

**WHC AGM MINUTES** 14<sup>th</sup> June 2026 14.00 Clubhouse

TYPE OF MEETING	Annual General Meeting
CHAIR	Louise Broome
MINUTE TAKER	Jim Garside
APOLOGIES	Becca Healey, Colin Bagley, Jane Ashworth, Laura Austin, Carl Fairhurst, Mark Irwin, Fiona Jeffers, Gill Lockwood, Alex Louch, Nicola Mapes, Claire Murray, Grace Murray, Zach Murray, Lucy Okell, Sophie Okell, Harry Okell, Penny Sparrow, Ruth Walters, Susan Wright, Alex Yun, Elliott Yun, Sarah Brickhill, Sharon Holford.
ATTENDEES	As below:

Rachel Payne	Charlie Platts	Lauren Killilea
Jen Middleton-Egan	Neil Shirley	Louise Broome
Emma Steiger	Jennifer Haynes	Emile Broome
Alan Murdoch	Tim Short	Guy Phillips
Hilar Markwick	Jim Garside	Steve Kinsella
Clive Westbrook	Colin Birtles	Megan Pugh
Toby Broome	Matt Westbrook	

Quorum reached: 20 members were in attendance. 20% of 98 adult members (as of 6th May) is 20 members.

**1. WELCOME, APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LB welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked them for attending.</li> <li><b>AGREED:</b> Minutes of the last AGM were proposed, seconded and agreed.</li> </ul>

## 2. CHAIR'S REPORT, SECRETARY'S REPORT

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### Chair's report



- Junior recruitment**
- Enrolled in EH's State School Investment Programme
  - An investment by EH to teach hockey in primary schools and run tournaments
  - We will partner with the schools and hope to recruit more juniors to the club
- Phoenix challenges**
- Phoenix committee is stronger than this time last year (WHC: GuyP/JimG/ChrisS)
  - Financials not healthy – section fees will rise significantly
  - Badly need more events, income and profit from the bar – “use it or lose it!”
  - (We should plan to staff the bar with volunteers, except Saturdays or large events)
  - Ongoing discussions with Football on fees, pitch usage, grants, membership
  - But Destination Padel progressing towards submitting Planning Application
- Second astro**
- No justification (or funding) to build a second hockey pitch in the foreseeable future
  - But Football have aspirations to build a 3G on the second astro site (with FA support)
  - We have set conditions for Football, primarily:
    - Become a Constituent Section - deliver overdue grant money, pay full annual fees
    - Involve Phoenix in planning and delivery of the pitch
    - Commit to pay Phoenix the annual fee from the pitch company (like Astro)
    - Repay the ~£25k that WHC/WPAL have spent to date on planning and car park.

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#### DISCUSSION

- JG presented the Chair's report (see slide above) and highlighted the need for the hockey club and members to use the bar as much as possible for formal and informal socialising – to boost income and profit for the bar – a key source of funds for Phoenix.
- JG answered questions from the floor, primarily related to the proposed 3G pitch:
  - Are Wilmslow Sports pursuing the 3G pitch application alone? No, jointly with Wilmslow Albion.
  - Why can't the 3G be sited on Wilmslow Albion's current pitch? It is too small and there is a footpath running across it.
  - Would lacrosse be able to use the 3G pitch? Yes, part of the agreement is that LAX have access to the 3G pitch on Saturday afternoons.
  - What is the position on funding for the 3G pitch? Football Foundation have assessed the site and committed to fund £800k of the £1m required. Wilmslow Sports/Albion would need to raise another £200k, but can use an FF consultant to do so with FF providing a backstop should the consultant not hit the target.
  - Is there a site-wide plan for the additional infrastructure to support a 3G pitch? Not yet, but Phoenix will insist on the plan and funding covering the necessary car parking, access etc.
  - Is Phoenix considering merging with Wilmslow Albion? Not currently, but Phoenix has a good working relationship with Wilmslow Albion and are collaborating as good neighbours wherever possible.
  - What is the status of Wilmslow Albion's facilities? Their bar is usable but changing rooms are not. They have asked to use ours, but this would clash with hockey/lacrosse usage.

# Secretary's Report



Companies House



## Incorporation of Wilmslow Hockey Club i.e. becoming a limited company

### REMINDER

- Last AGM we agreed to progress the incorporation of Wilmslow Hockey Club
- Recommended by Association of CASCs, Sport England and England Hockey
- Protects all members and trustees from unlimited liability for legal or financial issues
- Demonstrates credibility to potential donors or investors; secures banking arrangements

### PROGRESS

- Created a **steering group** of club members to guide the work; and **engaged Association of CASCs** to support
- **Agreed type of incorporation** - "Company Limited by Guarantee" – and drafted **Articles** (constitution)
- **Agreed the transfer of WPAL shares from Phoenix to WHC** – subject to tax advice
- **But first** need to change the company structure for **Wilmslow Phoenix Astro turf Limited** – engaged tax advisors to make sure VAT registration and CASC status both protected.
- **Next steps:** WPAL AGM to agree change to Articles and remit as a 100% owned subsidiary of WHC. Will need a further EGM/AGM to agree changes subsequently for hockey club.

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### DISCUSSION

- JG presented the Secretary's report (see slide above)
- JG highlighted that progress is being made, albeit slower than anticipated. Incorporating WHC on its own is relatively straightforward but we have found that first we need to make changes to the relationship with Wilmslow Phoenix Astro turf Limited (i.e. 100% share ownership by WHC to meet CASC regulations). We are taking professional advice to make sure that these changes do not compromise the existing VAT status of WPAL.

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2025/2026

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## Treasurer's report for 2025/2026



- **Our budget** was forecasting a **deficit of £778**

- **Our outturn** is a **surplus of £4,990**

#### Achieved by:

- **Lower income:**

- **Lower income (membership, match fees and other revenue):** ~£5,000
- **Other income (sponsorship, marshalling, events, 100 Club):** ~£0

- **And lower costs:**

- **Lower playing costs (coaches, pitch hire, teas, umpires):** ~£10,000
- **Lower administrative costs:** ~£1,000

- **AGM motion: approve the accounts for 2025/2026 - subject to independent certification.**


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#### DISCUSSION

- HM presented a summary of the annual accounts for 2025/2026 referring to the "[Financial Statement 2026/2027 season](#)" and the slide above.
- Marshalling remains an important source of income - thanks to SK, SH and MW for organising. But each year we struggle more and more to get volunteers from the club. We have had to offer positions to other organisations, meaning our income reduces.
- SK highlighted the importance of the Wilmslow Running Festival to the club. WRF is a charity whose trustees represent Wilmslow Rugby Club, Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club (Martin Stocker) and Wilmslow Running Club. WHC no longer has a representative on the WRF committee and are at risk of future reductions in income and grants from WRF. (This year, WHC has received £3k and Phoenix £4k from WRF, but this level of funding is not secure in future). WRF has also been an important source of grant funding for the club in the past.
- SK highlighted the importance for WHC of:
  - finding a replacement for Sharon as Race Marshalling Officer
  - maximising the number of WHC marshal volunteers on the day
  - demonstrating management contribution to WRF via the committee. SK will ask if there are vacancies we could seek to fill with an appropriate volunteer.
- Sponsorship continues to decline each year without a Sponsorship Officer. Crow Hockey arrangement ends this summer and we are trying to agree sponsorship with Orbit instead. We would welcome any teams/member with ideas or opportunities for organisations to become banner or team sponsors.
- Junior summer camp has been a good earner from the club. Thank you to Dave, Holly and Roger for organising.
- We welcome any member whose employer offers a fundraising matching arrangement (e.g. Barclays) to make themselves known.
- **AGREED:** the annual accounts for 2025/26 were proposed, seconded and agreed (subject to completion of independent certification.)

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete independent certification of 2025/26 accounts</li> </ul>	HM	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask Wilmslow Running Festival if there are management or committee role(s) that WHC might be able to fill</li> </ul>	SK	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2026

#### 4. BUDGET FOR 2025/2026

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## Agree the budget and membership fees for 2026/2027

- **Forecasting a roughly balanced budget, with increased membership fees**
- Although we had a surplus last year, much of this was due to lack of a men's coach
- We need to make sure we can cover the increased costs for the new season
- Proposed membership fee increase: (last increase)
  - Adult                      £200 -> £220      (May 2023)
  - Junior/concession    £100 -> £110      (May 2023 (O13s), May 2024 (U13s))
  - Social                     £40 -> £45        (May 2023)
  - Limited                    £115 -> £120      (May 2023)
- No change to match fees (last increased in May 2021)
- **AGM motion: approve the budget for 2026/2027**

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DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HM presented a summary of the budget for 2026/2027 referring to the <a href="#">"Financial Statement 2026/2027 season"</a> and the slide above.</li> <li>As forewarned at the previous AGM, the club needs to increase membership fees to balance the budget for 2026/2027. HM proposed an increase in membership fees of 10%. Adult membership would therefore rise to £220 and junior concession membership from £100 to £110. There is no increase to match fees.</li> <li>ES asked if the club had used information from other clubs on membership/match fees in coming to this recommendation. We still seem to be very good value. HM answered that the committee was aware of the Hockey Uncut information, although it was hard to make direct comparisons given the various different fee arrangements at other clubs and our status as a pitch-owner.</li> <li><b>AGREED:</b> the budget for 2026/2027 was proposed, seconded and approved.</li> </ul>		
ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

## 5. ELECT THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENTS

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### Elect the President and Vice Presidents



- President and new Vice-Presidents are proposed by the Committee and elected by the AGM in recognition of long service, exceptional contribution and continuous involvement in the club.
- They are honorary positions dedicated to promoting the Club's objectives and fundraising

#### President election (elected each year)

- **AGM motion:** re-elect Louise Broome as President for 2026/27

#### Vice President election:

- **AGM motion:** elect Hilary Markwick, Sarah Brickhill and Jim Garside as Vice-Presidents

(Vice Presidents are: Steve Kinsella, Louise Broome, Dave Simmons, Colin Birtles, Penny Sparrow, Clive Westbrook, Alan Murdoch)

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#### DISCUSSION

- **AGREED:** Louise Broome was proposed, seconded and elected as President for 2026/2027.
- **AGREED:** Hilary Markwick, Sarah Brickhill and Jim Garside were proposed, seconded and elected as Vice-Presidents.

## 8. ELECT THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2025/2026

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### Proposed committee members for 2026/27



Season 2025-2026

President – Louise Broome

Executive Officers:

Chair – Emma Steiger Vice Chair – Louise Broome Secretary – Megan Pugh Treasurer – Hilary Markwick

FINANCE Sub Committee Treasurer	PLAYING Sub Committee Chair	DEVELOPMENT Sub Committee Vice-Chair	ADMIN Sub Committee Secretary
Membership Secretary - Sarah Brickhill	Ladies' Captain – Rachel Payne Men's Captain – Alex Louch Junior's Captain – David Middleton-Egan	Development Officer – TBC Social Secretary – Jenn Haynes / Jen Middleton-Egan Communications – Megan Pugh	Welfare – Penny Sparrow

OPERATIONAL ROLES: committee meeting attendance optional, by exception; short written updates provided in advance of each meeting

Kit – Matt Parris-Jarman 100 Club – Noelle Hankinson Teas co-ord – Rachel Payne Payments support - TBC	Fixtures Sec – Sue Wright Umpire Co-ordinator – TBC Umpire Development – TBC	Social Media – Sophie Pearson [WPAL Chair – Alan Murdoch] Phoenix Rep – TBC	Systems/Web – Neil Shirley Discipline – Emile Broome Race marshalling – TBC Sponsorship Officer – TBC Incorporation – Jim Garside
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DISCUSSION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LB thanked all those all those who served on the Committee during 2025/2026 and all those who have volunteered to be part of the Committee during 2026/2027.</li> <li>• <b>AGREED:</b> The individuals in the diagram above were proposed, seconded and elected.</li> </ul>	
<p>The following positions are currently unfilled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sponsorship Officer(s)</b> - identifying and maintaining relationships with sponsors</li> <li>• <b>Development Officer</b> – maintaining the existing development plan and tracking status of actions</li> <li>• <b>Payment support</b> – assisting the Treasurer to manage payments in the Xero Accounting system</li> <li>• <b>Phoenix Representative(s)</b> - giving input from Hockey to Phoenix council</li> <li>• <b>Umpire Co-ordinator</b> - arranging umpires for upcoming fixtures</li> <li>• <b>Umpire Development</b> – supporting development of new and existing umpires</li> <li>• <b>Race Marshalling</b> – helping manage the preparation and on-the-day arrangements for marshals.</li> </ul>	

## 9. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

DISCUSSION		
<p><b>Member engagement and attendance at the AGM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EB asked if this AGM was being held at the right time of the year to maximise engagement with members and what else could be done to increase the engagement of members in the club.</li> <li>• JG noted that the AGM this year is unusually late – it is normally mid May – but had to be delayed because of a clash with a tournament and vacation plans for key individuals. The constitution requires the AGM to be carried out before the end of May. This fits with the year end on 30<sup>th</sup> April and closing the annual accounts ahead of the AGM.</li> <li>• EB and others commented that because the AGM happens some time after the season has ended, members are less inclined to take part. Maybe there could be ways to run the AGM sooner, even if the annual accounts are estimates (and have a short zoom meeting later to confirm) and use Zoom or other technologies to increase the attendance and engagement? The committee agreed to consider the options.</li> </ul>		
ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider timing of future AGMs in relation to the hockey season, technology options to maximise attendance and/or other ways to engage members more during the season.</li> </ul>	Committee	30th June 2025

## 10. DRAW 100CLUB WINNERS

- HM highlighted that the 100Club continues to be under-subscribed but is a very cheap way for members to support the club – just £12 per month with the chance to win cash prizes.
- It's easy to sign up – see the [100Club page on the website](#).
- The draw will be carried out over the next few weeks and winners notified. NS will investigate if we can take 100Club payments via Teamo.

**LB thanked all attendees for joining and closed the meeting at 15:45**