

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting on Monday 19th January 2026 held at Ratham Lane, Bosham

Present: Richard Sanderson, Tony Clark, Jan Copsey, Alan Copsey, Scilla Jutton-Holland, Barbara MacWhirter, Clare Burt, Jason Burt, Margaret Edwards, Sue Wilkins and Gill Lambourn.

Apologies

There were no apologies.

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were accepted.

Matters Arising

These were dealt with in the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Tony said that two more people had paid for the 12th Night Dinner. He went on to give a report back about the Village Hall. Extensive renovations will be done in the summer this year, including insulation for the walls and ceiling. We are required to clear all our equipment from the hall before this starts and we will not be able to put it back in the store or boiler house. We need to do a major clear out and to find another way of storing what we want to keep, preferably on site. We might use a container, if we can agree where to put it, or we might use an on-site garage, though they are in disrepair and damp. Roof space for the lighter stuff is also an option to be explored. There are huge implications for our lighting/electrics which will need to be removed before the works on the ceiling begin and then re-installed afterwards. It is proposed that our CCTV leads etc. are removed before the work is done, as far as possible.

Media Report

Barbara said that the figures last month for site visits were 60% down at 148 which is not surprising for that time of year. Details of the dinner menu are on the website. Pat sends Aaron information for Instagram but would like someone else to manage this as she does not have an account with them. Barbara said that information about the Spring Production will be sent out in a much fuller version nearer the time.

Health and Safety, Technical Matters

A door light will be installed when the hall is reopened.

Members Update

We have two new paid up members. One non member will not be attending playreads from now on.

Major Productions

• Spring Production 2026

Gill still needs a props person. Items are not difficult to source but need to be placed correctly and to be available as rehearsals progress. Gill also spoke of art work that she needs. A large shield for the court scene was discussed. Margaret was asked to address this. A recording for the sound cues has been produced that can be used in rehearsals. Jan wishes to fine tune it for the actual production week.

- **Candidates Autumn 2026**

Allan Brown suggested *Laying the Ghost* by Simon Williams and gave Scilla a script to read. Barbara also read it and both were not sure if it was suitable so it was passed to Alan Copsey to read too.

- *Up 'n' Under* by John Godber directed by Chris Smith was discussed. It was read as a playread recently and it was agreed that it would be hard to cast as it requires a number of men who look like rugby players.
- We have already read *Entertaining Angels* that Barbara offered to direct as the Autumn Production. It was agreed that this is the one we will do.

AWD 7

AWD 7 performances will be on 25th and 26th September 2026 with Technical and Dress Rehearsals during the day on Friday 25th as usual. Get In would be Thursday 24th in the evening and a run through would be on Wednesday 23rd evening. St Nicholas Hall has been booked. Alan will liaise with those managers.

Margaret said that the assessment process will be shortened and they are looking for 8 plays maximum. Rona and Sue will attend the two midway rehearsals to see what set requirements there are for each play. Only furniture already at the hall will be used.

Poster Project

This was discussed fully. These issues have been regularly looked at in the past and difficulties have been identified with finding people who will manage the new ventures. Access to West Ashling makes it difficult for those without transport and reaching out into new areas requires younger people who will commit to this. We do still produce plays that sell out. CFT has a thriving outreach programme that attracts numerous young people and we cannot compete with that. We are reaching our target audience still and will focus on that while we can. Barbara will observe new developments in community projects in Minerva Heights.

Social Events

Sue said that she has had 20 people pay for the meal at the College for 12th February 2026. The menu is in the *Newsletter*. The deadline approaches and members will be reminded to book soon.

Jason reported that the Barley Mow will be available for a Skittles Evening. He will investigate this.

Newsletter Items

Playread moved to March and Noel Coward One act plays may feature TBA

AWD details

The 12th Night dinner on 12th February 2026

Bolton Twill 28th February

AOB

There was no AOB

Next Meeting Dates

16th February (not at the Copseys'), 23rd March 2026 and 20th April.