (name)		Signed	
Seconded by (name)		Signed	
Signed		Seconded	
President Jávea U3A		Secretary Jávea U3A	

This is normally an Open Meeting. Feedback from the Group Leaders at the recent meeting was that this was not a good idea as it occurs immediately prior to the summer break. The Executive Committee decided that June will be a normal meeting and henceforth there will be one Open Meeting each year, in January.

Vice President

Speakers

Peter appealed for speakers for next year and reminded members that speakers must be factual and not represent any commercial interests. Our June speaker will be Judith Goodall from "HELP" of Denia.

Discounts

There are additional discounts in the pipeline and the Committee will carry out a review of the existing list.

Subscriptions Review

The Working Group met several times and looked at different scenarios. The Working Group recommended no change in the current level of subscription, as there would be minimal benefit to members in a reduction but potentially there could be a major impact on U3A finances.

Treasurer

Accounts

Mick has received the accounts from Geoff Milnes and confirmed that everything was in order.

Change of Bank

Our Bank has changed from La Caixa to Barclays, but we are unable to change the website at the moment and so any members requiring to make a direct transfer of funds to the U3A should contact Mick for details. The bank account previously held at La Caixa should not be used for any future transactions.

Membership Secretary

18 members, including 12 new people, had joined this morning taking membership to 1047. Wilma advised that members will be able to renew their membership in January either here in the Parador or online if easier. Direct bank transfers must include Name and Membership Number for renewals or Name and Event for Travel activities.

Communications Officer

Welcoming Committee

Carol reported that 15 members had volunteered to be on the Welcoming Committee, representing a good mix of people. Carol was pleased to report that new members had been interacting with Group Leaders, and that arrangements had been made for new members to sit with existing members for the monthly General Meeting.

Publicity

The team have been working hard with, for example, a report of Chris Duffin's presentation being published in The Post and reports of the Annual Ball in other publications.

Caritas Food Collection

Carol advised that the Committee had agreed that these would only take place during the March, June and November General Meetings.

Groups Coordinator

John encouraged members to join groups. An additional Rummikubs group is being set up by Valerie Dromgoole. A volunteer is sought to lead a Scrabble group, let John know if you are interested in this. Tom Miller is stepping down as Leader of Digital Photography, and Nick Winter will be the new group leader. (Under AOB, Tom pointed out that he will be continuing as a member of the Digital Photography group). John asked members to note that the Wine Trip to Utiel tomorrow will depart from outside of Interiors in the Port, Jávea.

AOB

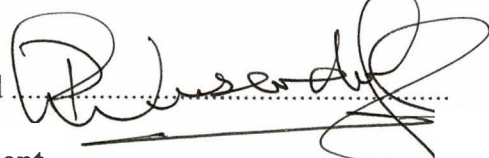
Pat Robinson briefed members on changes to the operation of the DVD Swop, which was operating successfully (especially during the winter months) but after several years it was time to refresh the operation. In future only boxed DVDs will be eligible for swopping; newspaper/magazine discs will be accepted and sold, with the proceeds going to the U3A Charity. Pat asked that members check if they have any DVDs to donate, to increase the team's stock, and also that members should be considerate to others in the material they bring for a swop, offering like for like.

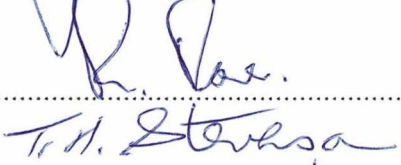
Speaker

Cheda Panajotovic gave an excellent presentation on his experiences when "Teaching the Unteachable", and delighted us with stories about his life as a teacher in a difficult part of London. Paul thanked Cheda on behalf of the members for his informative, amusing, and entertaining talk.

The meeting closed at 11:56.

Proposed by (name) PETER SPEER Signed 
Seconded by (name) ROSEW RACE Signed

Signed 

Seconded 

President
Jávea U3A

Secretary
Jávea U3A

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Meeting held on 29th June 2011

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

President	Paul Wessendorff
Vice President	Peter Allin
Secretary	Tom Stevenson
Membership Secretary	Wilma Stevenson
Groups Coordinator	John Bellinger-Smith
Communications Officer	Carol Pilgrim

LOCATION:

Parador Hotel, Jávea

The meeting commenced at 11:05

President's Report:

New Members

Paul welcomed the new members who had joined that morning.

Apologies

Michael Cox, Treasurer, was unable to attend today's meeting.

Previous Minutes

There were no comments from the membership and the Minutes of the June General Meeting were duly approved by Peter Speer and seconded by Robin Race.

Travel Team

Paul advised that Angela Chantry and Pat Johnson are standing down today from the Travel Team. Mike Frost is standing down at the end of the year. This means the Travel Team will consist of one person and the impact is clear from the reduced volume of Travel activities in this month's newsletter. Brenda Bates has offered to help by running one trip. Paul stressed the need for members to come forward to act as Travel Organisers, even if only for one trip, and noted that the previous organisers had indicated they would be available to help new recruits.

Ayuntamiento Liaison

Our previous contact with the Town Hall has been lost as a result of the local elections. However John Bellinger-Smith has details of a new liaison and anyone wishing to have contact with the Town Hall should speak with JBS.

Events Team

Paul outlined planned and provisional events for the next year. A Hog Roast in aid of Caritas will take place on the 17th September; Diane and Ross Ord have kindly offered the use of their villa for this event. A Barn Dance around October/November 2011 and a Music Quiz during March 2012 are also planned. The May Ball 2012 will be held on the 18th May at El Canor and members are encouraged to read the Newsletter, browse our website and check the notice boards for further details on all these events. Additional events which will be of interest to members are a Christmas Lunch, possibly following the November General

Meeting, organised by Mike Frost. Mike is also arranging a music evening in aid of MABS. Calpe U3A Choir will be performing in aid of Caritas (see Cultural Arts newsletter).

Death

Paul advised that our long-standing member Bill Townsend died last week in Denia Hospital and expressed condolences to his wife Pat and family on behalf of the entire organisation. The funeral will take place on Friday 1st July at 11:00, in the Crematorium, Jávea.

Vice President

Discounts

A “star” rating system has been introduced on the website for discount providers. This operates on the basis of 4*s – Excellent, 3*s – Good, 2*s – Satisfactory and 1* - Poor. The list is also in the process of being brought up to date.

Speakers

In September our speaker will be Kathryn Marsden, an expert in diet and digestion and author of many books on the subject. Peter asked that members submit questions for Kathryn to him by the 9th September. A possible speaker for 2012 is someone from White-BAOS Abogados. Peter asked that topics of interest be submitted to him by 31st October, to enable a decision to be taken on whether there is sufficient interest to justify using this speaker.

Treasurer

No report due to absence of Treasurer on holiday.

Membership Secretary

Wilma reported that 11 new members had joined today, taking our membership to 1058.

Communications Officer

Welcoming Committee

Carol reported that the new process was going well, with two new volunteers helping today.

Publicity

Jávea U3A has appeared in several publications recently and thanks are due to Tom Miller.

Caritas Food Collection

Carol advised that the next food collection would take place at the November General Meeting.

Newsletter

There will be no more Newsletters until the end of September but members should note that the website will be kept updated throughout the summer months.

Groups Coordinator

The Skittles Group are advised that the venue for the next competition has gone bankrupt. A new Group has been suggested, Square Dancing and two new members have offered to run a Play Reading Group. Scrabble and Rummikubs 2 are in the process of starting up. Friends of Avinencia have two field trips planned (see website). The Badminton and Pet Sitting Circle have closed.

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Meeting held on 28th September 2011

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

President	Paul Wessendorff
Vice President	Peter Allin
Secretary	Tom Stevenson
Treasurer	Michael Cox
Membership Secretary	Wilma Stevenson
Groups Coordinator	John Bellinger-Smith
Communications Officer	Carol Pilgrim

LOCATION:

Parador Hotel, Jávea

The meeting commenced at 11:03

President's Report:

Welcome

Paul welcomed members back after the summer break, especially those new members who had joined today.

Update on Activities over the Summer

Paul gave an update on the following:

- Cliff Leslie, nominee for the vacant Deputy Treasurer position sadly passed away over the summer. Malcolm Neill has volunteered for this position.
- New Travel Advisors have come forward, Gwen Clark, Joan Hills and Jan Davies. John Bellinger-Smith has agreed to co-ordinate the Travel Team.
- An additional 25 sets of crockery and 30 sets of cutlery have been purchased over the summer period making the total holdings of these items at 75 sets of crockery and 90 sets of cutlery. Hire of these items to members for private functions, and their use in support of charitable events, has proved to be extremely popular with the membership. From monies received for their hire to date, we are already well on the way to paying back the outlay of funds needed to purchase these items. Also purchased were a heavy-duty guillotine and a backgammon board.
- On the Events side, a very successful Hog Roast took place raising 965 Euros for Caritas. Many thanks to all who organised this event and to those who attended.
- The Ayuntamiento are looking for volunteers to assist with tree planting in Granadella during 17-24th October.
- Benitachell Bowls Club Christmas Fayre on 30th October
- A Barn Dance is arranged for 11th November, with approximately 100 tickets sold already.
- A Christmas lunch is planned following the November meeting.
- Christmas Dinner Dance is scheduled to take place on 9th December at La Brioche.
- The May Ball in 2012 will take place on 18th May at El Canor.

Previous Minutes

There were no comments from the membership and the Minutes of the June General Meeting were duly approved by Joanne O'Keefe and seconded by Marion Monsell.

Vice President

Discounts

The list has been about 80% updated. "Stars" rating system is now in operation – please provide feedback on your experience of using services on the list.

Speakers

For personal reasons Kathryn Marsden is unable to speak to us this year or next. Members have made many suggestions about potential speakers, which have been gratefully received. Please keep them coming; Peter maintains a list of speakers. George Stevenson, a former MEP, will be speaking to us today and Pere Sapena from the Ayuntamiento will be speaking to us in October about Jávea's new Town Plan.

Treasurer

Mick advised that the transfer of operations to Barclays Bank is now complete. We have a bank balance of around 22,000 Euros with commitments of around 2,000 Euros.

Membership Secretary

Wilma reported that 37 new members had joined today, taking our membership to 1105. 8 members have also renewed for 2012.

Communications Officer

Website

Carol reported that Sam Wells and his team have done a lot of hard work on the website and updates for local activities.

Ayuntamiento

Elizabeth Collins is now submitting details of forthcoming activities and events.

Hosting of Spanish Families

Places are sought for hosting of schoolchildren from Madrid, please contact Krystyna Stefanczyk.

Caritas Food Collection

Carol reminded members that the next food collection would take place at the November General Meeting. As this was the Christmas collection, please make it a good one.

Groups Coordinator

The Group Leader of the Beginners Art Group is seriously ill and the Group is postponed until further notice. New Groups for Tai Chi, Play Reading, Badminton, Scrabble and Spanish for Beginners have commenced.

John expressed thanks to the Travel Group for all the great work they have carried out, and he is looking forward to being part of it. Barbara Gorrod has also volunteered to be a Travel Advisor. The Group's objective is to run one trip each month.

AOB

Paul thanked the committee for their reports.

Paul advised members that the Committee are considering which charity Jávea U3A should support during 2012, and invited the membership to make their views known.

Cheda Panajotvic asked if it would be possible for members to receive notification of activities using email. Paul responded that this topic was being discussed by the Committee at the moment. The website is key; it has a lot of information and is updated regularly. The first point of call for any queries should be the website.

Peter Adams advised that there would be a charity music evening in aid of Denia Salvation Army (which covers Jávea) on the 18th October at the Hotel Pinasol, and encouraged members to attend and support this worthwhile cause.

Graham Muir asked if Jávea U3A would like the Costa Blanca Male Voice choir to perform for them, as they have done before. Paul asked that Graham leave this with him.

Nona Hale advised she has no email or internet access and therefore receives no information until she attends the Parador, by which time events are typically fully subscribed. This is part of the fuller debate regarding the Newsletter referred to above, which the Committee plan to discuss further at the October Committee Meeting. Note: the particular activity Nona quoted (a guitar recital) is not a U3A event but is run by another organisation. Tim Ladd suggested the use of an Internet Cafe.

Brenda Bates informed the meeting of a Tapeo planned for the 1st and 2nd of October in the Plaza de la Constitución Española in Jávea Old Town. This year's would be larger, with more space and entertainment than in previous years.

A member advised that he and others are starting a Costa Blanca Astronomy Society, mainly in Dénia, but all are welcome. Members should contact Paul to be put in touch with the CB Astronomy Society.

Speaker

George Stevenson, former MEP and UK MP, then give a fascinating talk on the differences between the European and UK Parliaments, based upon his own experiences. This gave members an informative and amusing insight into the different approaches of the two bodies.



Paul thanked George for his excellent speech, and presented him with a gift of wine.

Paul thanked the members for attending.

The meeting closed at 12:34.

Proposed by (name) JOHN WHITE Signed 

Seconded by (name) C. PAVAJOVIC Signed 

Signed  Signed 

President
Jávea U3A

JAP **Secretary**
Jávea U3A

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Meeting held on 26th October 2011

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

President	Paul Wessendorff
Vice President	Peter Allin
Deputy Secretary	Valerie Dromgoole
Treasurer	Michael Cox
Membership Secretary	Wilma Stevenson
Groups Coordinator	John Bellinger-Smith
Communications Officer	Carol Pilgram

LOCATION:

Parador Hotel, Jávea

The meeting commenced at 11:03

President's Report

Welcome

Paul welcomed everybody to the meeting and asked that all mobile phones be turned off. Robin Race had a problem turning off his newly acquired mobile phone and was aided by Mick Cox.

Previous Minutes

There were no comments from the members and the Minutes of the September General Meeting were duly approved by all assembled. Acceptance was proposed by John White and seconded by Cheda Panajotovic

Autumn Social Events

Paul reminded members who have not as yet booked their tickets for the Barn Dance to be held at Los Arcos on the 11th November, to do so as soon as possible as this event was now nearly sold out.

Paul gave an update of previous charity events that had taken place:

- The musical evening at Pinosol, organised by Peter Adams in aid of the Denia Branch of the Salvation Army Food Support Programme had raised €2100, a magnificent achievement.
- The Hog Roast held at Villa Resy in aid of Caritas raised €965, Paul once again thanked Diane and Ross Ord for the use of their villa and presented them with a gift of flowers and wine; Diane replied that they were very happy to have been able to help.

Paul advised the members that Mike Frost's computer was down at the moment and he was unable to reply to e-mails in the short term. John Bellinger-Smith asked for e-mails to be sent to him via u3atravel@gmail.com.

Obituaries

Paul expressed sadness at the deaths of:

- Ken Vickers after a long cancer related illness. Ken died in the UK. We will get in touch with his wife Margaret to see whether she requires any help or assistance, as and when she returns to Spain.
- Judie Mellars died in Spain after a relatively short illness. Her body has been returned to the UK for burial.

In both cases condolences have been sent to their friends and family on behalf of the U3A Jávea.

November Meeting

Paul informed the members that, as usual, the November meeting will be something special and not to be missed.

- The Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir has agreed to come along and sing carols and other songs from their repertoire.
- The Committee will 'entertain' the members as has been done in past years, i.e. 2009 Ladies dancing to Feliz Navidad and 2010 Gentlemen's Pantomime of Cinderella. This year's event is one not to be missed.

Departing Group Leaders

There were two group leaders resigning this month:

- Marian Mansell who ran the Solos on Sundays so successfully and has now been succeeded by Graham Castleton. Marian was given a gift of flowers in appreciation of all she has done for that group.
- Mike Frost who ran the Travel Group. Mike was the founder member of the U3A Jávea and has served as President and Vice President. Mike was given a voucher for dinner for two at La Cocina Restaurant and wine in appreciation for all that he has done for the U3A over a considerable period of time.

Vice President's Report

Update on Discounts List Review

The review is now 85% complete and should be finished soon. Peter also announced that the discount star rating system was going well and requested that members continue sending a rating.

Update on Speaker Programme

Peter asked for more speakers to be recommended or to come forward as he likes to have a spare list of people he can call on to cover any cancellations. He told the members that 4 out of last 6 speakers cancelled.

The full program of speakers is on the website and in the Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Mike gave a short report to let the members know the bank transfers are working well.

Membership Secretary Report

Wilma advised that there were 17 new members this month bringing the total membership up to 1122.

She also advised that renewals were now being taken for those members who were not able to renew in January.

Communications Officer's Report

Carol advised the members that:

- The electronic Newsletter was now a 'link' from the e-mail and no longer an attachment to be downloaded.
- Updates of events etc are on the Website and not in the Newsletter
- More volunteers are required for the Welcoming team. Carol briefly outlined the task of welcoming new members, telling them about the group activities and meetings etc
- Tom Miller is the Publicity Officer and is responsible for photos in the Newsletter and local press.
- A reminder to bring 'dry' food stuffs for the Caritas appeal at the November meeting. Apparently Tuna is very popular along with other tinned or packet food stuffs.

Group Coordinator's Report

John reported:

- Late news announcement – Angela Chantry is running a cultural outing to Cinderella in Ondara, anyone wishing to go please contact Angela. There are coaches available from the usual stops.
- John is trying to re-establish the Car Treasure Hunt, with the next event planned for February
- Helga is running the new Scrabble Group, see the website for more details.
- Penny is running the new Play Reading Group, see the website for more details.
- Spanish for Beginners is starting again in January, there are still places available.
- The Art Group for beginners has been postponed waiting for a replacement teacher following the death of Judie Mellars.
- The Travel Group need more organisers

AOB

There was no other business.

Speaker

Paul welcomed Pere Sapena and Oscar Anton to the meeting.

Peter introduced Pere Sapena, the Town Planning Councillor and Oscar Anton the Deputy Mayor of Jávea.

Pere Sapena, with Oscar Anton translating, gave a talk on the General Plan for Jávea's development and maintenance.

He told us that:

- The existing General Plan for Jávea was from 1990 and it was now at phase 2.
- It was important to complete the projects that have been started, both for residents and tourists.
- There was the opportunity at this stage to overhaul and review the situation and that an analysis was being carried out as to what needs to be done, what can be financed and how the 1990 plan can be adapted.
- Participation of all residents, companies, professionals and organisations was being encouraged.
- The new planning committee will hold all its meetings in public
- The General Plan was available for all to see and comment on.
- There would be a photographic map, similar to Google Maps, showing the layout of Jávea, to include all street names and numbers. (there was amusement from the floor)
- Currently the General Plan is at Phase 2
- Valencia has to approve each Phase.
- The General Plan should be completed within the next 4 years.

There were then questions from the floor:

Where was the Office of the General Plan?

Either at the Help Desk of the New Town Hall at El Clot
Or the church near the Technical Office.

Is the Library in the Port going to be completed and when?

Yes, by the original contractors who are now being penalised financially, it should be finished by Christmas 2011. There is also a grant from Valencia.

It is understood that the General Plan only lasts 10 years?

Once the objectives have been agreed everything in the General Plan must be finished.

It is understood that the Mayor is not taking a salary to finance the General Plan?

The Mayor's salary is being used for a different Plan, not the General Plan

(Afternote as provided by Oscar Anton in explanation of his reply.

I understood that the questioner was referring to the cost of fees for the revision to the Town Plan, which themselves amount to some 1,200,000€ for which neither the Alcalde nor we councilors as a whole would be able to reduce such costs from our own salaries.

If the questioner was referring to the foregoing of his salary by the Alcalde as payment towards the cost of the Strategic Plan, a cost that is around 12,000€, then the

answer is yes, as this plan is being funded by the reductions in costs in the 2011 budget, amongst which savings the Alcade's salary is included.)

Are Roads going to be repaired and can the residents pay for repairs to roads outside their houses?

There is €1.8 million set aside for repairing roads in this financial year. Any extensions to houses in the past were required to also include the improvement of the infrastructure around the property. This is now being simplified and made cheaper for the property owner. However, property owners will still be expected to make a contribution to the improvement of the infrastructure.

Any group of property owners wishing to improve their roads should contact the Town Hall.

Which roads are going to be improved?

67% of roads in Jávea are in need of repair. A judgement will be made by the Technical Office which are the worse and they will be improved first.

When will the computerised map be available?

3 to 6 months.

Will the tables and chairs on the Port Promenade be allowed again?

This is a ruling from the Office of Coastal Development in Madrid. The fine for placing tables and chairs on the coast side of the road is €20,000.

With parking in the town at a premium why are the cafes and bars allowed to put terraces in the road, thus reduce g parking places?

This was allowed in the 1990 plan and the Town Hall could not refuse the licences for the summer. This may be revised.

Is the Arenal Beach going to be improved?

There is a project for improvement to the whole Arenal area. A budget of €2.3 million has been allocated. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor have an appointment with the Valencian Council tomorrow (27th October 2011) to obtain a grant. It will be a four month project (hopefully) which will start in January 2012. There will be some allowance for the tourist seasons at Easter and the summer.

Paul and Peter thanked the two speakers for their most informative and interesting talk, and for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend our meeting and talk to us. Peter presented Pere and Oscar with gifts of wine.

The meeting closed at 12.25 pm.

Proposed by (name) ... JOHN WHITE

Signed

Seconded by (name) ... C. PANAYOTOV

Signed

Signed

President
Jávea U3A

Signed

Deputy Secretary
Jávea U3A