

WINSFORD RECREATION ASSOCIATION

MINUTES 25TH SEPTEMBER 2025

PRESENT; FRASER LAWRENCE, IAN CHAMBERLAIN, BRYAN NEALE, IAN WHYBROW, ELLEN CHAMBERLAIN, JO LAWRENCE, JANE ORCHISTON, ROS REES, ANDREW BLACKMORE.

APOLOGIES; SUE HAYES, MIKE HAYES

OPENING REMARKS, (FL)

Thanks for attendance and apologies for the change of date.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

None recorded.

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES. 29TH April 2025.

There were no matters arising.

The minutes were duly approved and signed.

DUCKS AND SKITTLES 23RD August 2025.

The event was supported by a mix of residents and visitors. A figure of £320 was raised. Maybe we should consider including some additional activities in the future which may encourage more participants and possibly increase the amount of funds we could raise. Discussions needed, including Sue Hayes as to what we might add. It's important to avoid clashes with the traditional events of the Summer Fête.

Thanks recorded to Sue Hayes and the other helpers for organising and running the event.

Donations of £300 to Father Christmas in the Hall and £100 for the 2025 Halloween Event were pledged by Sue Hayes.

FINANCIAL UPDATE,(IW).

The Accounts were presented.

Expenditure included; Cash prizes for 100 Club, fees for New Jersey Boys event, PRS Licence, Electricity and Water, Insurance, Repairs and Maintenance.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO 100 CLUB,(JO,RR).

The number of subscribing members remains very much the same as last year. There has been a marked increase in DD payments this year and also some donations.

Congratulations to Jane and Ros for their efforts and also to their door-knocking assistants.

FUTURE EVENTS/NEW IDEAS.

We had considerable discussions on this topic and in particular how the WRA funds are used.

The Chair highlighted that in general terms the 100 Club covers routine costs,(Insurance, 100 Club prizes, Water, Electricity and hedge mowing), while funds that are raised through functions add to Charity reserves and one-off,(non routine), costs. Discussions centred on whether some of these reserves could be used to provide other facilities for the Parish. The Chair highlighted that in relation to future potential liabilities,(costs to repair and refurbishment of the Pavilion and the tennis courts), the WRA's finances were relatively small. But he also highlighted that he was continuing to look at external sources of funding to assist with the tennis court re-furbishment. One suggestion put forward was to approach the Ann Le Bas Trust. And the Chair suggested that they could approach a company that majored on attaining charitable funding for charities such as the WRA,(on a no win- no fee basis). It was agreed that the no win- no fee option should not be taken forward until other avenues had been exhausted, and in particular not until after the Ann Le Bas Trust had been approached,(FL to action). A further meeting was required to discuss fund-raising targets.

We have the funds to purchase a Memorial Bench for Olly, but are waiting for David Godsall to confirm the location on behalf of the Village Church.(RR to action).

Halloween. There will be the annual Pumpkin Carving Competition, for both adults and children on 31st October. Pumpkins to be brought to the Green.. between 4.00-4.45pm, followed by judging. Complimentary tea, coffee, soup and Ginger Cake will be available, courtesy of Sue Hayes. Helpers please feel free to wear themed costumes.

New Jersey Boys will cost the same as last year. Tickets to be £20.00 each, maximum of 80 tickets.

Father Christmas....IC will be away. Steve Pickard to be invited to return to the role.

CRICKET CLUB UPDATE,(AB).

All services at the Pavilion have been checked and placed in secure winter mode. The team only won one match this season and have struggled to field a regular side. Hopefully a return to Div II next season will see more players and better results.

Attracting younger players is a target. There is some thought that a reduction in overs may help with recruitment.

Responsible dog owners can now use the field.(FL to source further signage).

The gap between the two fields has been widened, once the Le Bas field has been rolled with the heavy roller, hopefully it should be possible to mow using the cricket mowers.

TENNIS CLUB UPDATE,(AB)

The playing surface has benefitted from a de-mossing treatment, by Josh. The courts were in regular use.

Thanks to Mike Hillier for his work on the tennis store shed and the bridge across the wet ground.

AOB.

Bryany Neale will investigate prices for memorial benches and liaise with Ros Rees.

Events Team(JO, RR, JL and EC will co-ordinate staffing planned events.

Next meeting; 12th February 2026, 6.00pm at The Royal Oak.

MEETING CLOSED 6.05PM

