

## **TROJAN MICE PLANNING MEETING – 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2026**

This meeting was well-attended with 17 members present. Rosey Thompson, Beryl Carter and Maggie Cantwell had sent their apologies. We welcomed three new members as well as Jane Harvey from Gainsborough U3A who joined us for a second time.

Julie provided an update on the year's recycling outcomes, membership numbers and the group's financial position. We then went on to review our 2025 meetings and the suggestions that we had received over the year from members.

We also highlighted other group meetings that might be of interest to our members later this year. These included the Visits Group trip to the South Ormsby Estate in May and the Garden Group September talk from the owner of Longfield Flowers which are all grown locally on his farm in Willingham. Thanks to Rosey and Louise for their kind invitations to join them.

A matter which had been rumbling all last year was whether the group would consider a change of name. On a number of occasions our current group name 'Trojan Mice' has not been easily understood by either potential new members or by external organisations. We have been very aware that the name had been chosen by our original leader, Mandy Murphy, who is no longer with us but were reassured by members who knew her well that she would not have been upset by us changing it to something more transparent. The name 'Sustainability' seemed popular but the final decision will be made once all members have had their chance to feedback.

A lively discussion followed amongst our members as they considered their programme suggestions for 2026 and more importantly the future direction of our group. After two years of exploring many environmental issues and as a result, sometimes changing our behaviours at an individual level, there was a growing sense amongst the group that we should now begin to work with organisations, communities and other U3A groups in order to make an impact more widely.

Watch this space!

PS. Julie will shortly be emailing you all a questionnaire asking for your ideas for future meetings and any suggestions for a new group name. She will also circulate a copy of Monday's presentation, which included two slides of ideas for our 2026 programme.

Heather