

Minutes of Committee Meeting on 24th November 2025

(Held at the home of Sue Heath)

Apologies

Rosie Dickson

In Attendance

Irene Robinson-Chairperson, Liz Mason-Honorary Treasurer, Graeme Dickson-Honorary Secretary, Val Sewry, Linda Rowles, Sue West, Sue Heath, Sue Locke.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Accepted and signed.

Dawlish Update

Val Sewry presented costs for Dawlish 2026, assuming 70 guests and three free bed spaces. This produced a cost of £274.26 per person and it is proposed that we charge £275 per person. A profit of £0.74p per person would be generated, with 70 guests. Allowance is made for gifts and printing, estimated at £45 and £10 respectively. Liz noted that the Bristol Dawlish weekend costs £300 but includes 2 drinks receptions and a soup and roll lunch on the Saturday

Val has discussed with the hotel the possibility of making the evening meal 2 courses, main and dessert, rather than the current 3 course. However, this will only save £4 per head as the meal is already subsidised.

Val also presented the committee with the Dawlish Weekend 2026 Terms and Conditions. Specifically, we will request a £60 deposit with no refund after the 6th September 2026.

We will provide a refund on medical grounds, but both of these refunds will incur a fee of £20 to cover the hotel costs of cancellation.

There followed a general discussion around our cancellation policy and the Terms and Conditions from the Langstone Cliff Hotel. VS to clarify the hotel's cancellation policy. We also discussed our Privacy Policy. Although we do not have a policy as such, only our Honorary Secretary has access to our mailing list and this is not shared. Anyone can elect to be removed from the mailing list by contacting the Honorary Secretary. The Chair felt that as

we are affiliated with the London Branch of RSCDS then possibly we are covered by their Privacy Policy. The Chair will explore this with London Branch.

Val was pleased to report that William Williamson, Ewan Galloway and Andrew Knight will be attending next year and that their remuneration has been agreed.

Treasurer's Report

Dawlish 2025 made a profit of £226.70 but Glenda is owed a refund of £60. Sue Heath to chase this up. This results in a profit of £166.70. We had a discussion on eligibility for refunds and agreed that we would continue to refund for medical reasons. We recommend that guests have travel insurance to cover cancellation expenses, and we will place a clause to that effect in the booking form.

The treasurer informed us that 23 dancers were now paying for classes by BACS.

The Day School in January has 16 people booked, one of whom is a new dancer. 7 of these will bring their own lunch and 9 will purchase lunch. Catering including provision of cakes to be discussed.

Our current account has a balance of £3944.80 and our savings account £7258.81

After examination of last year's accounts, the treasurer reported that to the best of her knowledge we donated £352 to the Weymouth Food Bank, which was our charity last year. This consisted of £225 from the Ball, £67 from the May account, £50 from our end of term party and £10 from the sale of dance shoes.

Ball Update

At the recent meeting of the finance sub group, it was decided to keep the cost of a ticket at £25, accepting that we may make a loss on the event. We are getting Herrison Hall at the same price as this year and Craigellachie will increase their fee by £20. We do not have a quote at this stage from Ruth Marshall, the caterer.

The secretary will pursue a cost for the catering. We propose that Ruth will provide the main course and we will provide the desserts.

We will put a disclaimer in the tickets. The Chair has explored the possibility of Frank Tough providing photography for the evening. However he is currently having eye problems and may be unable to assist us. We would offer him a free place.

Regarding the piper, concerns were raised as to where and when he would play. The Secretary and the Chair will visit Herrison Hall and examine the possibilities. Although we cannot have tables for dancers on the stage we would like to have all the dancers eating in

the main hall, not using Toad Hall as we did this year. Should we engage the piper, the treasurer is happy with his payment. At the next committee meeting Rosie will produce the list of tasks which we used at this year's ball.

Day School Update

We have 16 dancers booked. The catering helpers will meet after Christmas. The committee was pleased that Val Scriven and Val Braithwaite have volunteered to assist with catering. Irene and Sue will organise the soup. Attendees are paying by BACS and the system is working well.

Broadmayne

The recent Broadmayne dance was a great success. Our Chair raised the question of WSCD having liability as our name appeared on the tickets. All money raised was sent to the Charminster club charity, Julia's House. The committee were happy for Weymouth dancers to continue to assist in running the Broadmayne dances, but that it should be promoted solely as a Charminster Scottish Country Dance Club event

Promotions

We have 3 events coming up which the Secretary will promote to neighbouring clubs. We have printed flyers for the Ewan Galloway evening, the Day School and the date for the Ball. Charminster, Bournemouth, Bridport and Dorchester u3a will be sent information on the Ewan Galloway evening.

For the upcoming St Andrews night, the dances will allude to the occasion, we will provide shortbread and blue and white will be encouraged.

Our final dancing of the year will be 18th December Christmas party. We will have simpler dances and have our supper after dancing. Roger has been asked to arrange the wine.

Regarding our new dancers who have joined since September, Linda and Sue feel that things are generally working well. The new dancers are happy partnered with more experienced people and there does not seem to be a need for more beginner classes at this stage.

We had a discussion about the loss of some regular dancers and the reasons people stop attending.

Equipment

Our CD player was used at the Broadmayne dance and Liz felt there was a problem with the speed. It was agreed the teachers will meet at the hall and try both our CD systems.

The Secretary will book the hall on the afternoon of the 19th December. The plan is for the better player to remain at the hall and GD to store the other system. We would like to improve storage at the hall, perhaps disposing of unwanted equipment.

It was agreed that Sue Locke may borrow the new music system (speaker, mic and leads) following our last dancing on the 18th December.

AOB.

We have been asked to provide a demonstration dance for Care Dorset in Weymouth who will donate to our charity. This will be at 1.30 pm on Friday 23rd January. Liz to organise.

Saturday 24th January is the Caledonian Society Burns Night at the WPNSA. This will follow our Day School and members will be informed.

Our dancing with the Wyke Scout group will be on the 1st and 3rd December at Rylands Lane at 7pm. There will be approximately 20 scouts each evening. Irene, Linda and Sue W will be involved and we will ask our new dancers to help.

On 30th November at 11am a group of dancers including Irene, Sue, Linda, Vanessa and Jane will entertain the residents of Buxton House.

The Secretary will liaise with our teachers and callers to organise dates for Friday Challenge dances in 2026. The Secretary would like to thank Liz for her work on our website. It is an excellent source of information about our club and upcoming dances in the region.

Date of Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on the 26th January at 11 am at the home of Sue W.

GRD/ 11th February 2026