Minutes for Whittlesey Festival Steering Group

A G M Minutes - 2026
The Falcon Hotel, Whittlesey : 7.00 pm

Present: Dave Bailey (Vice Chairman), Tina Overton (Secretary), Averil Cosstick, Marija Lysak, Jacque Baldry, Robert Boddington, Marilyn Corneck, Isabel Edginton, Carl Flippance, Ed Forsyth, Rob Hagger-Wells, Andrew Lashley, Min Mean, Wally Newman

Apologies: Jenny Parker (Chair), Pat Ash: Treasurer, Roy Gerstner, Emily Cashin, Robert Windle, Julie Windle, Paul Sansby, Norman Flatt, Brian Smithyman

ITEM	CONTENT	ACTION
1	The meeting opened at 7.10 pm. Dave welcomed all present to the AGM and explained why Jenny and Pat were not attending.	
2	• Apologies were given from the above.	
3 Acceptance of 2025 AGM Minutes	• These were accepted as a true and accurate account of the 2025 AGM Minutes. Dave Bailey, Vice Chair, signed them in the absence of Jenny Parker - Chair, who is ill. **Proposed**: Averil Cosstick **Seconded**: Marija Lysak	
4	**Chairman's Report** • At this point Tina drew to the attention of all present the anomaly re the cash amount for the fund raising Coffee Morning, initially stated as being £1700 in the Chair's report, when it should have been £1000. • This amount being confirmed by the Treasurer, as well as other members of the Steering Group who were at the AGM tonight. • Dave read out Jenny's report, in which she reiterated all that been undertaken by both Steering and Partner groups, as well as volunteers, throughout this year, all of which helped to make the Whittlesey Festival 2026 another memorable event. • Even though Jenny is stepping down as Chair, she will however, remain on the Steering Group as Vice Chair, for 2027. A copy of Jenny's report will be filed with these Minutes.	Tina

5	**Vice Chair Report** • Dave advised all present that he too will be standing down as Vice Chairman this year, prior to reading out his report. A copy of which will be filed with these Minutes. • Members queried the reason as to why he was no longer continuing to be part of the Steering Group and Dave replied that he needed to cut back on many of the activities he currently undertook, with regard to his overall wellbeing. • He will however, still assist re aspects of the Festival organisation, (since he will now be a member of the Partner's Group) as and when needed. • Tina thanked Dave for his consistent, sterling work over the years, both in electronic knowledge and physical aspects re moving equipment for the festival. The festival would not have been as successful as it has been over the years, had it not been for the amount of time he has given, willingly, to the festival. • Isabel also thanked Dave for supporting FDC with regard to the requirements of the festival. Everyone present gave their thanks via a round of applause. Thank you Dave.	Tina
6 Treasurer's Report	**Treasurer's Report (read out by Tina since Pat is unable to attend the meeting).** • Our accounts are in a healthy state of affairs with the current account currently standing at £14,722.95 and our reserve account at £510.00. • A copy of the Treasurer's report will be filed with these Minutes. **Proposed –** Dave Bailey **Seconded –** Averil Cosstick	Tina
7 Further Amendments Constitution	• Tina advised that further amendments are required to be made to the Constitution – as per the Agenda, which need to be ratified at the 2027 AGM: a) Page 2: address change re the Partner Group to now be shown as meeting at The Falcon Hotel, not Peel House b) Page 3, bullet point: day of the Partner Group meetings to be changed to a Tuesday	Agenda 2027 AGM

	Proposed: Marija Lysak **Seconded:** Averill Cosstick • Following the above, those present were then advised by Dave that the tenancy, with Sharon as Manager, at The Falcon Hotel, will end in the New Year 2027. • All members of the Festival Committees are therefore forewarned that we may not be able to hold our meetings at The Falcon in 2027. The decision for this will rest with the incoming Manager, if indeed there is to be one. • The Constitution may therefore need further amendments than those listed above.	
8 Election of Officers	• All present were given voting slips pertaining to voting for those willing to form part of the 2027 Steering Group. • Counted by the FDC representative, Isabel Edgington, the motion was carried 13 to 1, for the following to be nominated and accepted. Carl Flippance: **Chairman** Jenny Parker: **Vice Chairman** Pat Ash: **Treasurer** Tina Overton: **Secretary** The Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary are now the 2027 'Officers' of The Whittlesey Festival group. Carl thanked all present for accepting him as the new Chairman and stated that he would do his utmost to continue to make the Whittlesey Festival an event that would continue to be well remembered by all who came to it.	
9 Co-opting new members	No new members have been co-opted onto either the Steering Group or Partner Group.	
10 2027 Dates	• Diary dates were agreed for 2027, bearing in mind that the committees may not be able to utilise the rooms at The Falcon Hotel. • As soon as the Steering Group is able to ascertain information relating to his, it will be shared with the Partner Group.	Steering Group

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

MEETING DATES 2027

Steering Meetings 2027 All Fridays Falcon Hotel : 2.00 pm	Partner Meetings 2027 All Tuesdays Falcon Hotel : 7.00 pm
22nd January	26th January
26th February	
19th March	23rd March
23rd April	
21st May	25th May
18th June	
23rd July	27th July
20th August	
3rd September	

7th September – Stewards Meeting

12th September - FESTIVAL DAY

28th September – De-brief meeting

23rd November – AGM

Date of Christmas Meal to be advised