

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting on Monday 22ndth September 2025 held at Ratham Lane, Bosham

Present: Richard Sanderson, Tony Clark, Jan Copsey, Alan Copsey, Scilla Jutton-Holland, Sue Wilkins and Barbara MacWhirter

Apologies

Clare Burt, Margaret Edwards appeared via Zoom half way through.

Minutes of the last meeting

Accepted.

Matters Arising

They will be dealt with during the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Tony said that 53 people had paid their subscriptions. Some discussion followed regarding non payers. Alan will speak to some at rehearsals who need reminding.

Media Report

Barbara said that there were 109 visits to the website and that this will probably increase when tickets for AWD go on sale managed by Ticketsource. Flyers for *People* are with the printers and various local magazines have been contacted. Alan has also sent in an article to *Bosham Life*.

Health and Safety, Technical Matters

Tony gave an update regarding the hall. He said that a sum of £140,000 had been received to upgrade it. Various projects will be sent out to tender and when those are in, the hall committee will decide on what can be afforded and what should be prioritised. Among them are improvements to the ceiling, insulation, the toilets and the corridors. It seems that the bats can be moved if necessary by certain authorised people. The lighting in the car park was a safety concern that was discussed. It was suggested that if the hall looks nicer it might attract more hirers and more revenue, hopefully just in the day time though.

Members Update

There are no new members at present, Margaret said.

Major Productions

• Autumn 2025 *People* directed by Alan

Alan has been in contact with CFT and some furniture and props are available for hire but others, in particular a film camera of the period will need to be sourced elsewhere. It needs to be quite big. The lighting issues were discussed as it is hard to provide the powerful lights needed on the stage for this play but Tony suggested some options to manage this. Alan is pleased that the cast are sensitive to where they are in the space when performing and do not need detailed directing in this respect.

The Stage Left space is likely to be adequate for the storage of props and furniture. During the interval the big change in the second half needs to be prepared for. Actors will have to manage a fair amount of this. The back wall will just have the black curtains already there rather than flats and there will be a brown carpet. Costume will be appropriate to the character and some will be drab but some will be colourful and stand out against the background. Tony noted that we are likely to need

to accept simpler sets in future as there are not sufficient stalwarts now to build the more complex sets that we have had in the past.

At Bolton Twill we will need to do some painting but it is just background colour that will need to be distressed at some point.

- **Spring Production 2026**

Gill will direct *The Perfect Murder* by Hugh Janes. Scripts were ordered 4 weeks ago so it is hoped that they will arrive in the next two weeks. They are printed to order now it seems.

- **Play Readings**

Entertaining Angels by Richard Everett on 31st October

Two into One by Ray Cooney on 5th December (Scilla to contact Allan Brown regarding the date)

The playreading record was updated and the two recent ones that we read were both thought to be possible productions: *All my sons* and *Second From Last in the Sack Race*.

AWD 6

Margaret sent her report on the present state of AWD to committee and gave a detailed outline of progress. She said that it is all going well. Sadly Rona has had to step back due to family issues and AWD management are very grateful to Sue for stepping in as Stage Manager. It is a lot more complicated than it was and there are 10 plays this time. Sue thought that there might need to be some changes to ensure the smooth running of the event. The midway rehearsal will be held this week.

Barbara expressed her need to have a two-seater sofa in her play and had sourced a small light one that she wanted to use rather than using two hall chairs with a throw. The issue was discussed fully and she was disappointed to find that for the sake of simplicity of operations, committee agreed with AWD management that it had to be hall chairs and a throw. Barbara said that her name should therefore be removed from the programme as director of that play.

Social Events

A celebration at Christmas will be offered on 9th December and it will take the form of a quiz in which members are asked to take responsibility for a round. Jan will manage this. There will be some food too with people being asked to bring a plate and a bottle. They could offer to 'do a turn' too.

Sue tried to book the celebratory meal at the College for 15th January 2026 but there is a problem and we have to wait to see what dates are available.

Newsletter Items

Playreads as above.

AWD: tickets are on sale now.

People: Saturday 11th October from 10.00 for Bolton Twill

Social Events: The 12th Night date TBC and the quiz event on 9th December

AOB

None

Next Meeting Dates

20th October, 17th November and 15th December