

Minutes of WBPC Committee Meeting Tuesday 5th May2026

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

Agenda

1. Finance
2. License to Occupy
3. Membership
4. Recruitment and Advertising
5. Maintenance
6. Play Sessions
7. Social Events
8. AOB

1. Finance

Mal presented a report and accounts from 30/09/2025 to 30/04/2026. There is a healthy balance in the current account after previous projected expenditure has been paid i.e. back rent to Sports Centre and bag of gravel. Skittles evening held in April produced a surplus as a result of change in menu

Agreed - to transfer funds into savings account from current account and arrange a free BBQ late August/ early September for members.

2, License to Occupy

Martin had received a very lengthy draft updated license agreement between WBPC and RSC, CIC. Discussed the points and queries that Martin had raised. Martin awaiting reply to his comments.

Chris thanked Martin for going through the lengthy report and for all that he does "behind the scenes"

3.Membership

Carol stated that membership remains at 60. Mal confirmed that 59 payments were received (Harry free).

Following the recent recruitment drive four on line applications had been received, two via U3A and 2 unknown where acquired information. Only 1 person has played 2 of her 3 games, to date she has not officially joined due to health problems. Carol has informed her that she has one more free game and that if decides to join later then there will be a reduction in the amount of fee for this year.

4. Recruitment and Advertising

The recent recruitment drive was discussed:

Flyers - Phil had placed in 2 sheltered accommodation premises and had sent 10 to various sports clubs. Not received any enquiries

Rotary Club - 4 members had recently attended an evening play session arranged specifically for them. Martin and Phil were present to provide information and guidance. Not received any enquiries.

U3A - had sent emails to 600+ members plus further emails informing them of extra play sessions on Saturday and summer playing times. Responses have been received from 2 members of U3A who completed online application forms, only 1 having attended 2 of 3 free playing sessions.

Others - 2 online application forms received from a couple, who Martin had contacted and informed of free sessions etc.. To date they have not attended a social playing session.

Advertising

Facebook - Agreed that Facebook page / Ross noticeboard, is a good resource for advertising and promoting the club. Nick has been posting information and photographs on WBPC Facebook page. Agreed that information about social activities i.e. skittles, quizzes and BBQs to be included in future advertising

Action - Chris to oversee content of facebook and web site

Open Day - to be held at **2pm on Thursday 11th June**. To be publicized in Ross Gazette and Facebook/ Ross notice board. Martin had drafted an advertisement for the Gazette.

Banner - Sports Centre have agreed to a banner being placed on the perimeter fence to be approximately 5ft x 2ft in colour of the noticeboard containing the club logo and website.

Action - Chris/ Bob to contact sign maker and will bring suggestions to committee

5. Maintenance

Pistes

Malcolm had ordered a bag of gravel for topping up the newer pistes size 4/1 to be delivered Wednesday 13th May.

Weed killer/ Moss Killer

Dave Thorne has scraped up all the moss which is piled along the fence at the far end of pistes. Requires taking to the tip in bags. Bryan Hunt willing to transport in his trailer. He will have to book place at tip

Action - Bob to arrange disposal of moss.

Dave and Ken to spray weedkiller and moss killer when weather conditions suitable

Grass Mowing - awaiting decision on whether C C mower can be used to do main cutting, as has insurance implications.

The club mower is not working and possibly not repairable.

Agreed - will purchase a new club mower if necessary. In the interim **Mal** offered to take his mower and cut grass.

Strimming - will still need to use a petrol trimmer to cut grass on the bank and under the tree.

Action - Bob to ask Clive if still able to use his petrol trimmer, if not could purchase one ourselves.

Agreed - that if purchase a trimmer it would need to be heavy duty petrol.

John McGillvery has offered to donate a battery driven trimmer **Phil** to contact John and accept his offer

Flower Troughs - Martin had contacted Bob Stephenson's daughter Alison about plaque on troughs in memorial to Bob. After discussion with the family, they did not want a plaque, instead they wish to continue to donate plants from garden centre as felt it would be a suitable memorial

Agreed - Bob to take on responsibility for troughs and contact with garden centre

6. Play Sessions

Pairs

Phil reported:

The following week will be the last week of the pair's fixtures. There are still a number of "catch ups" to be played. Phil has put a note on the latest table that he should be informed if people believe there to be any inaccuracies in the scores recorded. Phil will send out a reminder about "catch ups"

League Matches

The team drew the first two league matches, this week is a bye. League fixtures are due to finish on the 9th September.

Agreed that Phil will post match results on the noticeboard for members information.

Friendlies

The first one was played at home on the 21st April at home against Abergavenny, which we lost 12 games to 9. The away match is to be played on the 9th June
We are playing away to Llandaff on 7th May and at home on the 14th May.

We are playing Solihull at home on the 16th June, awaiting confirmation of the away match.

Monkstone is to be played away on 30th June and at home on the 9th July.

The Sports Club has been booked for the matches. Jen Every is co-ordinating with the players for bringing food

SLKO Competition

We entered into the competition qualifying game on the 27th May, second match on 8th July with the knockout stage being on the 19th August. These matches are due to be played on the same evening as the league (Wednesday).

Marches Competition

Triples to be played at Brecon on 17th May (Phil, Tom and Ramesh playing)

Pairs to be played at Clehonger on 28th June

Singles to be played at W Hereford on 26th July

Phil is hoping to play in all matches providing he can get a partner

Sports Centre - No problems with facilities at recent home friendly games. **Mal** is willing to continue with the bar and also show other members what to do, should he not be available.

Flood lights - Clive willing to take care of them and keeping them at home

7. Social Events

BBQs - **David** has booked The Yew Tree for Tuesday 23rd June 2pm until 4pm. Members that are helping to set up to be there at 1pm.

The Yew Tree is willing to store the club BBQ and gas bottles.

As it is the 5th year of WBPC Martin suggested that we have a cake at this BBQ to celebrate.

Action - **Carol** to send out email to all members.

- **David** to ask Bryan Hunt if able to transport BBQ on his trailer
- **Martin** to ask Hilary (Broomes Farm) if able to make a cake.

August / September BBQ - it was suggested and agreed that this is free for members to be paid for out of club funds.

Quiz - Sept/ Oct. Phil enquired whether an invite could be extended to the walking group.

Agreed that this could be arranged. Total maximum numbers 45-50

Skittles - to be arranged October/ November.

Agreed - not to include AGM

Christmas lunch - booked at The Old Court for 9th December 2026

9. AOB

Petanque England Events - have asked whether our pistes could be available for outside events. After discussion, it was decided to decline the approach owing to doubts about the availability of the Centre facilities and enough voluntary help.

Footwear

Carol had noted that on PE website for competitors, the following is stated

“Correct dress is required of the players, specifically it is forbidden to play without a top, and for safety reasons, players must wear fully enclosed shoes protecting their toes and heels”

Action - Martin to include in Risk Assessments

- Carol to send out email to members

Meeting Ended