

Barnsley and District Branch

Minutes of committee meeting held on 2nd December 2025

Present

Terry Kendall, Kathie Sharman, Ann-Marie Sephton, Alyson Francis, Nishadi Perera, Barrie Cooper, Jan Cooper, Ken Booth, Doris Wragg

1. Welcome

Terry welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from George Spencer.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2025 were agreed as a true record.

4. Matters arising

(a) Terry reported that the committee would need to make a recommendation to the AGM regarding the issue of moving from a Branch to a Support Group. At the last branch meeting he had informed members of the new rules which set out how groups should be run and the need for volunteers but no-one had come forward yet to offer help. There had also been no offers to support Nishadi in her role as Treasurer when Kathie retires.

5. Rose's updates

No items.

6. Chair's report

No items.

7. Treasurer's report

The committee noted the bank statement as at 30th November which showed an adjusted cash and bank balance of £30,957.84, which includes £14,784 from the National Lottery for respite care.

8. Secretary's report

No items.

9. Service Development report

Carers' Day – 18 people attended.

Afternoon Tea – Terry reported on the results of the questionnaire circulated at the last branch meeting. Comments were mainly about insufficient variety of food, small plates and the cramped conditions making it difficult to leave your table to get the food. It was agreed we should seek an alternative venue for next year's event.

10 Pin Bowling – Terry reported on the use of the Carlton bowl as a new venue. The views of the members was that it is an improvement on the Metrodome and that we should continue to use it.

Activity Programme – Terry circulated a draft programme for 2026. The committee agreed that we would provide the same activities as previously.

Terry explained that recently several members had cancelled their attendance at events after the closing date and had expected to be refunded. Giving refunds after the closing date meant that the branch then had to bear the cost of the booked meal/admission/event fee. After discussion the committee agreed we should introduce the policy that members must pay in advance to attend events and that refunds would only be given if a Member cancels their attendance before the closing date, and prior to the submission of final numbers and menu choices to the venue.

If the cancellation is made after the closing date, or once numbers and menu choices have been submitted to the venue, no refund will be issued under any circumstances.

Nishadi produced a document she had prepared which would be given to anyone booking an event. The document would give details of the event, timings, food choices, the cost per person attending the event and the refund policy.

The committee agreed that Alyson should use this document and issue it to all those wishing to attend future events.

10. Fundraising report

Terry reported that he had visited two social groups in Dodworth to receive a cheque for £721 for branch funds. An anonymous donor had donated £700 to be used to part fund the Carers' Pamper Day. PUK had donated £1875, that being half the cost of the upcoming Strolll project. The Pilley Hub donated £60 from their whist drive.

A Just Giving page in memory of Eric Evans had raised over £1,000 for research.

11. Assistant Treasurer's report

Exercise class

	<u>1st Class</u>		<u>2nd Class</u>	
5 th November	10	pwp	7	Carers
12 th November	13		5	
19 th November	12		5	
26 th November	10		4	

Respite care

Nishadi reported that one carer took 3 hours and 4 carers took 4 hours. Total for November £395.20.

12. Membership Secretary's report

The updated membership list will be published later in December.

13. Webmaster's report

Ken reported that he was looking at weekly activities with a view to getting them all on one page and was also considering doing a back-up on a memory stick in case the system crashes.

14. Research Champion's report

No items.

15. Any other urgent and relevant business

No items.

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13th January at 7.00 p.m.