

Minutes of Hartshill MU AGM – 20th January 2026

1. Opening Prayers – these were led by Heather Greaves,
2. Present – Sue Foster, Heather Greaves, Lynda Kelly, Sheila Hinds, Rachel Burgess, Jan Blamire Brown, Wendy Albrighton, Sally Young. Apologies were received from Anna Caddy.
3. Appointment of Branch Leader, Treasurer and Secretary
 - Secretary – Sheila was willing to continue as Secretary. It was therefore proposed by Heather and seconded by Sally that Sheila be appointed. Carried with 1 abstention.
 - Branch Leader – Sue was willing to continue as Branch Leader. It was therefore proposed by Sally and Seconded by Rachel that Sue be appointed as Branch Leader. Carried with 1 abstention.
 - Treasurer – Heather was willing to continue as Treasurer. It was therefore proposed by Sally and seconded by Rachel that Heather be appointed as Treasurer. Carried with 1 abstention.

4. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 19th March 2025

It was proposed by Wendy and seconded by Heather that the minutes be accepted. All in favour.

5. Matters Arising

1. Safeguarding training – Both Sue and Heather had attempted to do this training but due to an error in the system they had been unable to proceed. Both are willing to do the training when it becomes available.
2. Support for Baptism – Hartshill MU Branch supply two different, age appropriate, bible/texts for Baptismal children plus a New Testament version for adults. The next Baptisms are planned for 8th March 2026 and 12th April 2026. Jan is willing to continue to complete the Bookplates. It was agreed that funding for this important work will continue.

6. Finance

1. Heather issued copies of the audited 2025 accounts.
2. Current Balance is £51.22 as £25.00 has been paid to the Diocese for Insurance.
3. £20.00 is also to be paid for the hire of the room for the Candlemass Service to be hosted at Fillongley Church on Saturday 31st January 2026. Sue has asked for other Branches to share this cost which should mean that £15.00 will be received from the other Branches.
4. Printing, Mailing and Insurance costs to Diocese – Sue asked for our opinion on the payment of these costs to the Diocese as the majority of information was emailed out so incurred costs to the Branch rather than the Diocesan Office. It was felt that the Annual Subscription should cover these costs without additional contributions from Branch members. Some Branches are paying substantially more than other Branches. It was therefore proposed by Sue and seconded by Lynda that Sue put this issue forward to the Diocese for consideration. Carried unanimously. **** AP for Sue to pursue.**
5. A vote of thanks was expressed by Sue to Heather for her excellent work with the Finances.

7. Review of our Projects

1. The GEH Emergency Admission Packs had been well received.

2. The coffee morning in May 2025 raised £69.00 and the one in August raised £39.00 for Church Funds.
3. We had an interesting talk from Sue Nightingale on Mary's Meals, an organisation that provides funding for a meal a day for each child for as little as £20.00 per year.
4. We had a Bring and Share Garden Party in July at Sally's house which was enjoyed by all.
5. Tracey from Attleborough Branch led a craft session where we decorated jars, added lights and Autumnal flower arrangement which was well received.
6. Paul Morris, a Diocesan MU Trustee came to talk about a topic close to his heart – Homelessness in Coventry. He has devised a system whereby people donate unwanted clothing etc into Blue Bins within the Church environment and these are then distributed to those in need of the items. We took the opportunity to donate a Food Mixer, which was surplus to requirements, to be used either by an individual or in one of the kitchens set up to feed the homeless. Although we had the opportunity to have a Blue Bin located at Hartshill Church we felt that it would present problems on passing on the items donated.
7. We had a Craft evening and also discussed Anti Slavery Display.
8. Christmas celebrations with bring and share food and games.

8. Review and completion of programme

- Coffee morning - It was unfortunate that we had to cancel the Coffee Morning planned for 10th January due to adverse weather conditions. A new date was set for Saturday 21st February between 10.00 and 12.00noon to raise money for the Comfort Packs for the Oncology department at GEH. Wendy, Jan and Sally are willing to make cakes but are unable to commit to help until nearer the day. Sue and Lynda are able to attend. (Rachel and Sheila had to withdraw their offer after the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances). It was felt that perhaps only a few are needed to run the morning but all are welcome to attend to engage with visitors and help where necessary. Sue said that Nick Miles is organising a drop in session for the community to see the proposals for the Church Project on that day too so we might have a higher footfall.
- Candlemass Service – Saturday 31st January Fillongley Church – Heather and Elizabeth will be doing the refreshments but each person needs to bring their own packed lunch. Donations for teas etc will be requested. Approximately 30 people are expected. Five plan to attend from Hartshill Branch.
- 18th February / 18th March meetings – It was agreed that Sheila invite Aphra from Cancer Research - contact for Comfort Packs - to come to talk to members on either the February or March meeting. We would be unable to make up packs until the March meeting and we also need clarification of the age range receiving treatment at GEH as we are currently only planning for packs for male and female adults. ****AP - Sheila to send email to Aphra.**
- Mothering Sunday 15th March – Normal service Nick Miles presiding / Sally prayers.
- Mothering Day Posies – Saturday 14th March - make up Posies in Conservatory - Sue to book conservatory and do labels / Jan has elastic bands / Wendy to order ribbon / purchase of daffodils and supply of foliage to be discussed at February meeting.
- 20th May – tba – possible visit to Lichfield Cathedral – The Longest Yarn 2 display – ** AP Sue to research

- 17th June – Heather to talk on her trip to India
- 15th July – Summer Party – tba
- 16th Sept – tba
- 21st October - tba
- 18th November - tba
- 16th December - Christmas Party

Other ideas

Sue to talk on MU banner

Nick B.B. to talk on the history of the church

Heather spoke about her trip to Baddesley Clinton where there was a display of wreaths made up of old Jigsaw puzzles – this could be a possible craft activity – she will bring a display of items to the February meeting for further consideration.

9. Correspondence – none
10. AOB - none
11. Chairperson's remarks – Sue expressed her thanks for everyone who did something on behalf of MU.
12. The meeting closed with the MU Prayer.