

WINSFORD RECREATION ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD APRIL 30TH 2026

- CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

After welcoming and thanking those in attendance FL first mentioned that both JO and RR were retiring from WRAC after 5 years. He thanked them for their amazing contributions and said that they would be sorely missed.

New Trustees will need to be found and roles accordingly.

- CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None recorded.

- MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

These have been circulated. A small change had been requested by FL. This amendment has been noted in the actual Minutes Record.

- FINANCES

IW presented his report as follows;

Our year has returned a small surplus, and our total reserve is in a good position.

Since making the changes to our account as agreed at previous meeting, we are generating much better interest than the before.

The New Jersey Boys event also generated a profit.

The Public Performing Rights Licence is due for renewal and will result in an outgoing, final figure TBC.

We have incurred the usual running costs; Utilities, Hedge and Grass cutting.

IW expects that our Insurance costs will rise this year.

A Fire Inspection of the Pavilion and it's fire-fighting equipment is also due.

It has been a good year for WRAC, barring the one-off costs, that are detailed shortly.

Removing fallen, dead and diseased trees on the edge of the Playing Field adjacent to the river has had significant impact on our funds.

Additionally a deposit for our next musical event in the Village Hall has been paid.

However, IW is confident that "one-off" costs can be absorbed by WRAC so long as they are not too frequent.

Hedge and Grass cutting costs have increased, due to us now having more to manage,(lower tennis court field). The gang-mowers cannot cut close against the Tennis Courts. Dan Passmore has been approached to do this work and has supplied a quote. This was voted on by those present and approved. FL will confirm this to Dan.

Sue Hayes offered additional support to the WRAC using some of the funds raised by the weekly Coffee Club and her annual Strawberry Tea event. FL thanked her on behalf of WRAC for this.

IW suggested a total reserve figure for us to aim at.

However, six more trees have been identified as being badly in need of removal.

A quote been received for felling, removal and clear-up. This was approved by vote.

FL take over the running of the 100 Club and will consolidate the subs that have been received this year.

EVENTS.

Strawberry Tea..... a big thanks to Sue and her team of helpers for planning and organising this.

Thanks to Steve Pickard for organising and running a very successful Quiz Night in the Village Hall. It was a well-attended and fun evening, raising a good total towards WRAC Funds.

Ducks and Skittles on the Green. Will be held on Saturday and Sunday of the late August Bank Holiday. Hopefully lots of WRAC members will be available on those days to help things run smoothly. FL confirmed that unfortunately he will be away on these dates.

Halloween Pumpkin Contest and Display will go ahead as usual on 31st October.

Musical Night in Village Hall. This year our band are a Ska/Madness Tribute Band. This is booked for 21st November. Ticket details etc will be publicised after the summer period.

Santa will, of course, be making his annual visit to Winsford. This time on Monday 21st December. Gifts, Elves and so on will all be organised nearer the time.

An old colleague of EC is an accomplished musician and also a member of The Magic Circle and has long standing residences in venues in the Midlands. He has confirmed his willingness to entertain in April '27. EC will liaise to find and confirm a suitable date.

CRICKET CLUB.

IC reported on behalf of AB that things are in order with the Pavilion and the Cricket Team ahead of the start of the new season.

TENNIS CLUB.

FL reported that the Tennis courts are still in reasonable condition for play. They will, again, be treated for weeds, lichen etc. In a few year's time they will probably need to be re-surfaced. We are looking potentially at a more reasonable quote for this work from a company in Minehead.

FL will investigate the possibility of sponsors to help with the upkeep of the courts.

A request has been submitted to WRAC concerning the use of the courts by some of the village youngsters and their skateboards, after some discussion those present agreed that, given the age of the surfaces, this may cause an accelerated deterioration and bring forward the refurbishment of the courts..... the likely cost of which has already been raised as of serious concern. We agreed, therefore, to say that no wheeled activity should take place on the tennis courts.

We also discussed the pros and cons of installing a single basket ball hoop and back board. This would provide additional recreational opportunity. IC to investigate availability and likely cost of one with a "goose-neck" which could be installed outside the perimeter fencing and avoid the need to disrupt the court surface during installation.

AOB.

As mentioned during Opening Remarks, JO and RR are standing down.

This means that responsibility for both Events and the 100 Club will need to be re-assigned, either to existing Trustees or to new, assuming we are able to recruit same. Several names were mentioned and will be approached. In the interim FL will monitor Membership and Prize Draws.

Please let FL or IC know if you become aware of anyone else who may be interested.

JO has quite a stash of items, including Xmas decorations, glitter ball, Halloween decorations and so on. SH kindly volunteered to store these.

EC will take over PRS. Also any archive material we have and also to produce posters for future events.

The Village AGM was a success and FL was able to report positively on behalf of WRAC.

EC had produced an "Activity Survey" for all our villagers to see if there was interest in any further activities. There was a strong feeling that a Gardening Club could be a success. EC will further pursue this. SH offered a £200 start-up donation towards this

CLOSING.

The meeting was closed, with thanks, by FL.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 24th September, in The Royal Oak.