

AGM Meeting Minutes: 10th November 2025

Present: Sarah Harwood, Sarah Mortimer, Fred Toates, Evelyn Slavid, Neil Frude, Irene Baumgartl, Graham Edgar, Abi McLanachan, Charmain Grant, Louise Mullenger, and Catherine Agnihotri

Apologies: Alan Pechey, David Clarke

1. Sarah H welcomes everyone, reflects on the past year and having been Chair for 1 year, welcomes incoming committee members, and thanks OUPS committee and members generally. New events have been introduced - welcome to psychology aimed at new students in Milton Keynes, social meet up at OU campus, and symposium. These have all been popular, gaining new members for OUPS and will continue next year. A new event to encourage more Year 1 and 2 students to attend is being planned for next year. A new online webinar series starts in 2026 which will be hosted by Charmain Grant, our new committee member. We have two busy regions (COUPS and LOUPS) running events as well. We are always interested in discussing with people who wish to set up new regions. Restarted newsletter which is going out to email list, with people contributing articles both from the committee and members.
2. Cathy provides a financial update for members. Ended 2024 in a stable financial position, continuing to deliver a full programme of educational events and activities across the UK while managing reserves in line with Charity Commission guidance. Despite a planned deficit this year, the charity remains financially sound, with healthy reserves and no material risks identified by the independent examiner. Accounts were submitted to the Charity Commission and Open SU. Total Income: £56,278 (2023: £59,193) Total Expenditure: £64,631 (2023: £69,421) Closing Unrestricted Funds: £79,331 (2023: £87,190). LOUPS (London): Reserves decreased from £27,297 to £23,419 due to active event delivery, consistent with planned use of funds. COUPS (Cambridge): Reserves remained steady at £3,662, with further events planned to reduce reserves in 2025. Cathy read out a statement from LOUPS with regards to their commitment to adhering to regulations set out by charity commission and aligning with our processes, and they will be sharing the fees associated with auditing. We are registered for Gift Aid now.
3. Abi presents her talk