

Minutes of WBPC Committee Meeting 30th January 2026

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

Agenda

1. Financial Position
2. Lease from Cricket Club to Sports Centre
3. Membership
4. Recruitment
5. League and Friendly Games use of Sports Centre
6. Social Programme
7. Maintenance
8. Website and Advertising
9. Uniform
10. Review of Meeting

1. Financial Position

Mal presented a report and accounts for the 10 months to 30th September 2025 and projected income/ expenditure to 30th September 2026.

Surplus was reduced due to:

- 2 skittles evenings produced very little income as Cons club had raised the price per head for refreshments to £8.50 a head (members pay £10).
- Sports Centre rent back payments and future rent

Agreed to reduce skittles evenings to one and hold on a different date to AGM

1. Lease from Cricket Club to Sports Centre

Martin has signed the first part of the lease transfer. An invoice for £468 (3x£156) for rent is expected within the next 20 days plus next payment due in April. Martin expressed concern that there may be a substantial increase in future rent.

2. Membership for 2026

Carol reported that to date 56 renewal applications and payments had been received (55x£40 - Harry is free). Two members who have previously joined in the summer when returning from Spain are not included.

2 members have sadly died and 4 members are believed to not be renewing. Possibility of a further 5 members to renew

Membership on 7th February 2025 was 52, therefore at the same point in 2026 there is an increase of 4 with a possibility of a further 5

Action Carol to contact those who are still to renew membership

Phil was provided with a list of members that wished to participate in :

Internal Pairs - 26 in total. 6 pairs and 14 single players.

Agreed to make the draw for single pairings at a club session.

Income £390 (26x£15)

Friendlies with Clubs - 22 in total (2 members playing home games only)

League Games - 10 in total (1 member home matches only and 1 prepared to be reserve)

3. Recruitment

Phil discussed increasing social playing sessions to evenings and/ or weekends to attract younger and working players. Would need to comply with the club constitution and sessions would need to be managed by a member. Phil and 2 members currently prepared to attend Saturday sessions. **Martin** pointed out that if children under 18 or vulnerable adults wished to join then will require DBS clearance for members managing sessions..

Suggestion: that banner be erected on the outside of the fence stating days, times of social playing sessions. An open day on a weekend would possibly attract more attendees.

Action Martin to draft proposal for weekend/ evening sessions

4. League and Friendly Games and Use of Sports Club

Phil and **Mal** to plan for playing in division one. Playing rules are much more strict. They will organize practice sessions.

Caerleon are wanting to play their home and away friendly matches before the end of May due to other playing commitments.

Action Phil to arrange.

A singles knockout competition to be played in September.

Action Phil to organize

Petra and Nick Clapp are no longer leaving the area and are willing to be more involved with the running of the club.

Suggested that Phil could use their offered assistance.

Floodlights for home evening sessions to be kept by **Clive**

Mal to continue arranging food and refreshments for home friendly and league games.

Mal, John McGillveray, Jack Utting Brian Fountain and Paul Symonds (as reserve) offered to run the bar.

Action Will require some training and re-training

Phil to make a block booking with the Sports Club for Wednesdays.

5. Social Programme

David planning on:

1 x Quiz night in September/ October at Sports Club, to encourage friends and family. The size of the room does limit numbers.

2 x Skittles at Cons Club suggested 10th April and during October . May result in increase of cost due to increase in cost of food.

Action Dave to discuss food provision with Cons Club at lower price possibly by changing menu

2 x BBQs at Yew Tree 23rd June and during August

Discussion on using club BBQ and/ or walking group BBQ which is already located at Yew Tree. Club BBQ will need to be transported to Yew Tree.

Action Dave to contact Bryan Hunt as he has a trailer to ask if able to transport club BBQ if necessary

Christmas Lunch 2025

Agreed that venue has difficulty in catering with numbers wishing to attend which caused overcrowding and affected service

Action Chris and David to speak to Lee

Christmas Lunch 2026 was discussed. Suggestions made for The Royal Hotel and The Old Court for 2026. **David** had visited the Old Court, they have a function room that can be divided up depending on numbers and is available Monday to Thursday lunchtime from end of November into December. Not available on weekends. Costing approximately £30 for 3 courses of home cooked food.

Agreed, the Old Court was a preferred option, possibly 9th or 10th December.

Action David to contact Old Court with suggested dates

6. Maintenance

It was agreed that there was little work to be carried out during 2026 as been done during 2025 i.e. gravel, therefore costs should be minimal.

Regular maintenance required involving mowing, weeding, moss control, tidying the far end, painting flower planters and coat hooks on fences.

Bob carried out inventory of shed contents and provided a list. He had purchased a large dustpan and soft brush and Dave Thorne had fitted foam on corners of both shelters to prevent people injuring their heads.

Action to purchase petrol for mower, weedkiller and moss killer, Dave Thorne to arrange **Martin** had contacted Barnaby who had quoted £85 to do the first cut of the grass. **Martin** had also spoken to the cricket club and it may be possible to use their sit-on mower. The club mower may be sufficient to keep grass low after 1st cut. Clive has agreed to continue with periodic strimming.

Action Bob to update the mowing rota and contact Clive about the strimming

Agreed Martin to contact Bob Stephenson's daughter to discuss having a plaque on the side of the largest planter to promote Ross Garden Store who have provided the plants for a number of years and possibly include a memorial to Bob.

The chairs nearest the edge of the large shelter are at times getting wet when it rains and there have been occasions when chairs have been left outside after a club session.

Agreed members to be requested to move chairs from the edge of shelters further inside and to ensure no chairs are left outside.

Action Carol to send email to all members

7. Website and Advertising

The website needs to be reviewed with some photographs and information being removed. Discussed using social media to advertise club and open days Nick Clapp may be able to assist. **Chris** asked if anyone had some suitable publicity photographs to let her have them. It was felt that some of the present information is not suitable for being on the web site and could be included in a quarterly Chairpersons News Chat that could be sent out to all members. Discussed the possibility of posting information on club sessions and open days etc on social media

Agreed that web site details put on club sign and any advertisement etc to keep the present colour and logo

Action Chris to see Harry to discuss website and Nick Clapp about using social media

8. Uniform

Phil had contacted the supplier of club polo shirts. The sapphire blue in women's sizes has been discontinued.

Agreed women members to try men's shirts in Small and Medium to see if suitable.

It was felt that members playing in league and friendly club matches needed name tags.

Agreed that Carol obtain suitable name tags that can be pinned on clothing.

Phil suggested that members have the opportunity to purchase a baseball cap with WBPC logo on.

Action Phil to obtain quotation for caps.

9. Review of Meeting

- Keep expenditure to a minimum
- Use Sports Club as much as possible
- Discuss food menu with Con Club for skittles nights