

Minutes of the Meeting – February 2026

Joanna welcomed members, especially our new member **Jane Whitman**, and visitor **Sandy**. Members sang *Jerusalem*.

Apologies were received from Gerry, Jackie, Marion M, Pam F, Ruth and Shirley.

The January minutes and the Risk Assessment were available on the table for viewing.

Matters Arising

Joanna thanked everyone who contributed to the **FEED Food Bank** collection. A generous number of items were displayed with our banner and photographed.

Joanna reported that her Chain Reaction Soup Lunch on 27th January was well attended, enjoyable, and raised **£65**. She thanked all who attended.

The Town Twinning Jumble Sale refreshments were hard work but raised **£70.50**, and Joanna thanked all who helped.

Correspondence

Debbie informed members that the Resolution Shortlist return form has now been submitted to County.

Voting results (28 votes cast):

- 15 – Accessible Public Toilets
- 8 – Action on Women’s Homelessness
- 4 – Every Child Needs a Friend
- 1 – Nearer to Nature

Debbie also mentioned *Signs of Spring* (County News, p.8). Committee have suggested combining a sign clean with a litter pick followed by tea and cake in April. Further details will follow.

Joanna reminded members to use the Suggestion & Feedback box.

County News

Joanna asked members to review the events listed on page 2.

Gerry is planning a **quality fabric sale in May**.

Sub-Committees

Book Club

Wednesday 11th March, 7.30pm at Sue Rowland’s, 30 Roestock Gardens.

Gardening Club

Outing on Tuesday 17th February to view snowdrops in Letchworth.

Outings

No official outings planned yet. Three members are attending the theatre on Saturday 7th March to see *The Actress* at the Breakaway Theatre. Details are available on their website for any members wishing to join.

Sue Rowland reported that the Town Twinning Jumble Sale raised a total of **£780** and was well attended.

Their next event is a **Quiz Night**, Saturday 14th March, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start.

The WI team attending will be Joanna, Pam Rowell, Elizabeth, Janet, Susan, Pam C and her friend.

Future Plans

- **Chain Reaction Cheese & Wine Evening** – Thursday 26th February, 7.30pm (Lesley & Judy hosting). Sign-up sheet available.
 - **Chain Reaction St George's Day Tea** – Thursday 23rd April, 2.30pm (scones, cakes and chocolate hunt). Susan kindly volunteered to host.
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Next Meeting

Wednesday 12th March – Speaker: Clare Pasquale on *Various Verses*.

This will be our **73rd Birthday Meeting** with the usual bring-and-share buffet. Members were asked to bring a “party plate.” Iris will give the VOT.

Competition: A funny card.

Janet and Marion C will assist Veronica with refreshments.

A.O.B.

- Joanna showed members the Competition Cup, now engraved with Pat Pauley's name. A photograph was taken to email to Pat in Scarborough.
 - Members were asked to add a **9** to the end of Joanna's mobile number on their programme cards.
 - Joanna thanked Gerry for redesigning the calendar section of the website.
 - Thanks, were also given to Elizabeth for maintaining the new hall noticeboard.
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Speaker

Harriette Wight, breathing coach, led breathing exercises and gave an informative and inspiring talk on how hormones affect women's breathing at different stages of life.

Iris gave the VOT.

After refreshments, members enjoyed social time together.

Competition Winner: Marion C (a fan).

The raffle was drawn.

Joanna reminded members of:

- The Cheese & Wine evening – 26th February
- The Birthday Meeting – 12th March

The meeting closed with the National Anthem.