

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting on Monday 20th October 2025 held at Ratham Lane, Bosham

Present: Tony Clark, Jan Copsey, Alan Copsey, Scilla Jutton-Holland, Barbara MacWhirter, Clare Burt, Margaret Edwards and Jason Burt. Sue Wilkins appeared via a phone link as Zoom was down globally.

Apologies

Richard Sanderson

Minutes of the last meeting

Accepted by a majority after some discussion.

Matters Arising

They will be dealt with during the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Tony said that he would make some comments regarding finances under the AWD heading later in the meeting.

Media Report

Barbara said that there had been a number of visits to the website relating to the next production and that tickets are selling well. Publicity has been sent out to all the local parish magazines and to the Emsworth one. Alan will make contact with Phil Hewitt of *The Observer*. Apparently we don't need so many flyers now as a large number of people are on our mailing list and they get the material via email. Alan said that the system for updating it is that if someone has not bought tickets for the last four productions then they are deleted from the list.

Health and Safety, Technical Matters

Tony said that one of the kettles in the kitchen is not working now. The hall committee have been notified. The garden furniture is moved around as necessary and will be put somewhere else during production week as we need the stage area where it is currently. Tony was asked about other groups using the hall. He stated that they are all told that when we block the period for our productions they have to accept that they cannot use it.

Members Update

Margaret said that two ladies have expressed an interest recently and she will follow this up. She said that she makes it clear to prospective members that we cannot be accessed by public transport so they need their own vehicles.

Major Productions

• Autumn 2025 *People* directed by Alan

Alan said that rehearsals are going well. The only issue is the lack of a person overseeing costume. Pat Thompsett has helped with some of them but she has a part so she already has enough to cope with. He has furniture set aside by CFT that will be collected for Get In.

• Spring Production 2026

Gill will direct *The Perfect Murder* by Hugh Janes. She has been given the 18 scripts she needs and has begun giving them out to members who expressed an interest in auditioning.

- **Play Readings**

Entertaining Angels by Richard Everett on 31st October managed by Barbara.

Two into One by Ray Cooney on 5th December. Allan Brown will manage this.

AWD 6

Margaret sent her report on the present state of AWD to committee. This is an interim report as she and Pat will compile a report for next month based on feedback from participants. Alan said he thought it was the best AWD he had seen.

There were ten plays presented and that included some new writers. People had a lot of fun working on them and the audiences were appreciative. Fifty tickets were sold making £250 over two nights. Margaret had many positive comments and she expressed her appreciation to committee and all who gave their support. She made particular mention of Ellen who stepped up with stage management and to Pat for all her hard work on overall organising the event and directing two plays.

The bar report followed. The bar profits were £199.70. Scilla reported that this sum was achieved as no wine had to be bought because there was a lot left over from the previous production. She also bought the 9 bottles that were left over at the end herself for a private event. Tony said that the bar profits meant that AWD 6 was close to breaking even.

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.

Sue will book the celebratory meal at the College for 12th February 2026 as this is the date they offered us. It will not be exclusive to us as they need 60 covers for that.

Jason reported that the Barley Mow is due to open soon under new management. It has a skittle alley that we have used in the past. He will investigate there further for us.

Newsletter Items

Margaret will send Jan a piece on initial thoughts on AWD.

Playreads as above.

People: Get In starting in the evening of Thursday 20th November

Social Events: Quiz event on 9th December

The 12th Night dinner on 12th February 2026

Spring production details.

AOB

Clare said that regrettably she has to miss committee meetings sometimes due to pressure of work. Jason is willing to attend in her place. Committee were grateful to them for offering this option and accepted it with thanks.

Next Meeting Dates

17th November, 15th December and 19th January 2026.