

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Trustees of Wem Sports and Social Association CIO held on Thursday 3rd September 2026 at 18.00 in the Town Council meeting room, Wem Library, High Street, Wem

Present: S Griffiths (Vice Chairman), R Drummond, T O'Flaherty, C Bennett entered the meeting at 18.30, W Ollerenshaw entered the meeting at 18.19
Penny O'Hagan – Secretary, J Ralphs – Groundsman.

- 1 **Apologies for Absence** – to receive.
J Gwillam, E Towers, F Ford.
Absent M Hoffmann.

- 2 **Meeting Minutes** – to approve as a correct record the minutes of the trustees meeting held 11.6.26.

Resolved:- to approve the minutes of the annual meeting held on 11.6.26 and they were duly signed as a true record.

- 3 **Progress Report** - To receive a report from the Secretary and Groundsman.

Resolved:- to note the report and the Groundsman agreed to investigate the cost of a water tank for the back of the tractor, for discussion at a future meeting.

- 4 **Finance**
a) To consider budget report to 27.8.26.

Resolved:- to note the budget report to 31.8.26

b) 2026-27 Insurance quotes – to consider machinery quote.

Resolved:- to approve the quote for the tractor and mower insurance with Countrywide Motor Insurance. It was noted that the building insurance had been renewed prior to the meeting as part of a 3 year agreement.

- 5 **Butler Sports Centre**
a) Wem Town FC Use– for update on the Ground Use agreement and to consider the request received for an additional training night.

Resolved:-

- to approve the ground use agreement with Wem Town FC.
- to approve Wem Town FC's request to use Wednesday as an extra training evening for the 2026-27 season subject to the pitch being in a suitable condition.

b) Changing Room refurbishment project - to discuss meeting held on 21.8.26 and agree a way forward.

A discussion took place on this item and the Secretary presented the quote for works to improve the external lighting by fitting motion detector lights near the small gate and above the changing room entrance door at a cost of £575.

A discussion on the larger modifications to the changing room showers took place and it was

Resolved:-

- to approve the quote of £575 submitted by Hunter Lloyd for additional external lighting.
- that the Secretary and Groundsman would seek quotes for the conversion of the open showers in the home and away changing rooms to cubicle showers and to identify suitable grant funding for this project.
- that Wem Town FC be instructed to remove the display cabinet and training items from the small meeting room and repair the door into the storage cupboard.

c) Floodlights – to consider the estimate for replacement of floodlights with LED lights and consider quote for structural testing of the columns and foundations in advance of any conversion project.

A discussion took place on this item and an estimated quote for new LED heads was presented. The Secretary explained that before a decision could be taken on whether to replace the lights with LED lights it was essential to undertake structural testing of the columns and the column foundations to ascertain their suitability to hold LED heads as they are heavier than normal floodlights. Unfortunately, a quote for this type of inspection was not available in time for the meeting

Resolved:- to defer this to the next meeting to give the Secretary the opportunity to seek quotes for the structural testing of the columns and column foundations.

6

Recreation Ground

a) Pump Track – to discuss.

Resolved:- to await outcome of the Town Council survey before making further plans to progress this project.

b) Albion Bowling Club replacement clubhouse – to discuss.

The Secretary reported that initial research did seem to indicate that the clubhouse belonged to WSSA and concern was expressed about the safety of the building.

Resolved:- to hold a meeting with Bob Barker, Chairman of the Albion Bowling Club and the Secretary along with trustees Tommy O'Flaherty and Susan Griffiths to discuss a way forward.

c) Request to use recreation ground for baseball – to consider.

Resolved:- that the Secretary and Groundsman would hold a meeting with a representative of the baseball club to discuss the proposals in more detail and report back to the next meeting.

d) 2026 hires – to review external hires over the Summer.

External hires of the recreation ground were discussed and it was

Resolved:- to request a meeting between the organisers of Vehicles of Interest and Susan Griffiths, Groundsman and Secretary and with the offer to work with them to help them strengthen the safety of the event for all.

7 WSSA Events 2026/27

a) Fireworks – to agree online ticketing platform for 2026, set ticket prices and agree food stall fees.

Resolved:- to use Ticketebo as the online ticket platform for the 2026 fireworks event and to set the ticket fees as follows

**Adult Tickets £7 + booking fee, Child Tickets £3 + booking fee, Under 5 free
Hot food stall booking fee £35, Gazebo stall £25.**

R Drummond left the meeting at 19.00

b) Sportsperson of the Year 2026 – to discuss

A discussion took place on whether to adjust the categories to include league of the year and sports business of the year.

Resolved:- that Tommy O’Flaherty, Chris Bennett and Wanda Ollerenshaw would meet to discuss this and report back to the next meeting.

8 Tennis and Bowling Club Leases - to discuss.

Following a discussion it was agreed that

Resolved:- the Secretary would contact Wem Tennis Club to start discussions on this matter.

Wanda Ollerenshaw left the meeting at 19.20

9 Wem Draw – to receive report from working party established at the February meeting.

It was reported that the working party had not met and it was agreed to defer this to a future meeting.

10 Other Matters of Concern – for consideration.

Car Boot Sales – it was reported that Sue Holliday had asked the Secretary to consider giving permission to permit her to run car boot sales under the WSSA’s public liability insurance. The suggestion being that any funds raised could be donated to sports clubs in the form of grants. Concern was expressed that if this was to be the case then a representative of WSSA would need to be at each even overseeing it.

Resolved:- to add to a future meeting for consideration.

11 Date of meetings - to set date and time of next meeting.

Resolved:- that the next meetings will be held on 22.10.26 and 10.12.26.

Chairman.....Meeting ended 19.15