

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting on Monday 20th July 2026 held in Bosham

Present: Richard Sanderson, Tony Clark, Scilla Jutton-Holland, Barbara MacWhirter, Sue Wilkins, Jan Copsey and Margaret Edwards. Alan Copsey was invited to attend by Barbara.

Apologies

There were apologies from Chris Smith and Jason Burt.

Chairperson

Barbara was appointed as Chairperson for one year.

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last committee meeting were accepted. It was said that there was an omission from the recent AGM minutes. In the section on AWD it should have been reported that Pat said that the AWD initiative had given rise to a similar project in another drama society.

Matters Arising

These were dealt with in the meeting.

Media Report

Committee discussed the extent of publicity that we wanted for AWD 7 and whether we wished to reach the wider public with it. AWD does feature on the website and Alan will put it in the Bosham magazine diary. It was felt that AWD is very worthwhile and most valuable but does not show the more polished event that we present twice a year as our main productions. Seating will be limited so anyone wishing to attend would be wise to book as we are not likely to be able to accommodate walk-ins.

Treasurer's Report

We are now having to deal with the additional expense of paying for another container. We get the first 4 months for the price of 3. It will be over £3,000 per annum when we pay the full price. At some point we will also have to move our staging from Jason's container. We might be able to strip out more of what we are holding, though hard decisions have already been made. We may need to be more restrained in acquiring stuff in future.

It was suggested that we are due a refund of hire fees from the AGM booking at the Church Room recently as the bell-ringing made it almost impossible to hear anything.

Village Hall Renovation

Tony reported that the ceiling is out and the battens are being installed for the internal insulation. He had a very productive conversation with the builder who was receptive to our needs, especially in relation to the complex wiring and power arrangements that we have had for lighting, sound and CCTV. In future the house lighting will have to be controlled by FoH, not via the lighting box. Tony will give the builder a diagram of what we would like in terms of lighting sockets etc.

He said that the stage will have lost a few inches from the front edge. New boarding will be laid on top of the existing very battered boards. It was noted that we will have to avoid screwing things to the walls and will need to make greater use of stage braces.

Major Productions: Autumn 2026

Entertaining Angels

Barbara plans to make a spreadsheet for this production. She has sourced trellis for the garden scenes. She would like to have some Sunday rehearsals but there may be a problem if St Nicholas' Hall is used. Alan will talk to the Vicar. Hopefully WAVH will be ready to use some time in September. She is trying to put together a creative team using newer members and prospective members to help spread the load of set design, construction and Stage Management. The lighting is critical in this play but the sound is relatively straightforward.

Playreads and Future Production Proposals

We read *Amy's View* by David Hare recently but this was just for interest and it was not thought to be suitable as a main production.

Donkey's Years is a strong contender but as it is a farce and the set is critical, Jan wishes to wait until we are established back in WAVH and then she may consider offering it for Autumn 2027.

Alan was asked if he would consider again doing *Enlightenment*. Barbara knows of a young man who is a good actor who might be considered for the main part. Alan suggested that he is spoken to by someone who knows him and is offered a script to read.

Death Trap will be read on 7th August. Chris Smith will manage it. The *Lion in Winter* by James Goldman will be read on 2nd October managed by Scilla. There will be no playread in September as we have AWD7.

AWD 7

The Production Team have agreed the best layout for the audience seating which Barbara queried. Movement of furniture, props and actors was discussed. It was agreed that it will be easier to see clearly what works when we get there in the August rehearsals. We were reminded that furniture and props need to be kept to a minimum.

Members Update

There were 3 potential new members at the last play read. 2 of whom were known by some of us as they were involved in West Dean. The other lady was spoken to by members as she was unclear what the purpose of the play read was. Discussion followed about how we interact with potential new members after initial contact had been made, usually via the website. It was suggested that the wider membership be canvassed for ideas.

Social Events

Sue said that there is another Skittles Alley in Westbourne so she will investigate it for us.

Newsletter Items

Chairperson for one year is Barbara
Playread of *Death Trap* on Friday 7th August
Playread of *The Lion in Winter* on Friday 2nd October
AWD7 midway rehearsals 3rd and 19th August
Update on WAVH renovation
Reminder about subscriptions

Nominations to join the committee

Request for website person to advise on contact with potential new members

AOB

Ticket prices will go up to £14 and in the bar a glass of wine will be £4.

The Cafe Evening in January was discussed briefly.

The additional information about AWD was required to be inserted as mentioned above.

Barbara proposed thanks to Richard for his work as Chairman for the last 3 years.

Next Meeting Dates

17th August in Gloucester Way, Chichester and 21st September in Bosham