

Minutes of WBPC Committee meeting 29 August 2025

Present: Martin Hudson (Chair), Phil Lear, David Goodes, Bob Houghton, Ken Johnson, Mal Jones (Treasurer), Chris Houghton (Secretary)

Agenda:

- **Tennis meadow lease & Contract – latest news**
- **Current Finances – spend v budget**
- **Savings account – Mal's proposal**
- **Membership issues – pro rata subs, evening & weekend use**
- **Maintenance issues – strings, raking, bench & surrounds**
- **Competition progress & results**
- **Social programme – BBQ, skittles, quiz dates**
- **AGM & committee suggestions and elections**
- **AOB**

Tennis Meadow Lease & Contract

Martin updated the committee on the current situation. The transfer of the lease has stalled due to the County Council insistence that the Sports Centre work through a solicitor, who has not been lined up yet. As yet it isn't clear what costs are involved and whether we will be asked to make a contribution. Situation ongoing.

Current Finances

Mal presented a full breakdown of income and expenditure for the first 8 months of 2025. The club finances are in good order and there have been a number of new members this year. Mal suggested that it would be interesting to discover where the new members got information about the club before joining – word of mouth, passing during social play, website, previous press coverage? Would it be possible to update the membership form with the question. It was **agreed** this was a good idea.

Savings account

Mal had previously informed the committee of an Ethical savings account suitable for clubs in which to invest the contingency fund of £2000. The interest would go somehow to cover bank costs on the main current account. It was **agreed** this should go ahead with Martin & Mal as signatories.

Membership

Chris reported that we currently have 68 members. Mal put forward a proposal that subs should be on a pro rata basis for new members joining later in the year, as follows:

Jan – March	£40
Apr – June	£30
July – Sept	£20
Oct – Dec	£10

Agreed

The pistes are available to use by members at any time during the week, including weekends and evenings. Some members do take advantage of this but mainly play during club sessions. **Phil** raised the question of a member who has friends who would like to join a club but can only play evenings or weekends as they work. Phil thought they might also be keen to play in the leagues. There was some discussion as to whether this would work or if it would create a club within a club. More information and discussion needed before a decision can be made.

Maintenance

Ken brought the committee up to date with a list of maintenance which has been carried out. He and Dave Thorne have repainted both shelters. Ken has also sorted out and tidied the inside of the shed section, and Dave has put up extra shelving. As we no longer have any need for the roller it was **agreed** that it could be passed on to Dave Thorne.

Ken has also removed a small tree growing against the fence and sprayed with heavy duty weed killer. Brambles have also been cut back and treated.

There has been little need for the mowing rota this year as it has been so dry there has been little grass growth.

Dave Thorne has donated a new waste bin.

The question of the widths of the pistes was raised as they are much wider than at other clubs. If the ropes are moved on the “new” pistes it would be possible to gain an extra piste. At the same time the ropes, which are too thick, could be replaced with new strings. **Ken** to implement.

Bob had agreed to take over the raking of the pistes from George, however, he, and several other members have suggested that members could rake a piste before playing as most people arrive 10 – 15 minutes before play. Likewise members taking part in league or friendly games could do the same. **Agreed**

Bob felt that although Sheila's bench has been protected with varnish it hadn't weathered well. Dave Thorne has offered to sand it down and paint it with French green external wood paint. **Ken** suggested that as the planters will also need painting, they might possibly be painted to match. **Agreed**

It had been suggested at a previous committee meeting that the far end of the area surrounding the pistes could also be covered in new gravel. It was decided that whilst this was a possibility, it could wait until 2026 to be discussed again.

Martin is to raise the problem of potholes at the entrance from the road, with the CIC.

Competition progress and results

Phil reported on the current competitions:

League

With only 2 more games left WBPC are top of their league. Only one point is needed to ensure promotion to the next league up. If the team is promoted we will need a stronger & more committed squad for next season.

Singles

Only 10 members have signed up to take part in the singles competition this year. Phil has received the "trophy" back from George who won it last year.

Friendlies

The match against Llandaff has now been played (the last was rained off). Phil is awaiting a reply from Monkston for the away match on September 11. Phil has a team of 9 for this.

Marches singles

This was played on 18 August at WBPC. 10 from Wilton participated. Phil got to the semi final of the main competition and Mal got to the final of the Plate competition.

SKLO Cup

We are playing in the semi final of the Plate at the Nags Head at Peterchurch on 17 September. The final is on 24 September.

Social Programme

David reported on the success of the BBQ at the Yew Tree Peterstow. It had been necessary to move the BBQ due to the threat of rain on the day. Many members had expressed their preference for the venue. It was suggested that if we plan to use the Yew Tree in the future would it be possible to store the club BBQ there. It was further suggested that **David** book early with the pub to ensure we get our preferred dates.

David to enquire.

The next social event planned will be the Quiz on 23 September at the Sports Club. £5 per head. Teams of 4-6 **Chris** to email members

The next Skittles night at the Con Club was discussed. It was suggested that this could be held on the same night as the AGM, which it was agreed would be on Friday 28 November. **David** to contact Adrian at the Con Club to see if that evening is available.

AGM

Friday 28 November.

Chris is standing down as secretary. Ken is also standing down. Bob has completed the one year he agreed to and has offered to stand for election again.

Martin to email membership re AGM and nominations for committee.

Chris to put together details of secretary's role.

No AOB

Meeting ended