

Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club (WPSC)
Annual General Meeting – Minutes
15th June 2026 19:30 Clubhouse



TYPE OF MEETING	Annual General Meeting
CHAIR	David Clark
MINUTE TAKER	Jim Garside
APOLOGIES	Frazer Hunter, Becca Healey, Scott Hannah
ATTENDEES	As below:


Steve Kinsella (H)	Jim Garside (H)	Louise Broome (H)
Colin Birtles (H)	Clive Westbrook (H)	Toby Broome (H)
Hilary Markwick (H)	Guy Phillips (H)	Alan Murdoch (H)
Chris Steiger (H)	Lexy Denton (R)	David Clark (RH)
Stuart Redgard (P)	Neil Clark (F)	Ben Witham (V)
Matt Clark (C)	David Kendrick (C)	Michael Siddall (L)
Matthew Goddard (L)	Sam Burgess (L)	Kelsey Hammond (L)
J Perrin (L)	Oscar Mellor (L)	Phoebe Blakeley-Crewe (L)
Rachel Chapman (L)	Chris Hunter (L)	

Key: Hockey (H) 10, Lacrosse (L) 9, Styal Running (R) 2, Wilmslow Sports (F) 1, Lindow Cricket (C) 2, Phoenix (P) 1, Visitors (V) 1. Total 26

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

2. REPORTS FROM CHAIR, SECRETARY



Chair's report

- Some progress** since AGM in September 2025
 - New committee is working well together – communication, collaboration
 - MUGA resurfaced properly – thanks to Lacrosse
 - Potholes filled on the driveway – with contributions from Sections – thank you!
 - Lock fixed on sliding gate and recent damage to rail repaired – thanks to Scott and Guy (respectively)
 - Volunteers trained to staff the bar for smaller gatherings
- But we face a major financial challenge**
 - The club remains very tight for cash in part for decisions made to tackle previous projects
 - Backlog of maintenance at the club. Drains, alarm, shutters, dishwasher in the bar etc
- MY ASKS to all of our sports and members:**
 - maximise use of the clubhouse/bar for small and large social events; use bar volunteers for small groups**
 - choose and run just ONE cross-Phoenix social event during the year at the club (as well as your own social events)**
 - fundraise for us – events, raffles, sponsorship etc**
- Opportunities**
 - Destination Padel are still committed to the site – and working towards planning permission.
 - Grant application for grass pitches has been approved - £10,000 due to be paid
 - Football Foundation are supporting construction of a 3G football/lacrosse pitch at our site
 - Growing Sections
 - Phoenix wants to thrive not survive

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DISCUSSION	
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- DC presented the update above and emphasized the following:
 - Some practical improvements have been delivered since the last AGM in September
 - Phoenix wants to THRIVE – not just SURVIVE
 - But finances are a major challenge – Phoenix made another loss & is very short of cash.
- DC asked all 5 sports to
 - (i) encourage their members to use the bar more – for both casual and organised events.
 - (ii) take responsibility for planning and running one all-sports Phoenix social event during the next 12 months. Not only will this generate important revenue for the bar, it will also help develop more interaction between the sports and feeling of belonging to Phoenix.

Update: Wilmslow Sports at Phoenix



Originally planned to seek approval today for:

- Wilmslow Sports to become a Constituent Member
- Addition of a 3G pitch on site, funded by WS and FF

But there is more work to do first to:

- agree a viable grass pitch usage plan - for lacrosse & football
- understand terms of grounds grant from Football Foundation
- confirm annual subscription from Wilmslow Sports.

Next steps:

- agree an interim fee
- resolve the items above and arrange an EGM within 3 months

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DISCUSSION	
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- DC presented the update above and emphasized the following:
 - Discussions with Wilmslow Sports and Lacrosse have not yet reached an agreement on how the grass pitches can be shared. Phoenix should not admit Wilmslow Sports as a Constituent Section until this has been done – to avoid misunderstanding or problems later.
 - Phoenix intends to negotiate a grass pitch plan with Wilmslow Sports and Wilmslow Lacrosse as soon as possible. Assuming that is successful, an agreement to make Wilmslow Sports a Constituent Section of Phoenix would then require an extraordinary or Special General Meeting (SGM).

Secretary's report

Recent focus:

- **Bar price review** - increase prices as costs rise
- **Trustee transfer** - Fiona Mellor / Frazer Hunter
- **Transfer of WPAL shares from WPSC to WHC** – VAT advice underway
- **Discussions with Football** – Constituent Section conditions & 3G pitch proposals
- **Renewal of insurance and security** arrangements

Future focus

- **Finalise WPAL sub-lease** with CEC
- **Lease variation** for non-sporting events
- **Styal Running Club** as Constituent Section
- **Coffee machine** to bring in extra revenue from September
- **Incorporation of Phoenix** as a Company/Charity – to limit liability
- **Renewal of electricity** contract

DISCUSSION

- JG presented the update above and emphasized the following
 - A new WPAL sub-lease is needed to extend the existing one beyond 2030. This has taken longer than anticipated and needs prioritisation.
 - We are requesting a formal variation for our own Lease from CEC to allow us (hopefully) to host non-sporting events on a regular basis. These raise important profits for the club.
 - We intend to incorporate Phoenix as a Company/Charity primarily to limit the liability of all members and also to take advantage of charitable tax benefits, such as Gift Aid.

3. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2025/2026

Treasurer's report – 2025/26

- With thanks to Tony Collier for doing the hard yards pushing transactions through our accounting software
 - Highlights for the year ended April 2026
 - annual deficit getting larger, now £22,000 compared to £12,000 and £33,000 surplus in the previous two years
 - which drives a worsening cash position - £8,000 compared to £25,000 and £36,000
 - bar profits are weak and variable so are not the saviour, lower than last two years, membership discount watch this space
 - section income insufficient to cover accommodation costs never mind operating expenses
 - we have had an operating loss (before exceptionals) for the last three years (£12,000, £12,000 and £16,000)
 - grants are not the panacea, arrive after expenditure and are restricted
- AGM motion:** this meeting approves the Accounts for 2025/26

Results – 2025/26

	2026/27	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
£	Budget	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals
Bar net profit/(loss)	12,650	6,948	9,425	9,706
Coffee profit/(loss)	1,149	-	-	-
Sports section income	22,676	21,285	15,739	6,519
Other income	4,837	5,333	11,692	2,471
Accommodation costs	(21,809)	(19,141)	(23,114)	(23,742)
Other operational costs	(25,433)	(26,078)	(25,263)	(21,020)
Operating profit/(loss)	(5,930)	(11,653)	(11,521)	(16,066)
Exceptionals - gain/(loss)	14,000	(10,066)	-	48,796
Surplus/(deficit) for year	8,070	(21,719)	(11,521)	32,731

DISCUSSION

- CS presented the accounts for 2025/26 and the budget for 2026/27 using the 2 slides above and a separate handout (see Appendix 1, 2 to these Minutes)
- CS highlighted that the use of the bar discount card was likely to be re-evaluated.
- DK questioned why the WPAL astro royalties are not at the same level as the sports. DC noted that the WPAL figure will be the same as a single sport once the sub-lease is agreed.
- OM challenged the condition of the grass pitches. Very few games have been able to be played this season – fewer than ever before. Furthermore, with the use of offsite 3G facilities, fewer lacrosse players have been using the Phoenix bar. DC empathized with the lacrosse members but emphasized that is no short term fix. Unfortunately the pitches have not had the necessary investment for several years and we are seeing the consequences now. As the accounts show, Phoenix does not currently have the funds to make significant investments.
- SB believes that Lacrosse have lost 3 pitches. Lacrosse does not believe there are grants available from the NGB or local organisations. SB was frustrated that the conversations about pitches and football have been going on for so long without apparent progress. DC noted that the pitch usage plan is important to get right – so that both Lacrosse and Wilmslow Sports get access to the pitches they need, without surprises later.
- OM noted that there is excess soil available which can be used on the pitches if needed.
- SR suggested that Phoenix should ideally plan for aeration every year.
- **AGREED:** Accounts for 2025/2026 were proposed, seconded and agreed.

4. BUDGET FOR 2026/2027



Budget for 2026/27

- Budget is still weak even after section fee uplift
 - budget set with a realistic outlook, especially with regard to inflation
 - previous year's fee uplift insufficient to cover increased costs
 - section fees increased by 10% to recapitalise Phoenix, only reliable source of funds
 - bar prices have increased and will continue to increase in line with costs
 - grants not included since they just cover costs, they are not free money - will not help cash position
 - uplifts may be needed in future years as well

AGM motion: this meeting approves the budget for 2025/2026

Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club

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DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS explained the proposed budget and key assumptions using the slide above. • CS emphasized that he was presenting a cautious budget rather than an optimistic one. • CW questioned the gross profit for the budget which shows as 39%. CW suggested the gross profit should be 50%+ before wastage. • Lacrosse members complained that Lacrosse was getting less access to pitches but paying more. • JP asked why the sponsorship budget was so small – was there not potential to earn more like the sports already do? DC noted that Phoenix has earned sponsorship this year from Everybody Leisure and that members of all sports are entitled to Corporate (reduced) membership as a result. DC asked for volunteers for help to raise sponsorship funds. • RC asked all 5 sports to run at least 4 own-sport social events in the clubhouse/bar every year – in addition to the 1 cross-sport social event DC had asked all 5 sports to run every year. • AGREED: budget for 2026/2027 was proposed, seconded and approved. 		
ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the budgeted gross margin before wastage 	DC	22 nd July 2026

5. APPROVE THE APPROACH TO INCORPORATION OF WPSC



Resolution 1

Approve the approach to Incorporation of WPSC

Background:

- WPSC is an unincorporated membership association, with no legal status

The need for change:

- to reduce liability for all members, trustees and council – currently unlimited
- to seek tax benefits from charity status e.g. rates relief, GiftAid
- to assist with fundraising from corporate/personal donors
- to assist in availability of grants for site improvements

Resolution for approval

- **firstly**, seek to incorporate WPSC as a **company limited by guarantee (CLG)**
 - the most straightforward way to incorporate, and can be done in advance of registering as a charity
 - a more detailed resolution to incorporate must be approved by future general meeting(s)
- **secondly**, seek to register WPSC as a **charity** thereafter
 - a staged approach is more suited to our limited/transient resources.

Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club

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DISCUSSION

- JG explained the context for and recommendation to incorporate of Phoenix. The motion today is merely to note and agree the direction. Further formal agreement from Phoenix members would be needed in due course to enact the incorporation.
- CS highlighted that the liability for all members of Phoenix would be limited through incorporation.
- **AGREED:** resolution was proposed, seconded and approved.

6. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2025/2026

DISCUSSION

- **AGREED:** Steve Kinsella was proposed, seconded and approved as President for 2026/2027.
- The following were proposed, seconded and elected
 - Chair David Clark
 - Vice-chair Chris Hunter
 - Hon Secretary Jim Garside
 - Bar Secretary Rachel Chapman
 - Bookings Manager Rachel Chapman
 - Treasurer Chris Steiger
 - House Secretary Guy Phillips
 - Grounds Secretary **Vacant**
 - Social Secretary **Vacant**
 - Development Officer Alan Murdoch
 - Social Media Lead Sophie Pearson

7. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

DISCUSSION	
<p>Destination Padel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Destination Padel (DP) is Phoenix’s padel development partner. BW from DP provided an update.• Northwich and Stanley Green sites are now both operational and doing well. Very excited about the Phoenix venue – believe it will be a premier location because of the layout, canopies, social space and opportunity to involve junior players too.• Ecological and noise surveys have been completed. About to submit planning permission request. Of the 3 criteria for converting greenfield to grey, 2 can be met but the “unmet demand” criterion has yet to be demonstrated (although DP believe that demand for courts still significantly exceeds availability in the areas.)• There would need to be more detailed discussions about how DP customers would access toilets in the clubhouse when the clubhouse would normally be locked. <p>Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TB asked if there was progress on raising the level of the gas storage container in the car park. DC explained that no progress had been made given the current financial situation.• LB asked whether Phoenix intended to invest in the changing rooms and toilets alongside the potential Padel and 3G developments. DC indicated Phoenix would like to – and any new development needed to consider the impact to all facilities not just the 3G pitch or Padel courts. <p>Service Agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• OM asked about progress on the Service Agreements intended between each Sport and Phoenix. JG said that these were underway but had been overtaken by other priorities. The most important aspect to agree the pitch usage plan to accommodate Lacrosse and Football to the fullest extent possible. OM asked if there could be a guarantee of usable pitches and compensation for failing the guarantee. CH said Phoenix could consider the request but the Phoenix’s financial situation would probably not make this possible.• OM asked if Wilmslow Sports had delivered the paying football members that had been promised some time ago. DC said they hadn’t. <p>Handforth Garden Village</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DK highlighted the Handforth Garden Village development and the potential Section 106 funding that might be available for sports in the area. DK encouraged Phoenix to make a preliminary application.	

DC thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 21:15

APPENDIX 1 - ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2025/26 AND BUDGET 2026/27

Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club For the year ended 30 April 2026

Income statement	2026/27	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
	Budget	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals
	£	£	£	£
Bar activities				
Bar takings	80,000	80,719	92,209	64,533
Bar cost of sales				
Opening stock	-	3,281	5,028	2,000
Cost of goods sold	48,500	44,652	49,940	42,283
Closing stock	-	(5,543)	(3,281)	(5,028)
Salaries	15,000	25,983	25,523	11,270
Social security	-	5	-	(106)
Pensions costs	-	55	4	-
Till System Rental	720	720	732	864
Credit Card Charges	2,271	2,454	2,857	1,283
Rent of credit card machines	2,474	2,163	1,981	2,261
Total Cost of Sales	67,350	73,771	82,784	54,827
Bar profit/(loss)	12,650	6,948	9,425	9,706
Coffee machine activities				
Coffee sales	3,646	-	-	-
Cost of sales	(2,000)	-	-	-
Fees	(251)	-	-	-
Hire of machine	(245)	-	-	-
Coffee machine profit/(loss)	1,149	-	-	-
Sporting section income				
Hockey	4,851	4,410	4,200	4,000
Astro Royalties	1,306	1,683	1,404	1,377
Lacrosse	4,851	4,410	4,200	4,000
Cricknet	4,851	4,410	4,200	4,300
Styal RC	1,966	1,822	1,735	1,650
Styal RC Rebate	-	-	-	(825)
Football	4,851	2,050	-	2,017
Rent - Padel	-	2,500	-	-
Total sporting section income	22,676	21,285	15,739	16,519
Other income				
Croquet	450	450	250	-
Craft Beer Festival	-	-	573	-
Hiring of facilities	1,787	2,000	-	825
Pitch Hire Income	-	-	3,540	-
Room Hire	2,400	2,202	1,417	300
Sponsorship	-	500	-	500
Interest Income	200	182	463	61
Other Revenue	-	-	4,234	585
Insurance Claim Compensation	-	-	-	200
VAT Recovery at point of registration	-	-	1,216	-
Total other income	4,837	5,333	11,692	2,471
Administrative costs				
Rates	4,543	3,000	780	-
Rent	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,824
Light, Power, Heating	8,034	7,681	13,384	12,124
Waste	2,114	2,025	2,215	2,229
Water Rates	1,544	1,470	1,536	1,549
Insurance	2,703	2,153	2,310	4,732
Telephone & Internet	1,271	1,211	1,289	1,283
Professional Fees	1,000	1,000	875	-
Bookkeeping, Accountancy and payroll fees	3,048	3,443	2,855	1,088
Legal Expenses	-	90	-	-
Cash shortfall	-	200	(30)	-
Cleaning	4,807	4,518	5,618	3,802
Depreciation Expense	1,782	1,944	2,343	633
Equipment Hire	-	-	-	17
Fuel for equipment	27	26	25	180
General Expenses	1,594	1,517	1,699	368
Grounds Maintenance	6,480	6,555	-	-
IT Software and Consumables	449	428	575	27
Motor Vehicle Expenses	-	-	62	-
Pitch Hire	-	-	-	875
Printing & Stationery	10	9	-	-
Repairs & Maintenance	6,236	6,347	11,241	13,748
Staff Training	-	-	-	283
Total Administrative Costs	47,242	45,218	48,378	44,762
Operating profit/(loss)	(5,930)	(11,653)	(11,521)	(16,066)
Exceptionals				
Surplus on insurance claim	-	-	-	40,913
Repairs and Renewal - Exceptional Items	-	(56,930)	-	-
Grant income	10,000	-	-	-
Donations	4,000	30,864	-	2,480
Wilmslow Half Marathon	-	16,000	-	5,403
Total exceptional profit/(loss)	14,000	(10,066)	-	48,796
Profit/(loss) for the year	8,070	(21,719)	(11,521)	32,731

APPENDIX 2 - BALANCE SHEET

Balance Sheet

Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club

As at 30 April 2026

Account	30 Apr 2026	30 Apr 2025	30 Apr 2024
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets			
Leasehold Improvements	4,500	4,500	4,500
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Leasehold Improvements	(1,013)	(563)	(113)
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Office Equipment	(92)	(54)	(4)
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Plant and Machinery	(3,815)	(2,359)	(516)
Office Equipment	205	205	205
Plant and Machinery	8,253	8,253	6,306
Total Tangible Assets	8,038	9,982	10,378
Total Fixed Assets	8,038	9,982	10,378
Current Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand			
Current Account	5,864	2,602	7,585
Savings Account	2,052	22,370	28,908
Total Cash at bank and in hand	7,916	24,972	36,493
Accounts Receivable	250	0	(4,200)
Cash Takings Control Account	437	869	1,046
Closing Stock BS	5,543	3,281	5,028
Credit Card Takings Control Account	328	313	113
Prepayments	7,702	6,149	3,996
Total Current Assets	22,176	35,585	42,476
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Accounts Payable	12,402	5,483	2,061
Accruals	840	1,218	1,218
Income in Advance	0	0	0
PAYE Payable	248	209	13
Pensions Payable	0	10	0
Rounding	(0)	(0)	0
VAT	(433)	236	0
Wages Payable - Payroll	834	369	0
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13,891	7,526	3,291
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	8,285	28,060	39,185
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	16,323	38,042	49,563
Net Assets	16,323	38,042	49,563
Capital and Reserves			
Current Year Earnings	(21,719)	(11,521)	32,731
Retained Earnings	38,042	49,563	16,832
Total Capital and Reserves	16,323	38,042	49,563