

WHC COMMITTEE MINUTES 11th May 2026 19.30 Clubhouse

TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly committee meeting
CHAIR	Louise Broome
MINUTE TAKER	Jim Garside
ATTENDEES	Jim Garside, Hilary Markwick, Louise Broome, Sarah Brickhill, Rachel Payne
APOLOGIES	Becca Healey, Megan Pugh, Caz Farrell, Penny Sparrow, Sharon Holford, David Middleton-Egan, Kieran Jones, Sue Wright, Steve Martin, Matt Bonner, Sophie Pearson, Matt Parris-Jarman

MINUTES / ACTIONS

DISCUSSION		
Minutes of last meeting:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of the last meeting were approved. 		
ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

UPCOMING EVENT PREPARATION (All)

DISCUSSION		
Social Hockey		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In previous year's we've run mixed social hockey on a weekday evening. This year we already have Masters 500s in May/June/July, Timperley Summer League in May/June/July and Home Summer League May/June. Men's 2s have a 1-day tournament in May. M1s are not entered in Timperley league. There's already lots of hockey (particularly for the ladies) but could run social hockey from Mid-July. But this might then overlap with pre-season training. Conclusion: there may not be a need/time for mixed social hockey this summer 		
Summer 10k (12th July)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is going to be a challenge to find enough volunteers. Club Captains: please remind your teams during summer league games of the importance of this event for club fundraising and ask people to sign up and keep the date free. SH has asked SteveK and MartinW if they will help on the day – SH is away. 		
Club Open Day		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools are back 2nd/3rd September so most people will be available. Open Day dates could be: Saturday 5th Sept or 12th Sept – assuming first league match is 19th September. But what about pre-season friendly games? Ideally do a Working Party on the previous Sunday to the Club Open Day. No decision on date for now – discuss next meeting. 		
ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
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COACHES FOR NEXT SEASON (All)

DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertised on EH jobs, website, social media for: Ladies Head Coach, Ladies Coach, Men's Coach, Junior Coach. Contacted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Josie Rice from Preston (has her own company) – she will share with her network. Alex who helped Josie run the masterclass – going back to NZ MH1 who will share on their network 		

- Will Worswick from AEHC has applied for the ladies/junior roles. RP will follow up ASAP
- Another AEHC player potentially interested too.
- These 2 might not be available on Saturdays but we could have a team manager on Saturday instead. Can't wait for the perfect candidate – need to take whoever we can get now.
- New hockey coach appointed at Wilmslow High School – would be good to get in touch.
- Could talk to Andy Hunt or his network? Tracey Muir?
- An Ice Hockey coach has applied! Wants a new challenge. Unlikely to be fruitful – NFA.
- MB is willing to be L2s coach if required. Not willing to be L1s coach. Not able to do L3s due to time constraints.
- RP is aiming for L1/L2s to have one coach together to build the squad as a whole.
- Exit interviews: JG summarised feedback from Zoe and Jenna. Conclusions: neither is leaving because of a fundamental problem with the club and both remain advocates for the club.

Recruitment

- RP has plans for 3 regular recruitment posts appealing to different audiences: family/junior, performance players, other players. RP will work with SP.
- LB suggested adding a short article to “Cheshire Triangle” magazine.
- Could potentially have a banner at the front entrance “New members welcome” – would need to be fixed somehow.
- Back to Hockey: LB and JG proposed this as a way of slowly adding players to the club. This would potentially be weekday mornings.
- State School Investment fund: WHC is signed up to take part in EH's support for hockey in primary schools, starting September. For details to follow. DME is leading on this.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
• Contact potential coach from AEHC – Will	RP	13/5
• Ask Sarah at WHS for contact detail of new coach	JG	DONE
• Create recruitment social media posts	RP/SP	30/5

PLANNING FOR NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR (HM)

DISCUSSION
<p>HM presented the 2025/2026 outturn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2025/2026 outturn is a surplus of ~£5k. The main reason for this was the lack of a men's coach and associated cost. • Member income (membership, match fees, junior camp etc): £47k vs £52k budget (£5k worse) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Membership (£2k worse), match fees (£1.5k) worse, other income (£1.7k worse) • Playing costs (pitch hire, coaches, teas, umpires): £35k vs £45k budget (£10k better) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Astro hire for training (£3k better), junior coaches (£1k better), senior coaches (£5k better) • Administrative costs (league affiliation, Phoenix, Teamo, Stripe, Veo, ACASC): £17.5k vs £18.5k (£1k better) – ignoring kit payments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ League affiliation (£1k better) • Other income (marshalling, sponsorship, social events, 100 Club): £11k vs £11k – on budget <p>HM presented a draft budget for 2026/2027:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget is conservative - assumes we might lose one ladies team in the year • Therefore membership, match fees, teas, umpire costs, pitch hire etc are all lower • Administrative costs remain much the same as last year • Other income likely to be lower – less from marshalling and sponsorship.

- Current projection is a loss of £1,650 but this will be worse assuming Crow Hockey fail to pay their outstanding £700. Seems likely at present.

Next steps:

- HM will rework the draft budget with the revised sponsorship income – leading to a larger deficit. Therefore we will need to increase fees to compensate and balance the budget.
- Proposed increases:
 - Membership increases from £200 - £215; £100 to £110
 - Match fees increase from £10 to £11, £5 to £6
- HM will test this out to aim for a zero deficit budget.
- We discussed other potential methods of charging members (e.g. 5 instalments through the year to cover everything, but no separate match fees). But decided this or other methods require more evaluation before introduction. Something to consider next season.
- Previous increases (for reference):
 - Starting point: Adult member £175; Junior/student £80; match fees £9; social £35.
 - Nov 2020: no increases.
 - May 2021: adult match fee increased from £9 to £10 (junior remained £5). Added Limited Membership £100.
 - May 2022: no increases
 - May 2023: O13 junior added; O13 junior/student £80->£100; U13 remains £80; adult £175->£200; social £35->£40 – associated with paid teas and paid umpires
 - May 2024: U13 membership £80->£100
 - May 2025: no increases

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
• Discuss Orbit sponsorship with KJ	JG	16/5
• Revise budget for committee to review	HM	16/5

COMMITTEE POSITIONS FOR NEXT YEAR (All)

DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need a renewed call for volunteers to join the committee – club communications but also approaching individuals to fill the following positions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair ○ Secretary ○ Men’s club captain ○ Sponsorship ○ Book keeper (Xero) ○ Social Secretary ○ Race Marshalling ○ Discipline ○ Systems/website ○ Umpire Development ○ Phoenix Representative(s) ○ Teas manager 		
ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
• Create club communication to highlight vacant roles	JG	16/5

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

DISCUSSION		
• None		
ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
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Meeting closed at 21.15

NEXT MEETINGS (7.30PM, 2 ND MONDAY EACH MONTH)	8 th June 2026
	13 th July 2026
	10 th August 2026

Actions from previous meetings

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
• Spirit of Hockey implementation – communication, signage etc	BH/SP	20 th Sep
• Update Discipline Policy – red card treatment and from lessons learned over the summer	CF/BH	In progress
• Re-purpose benches to store the pitch dividers	DME/MB	30 th Nov
• Draft a message to all members EH on the new Misconduct process itself, highlighting CoC amendment	CF	19 th Dec
• Follow-up with volunteers in the club survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LB: Emma J, Nicola M, Rick Nicholson (Maisie) • DME: Anya, Steve M, Kat Lister, Kae Travis, Helen Baxter, Barbara Chesworth, Alistair Revell • BH: invite all those who offered to help with Social events to a meeting to gather ideas. • JG: Francis Wheeler, Sam Dawson, Nadia Ghaffar, Mustafah Khalid, Shameena Bharucha, Charmain May 	LB/DME/BH/JG	In progress
• Request extra keys from Chris Hunter in Phoenix	JG	In progress
• Plan for new umpiring training programme	MP/JG	28 th Feb
• Arrange to close down the Emblazed arrangement and setup junior kit on Official Kit; communications to parents.	JG/DME/MPJ	15 th May
• Reconcile kit payments to suppliers vs kit income from members.	JG/MPJ	28 th April