

## **Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026 held in Bosham**

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

### **Apologies**

There were apologies from Chris Smith and Jason and Clare Burt.

### **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were accepted.

### **Matters Arising**

These were dealt with in the meeting.

### **Media Report**

Barbara said that there have been 296 site visits and 191 unique visitors. The publicity for AWD will go to a wider audience to try to attract new members.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Tony said that he has yet to receive the costumes bill for *The Perfect Murder*. However he is confident that the production has resulted in a comfortable profit. He has nearly finished preparing the end of year accounts and he anticipates a surplus at the end of the Financial Year.

### **Village Hall Renovation**

Tony said that there is a lot of clearing to do. The flats and the rostra have been taken to the container. Jason and Clare have kindly given us the use of their van and allowed us to put some of our stuff in their own container. Tony will agree a date with Jason to do some more moving and then inform the rest of us so that it can become a team effort. A lot of stuff will not be kept.

### **Members Update**

Nothing further to report as no recent subscriptions have been paid.

### **Major Productions: Autumn 2026**

#### ***Entertaining Angels***

Barbara said that she has cast the play and has had a number of offers for backstage support. Jan and Alan will design sound and lighting, Lisa will manage FoH, Sue will do Box Office and prompt and Scilla will do the bar. Several other people have said that they are available to help. We need props and costume people.

#### **Playreads**

It was agreed that *Dear Octopus* was fun to read but is not a contender as a production. *Donkey's Years* will be read on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Jan will manage it. She said that there are two versions of it. Production would involve a complex set change that might prove too challenging for us, nevertheless we will read it and decide after that. *Death Trap* is also available for hire so we will read that. Chris Smith will manage it. Two David Hare plays were suggested: *Plenty* or *Amy's View*. Alan is interested in them.

#### **AWD 7**

Margaret said that five scripts have already been submitted on the theme of *Breakdown*. She expects that there could be as many as seven more to come. St Nicholas Hall, where it will be staged, is narrower than WAVH so the seating will probably have to be in three rows. Hopefully they can be

staggered to improve sight lines. There are fewer power points so lighting will basically be on/off. It was decided to have a bar as usual rather than ask people to bring their own drinks so that we can make some profit. It is necessary to apply for a one off licence from the District Council- a TENS Licence apparently.

### **Social Events**

Sue has been taking bookings for the Barley Mow for a Skittles Evening and a meal on 29<sup>th</sup> May. We now have 23 people so booking is closed and she will finalise that with them.

There will be an event on 8th January 2027 for the AWD overflow: the plays that will not be part of AWD 7. We could have an American supper that would replace the usual Twelfth Night meal. If there are not enough items to provide some entertainment we could do a rehearsed reading. This will be kept in reserve for when we know more detail on what AWD 7 is comprised of.

### **AGM**

Discussion followed on how to make the best use of the meeting to take ideas from the members about the way forward for FPs. As we have discussed on numerous occasions, the committee needs new, younger members with fresh ideas to steer the Players forward when those of us in advanced years have to step back. Barbara spoke of the growing community at Minerva Heights as a possible resource, if we have the manpower to access it. It will have its own community centre of course which may provide a nucleus of active people who might want to join us too. We discussed the usual problem of attracting young people who may be transient and who may not have transport. Hopefully there will be a good response from the members at the AGM.

We also need to find a new Chairperson as Richard has done his three years and needs to step down.

### **Newsletter Items**

Skittles Evening at the Barley Mow on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

Playread of *Donkey's Years* on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June

AWD7 read through for actors on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June

AGM on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July

Playread of *Amy's View* on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Playread of *Death Trap* on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August

### **AOB**

None

### **Next Meeting Dates**

22<sup>nd</sup> June in Chichester, 20<sup>th</sup> July in Bosham and 17<sup>th</sup> August in Bosham