

**Wimborne Orienteers
Committee Meeting
Thursday, 16th April 2026 19:45
Verwood, Dorset**

Minutes of Meeting

Revision History

Rev	Date	Details
0	15/05/2026	Draft
1	22/06/2026	

Distributed by email to

Andy French, Karen French, Debs Mays, Rob Mills, Kevin Pickering, Kath Pike, Keith Henderson

Posted on website wimborne-orienteers.co.uk

Present

Kath Pike	(Chair)	KaP
Karen French	(Treasurer)	KF
Tom Alcock	(Secretary)	TA
Andy French		AF
Debs Mays		DM
Rob Mills		RM
Keith Henderson	(Non-committee)	KH

Apologies

Kevin Pickering (**KeP**).

The meeting was called to order at 19:50.

1 Minutes of last meeting – Thursday 15th January 2026

- 1.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by the Committee with minor revisions.

2 Notices

There are no notices.

3 Treasurer's Report

- 3.1 Current Account balance £12,597.79.
- 3.2 Recent Events (see also 7):
 - 3.2.1 Purbeck Hill Challenge (14/02/26): +£917 surplus.
 - 3.2.2 CompassSport Qualifier (22/02/26): +£1383.
 - 3.2.3 WRNL Alderholt (26/02/26): +£53.
- 3.3 Other Expenses:
 - 3.3.1 Per 5.2, 9 x SI unit batteries: ~£200.
 - 3.3.2 Forestry England invoice for Boxing Day Canter: ~£250.

4 Juniors' Report

- 4.1 In March – Alice & Grace F competed at Interland in Calais. Well done to England who won!
- 4.2 Selection races for summer camps took place at British Champs in Wales, and JK in Perthshire. Alice F did well – well done Alice.

5 Equipment & Website

- 5.1 One control was lost at Clouds Hill, which has been replaced with a spare, so we still have a full set of controls.
- 5.2 9 x SI units were tested after Compass Sport and found to be well below the voltage threshold. Batteries replaced. See 3.3.1.

6 Welfare

- 6.1 KaP completed her welfare course.

7 Past Events

- 7.1 Sat 14th February 2026: Purbeck Hill Challenge
 - 7.1.1 All went smoothly on the day. One First Aid action dealt with.
 - 7.1.2 This was the second of 2 events (last in Feb 2025). Based on feedback, there is plenty of appetite for events in the future!
 - 7.1.3 We made a tidy profit per 3.2.1.
 - 7.1.4 There are 40 maps left. In order to recoup our costs, it is suggested to offer them to orienteers at cost price (~£10) to be run as a long distance Maprun or similar. There are some issues with copyright that mean we would not be able to publish the map on our website without obtaining a further licence

from Ordnance Survey. **Action: RM** to discuss further with WSX with a view to drawing up a proposal for consideration by WIM/WSX Committees.

7.2 Sun 22nd February 2026: Compass Sport Qualifier – Bovington

7.2.1 Preparation for this event was hard work, but it paid off – it was a very well received event with compliments from many competitors. Thank you very much to Andrew Howard for planning, **AF** and **KF** for organising. Terry Smith of SOC controlled.

7.2.2 Set-up and break-down of the start was harder due to lack of keys to access the area, so volunteers had to park further away, and walk in with heavy bags of equipment. It was noted that access would have massively assisted event logistics.

7.2.3 This year the organiser (**AF**) also had to coordinate start times, which has previously been done by the CSC Committee. The (reasonably complex) start time allocation spreadsheets had to be created from scratch by **AF**. **Action: AF** to pass on template files to next year's organisers (WSX) to lessen their workload.

7.2.4 Next year, WSX are hosting the CSC Heats at Agglestone Heath. Our officials to impart some wisdom to them.

7.2.5 **KF** has volunteered to plan CSC at Agglestone for her Level B controller qualification.

7.3 Thurs 26th February 2026: Wessex Night League – Alderholt

7.3.1 One minor dispute from local resident on a private road who was not happy with runners turning round in the cul-de-sac. Organiser and Chair have responded to the resident by email. Otherwise happy with this event.

8 Future Events

8.1 Sun 19th April 2026: Wimborne Sports & Leisure Festival

8.1.1 This is an opportunity for local clubs to showcase their sport and potentially drum up new members.

8.1.2 **KeP** and Hilary Pickering will take the lead and run a stall from 10am-1pm.

8.1.3 They will possibly run a 'naughty numbers' for visitors.

8.2 April – September 2026: WIM/WSX Summer League

For officials, see individual events **8.3** onwards.

8.2.1 The Junior entry fee for the organised (Physical) events was revised from £3.00 to £2.50 in line with WSX for consistency.

8.3 May 2026: Summer League – Blandford Maprun

Planner: [Chris Branford](#)

- 8.4** Sun 10th May 2026: Summer League – Potterne Park
Planner/Organiser: **KF**
- 8.5** World Orienteering Week
- 8.6** June 2026: Summer League – Merley Maprun
Planner: **TA**
- 8.7** Sun 14th June 2026: Summer League – Stonebarrow
Planner/Organiser: **RM**
- 8.8** Sat 20th June 2026: Tidworth Urban
Planner: Chris Branford; Organiser: **KaP**; Controller: Bernie Fowler BAOC
- 8.8.1** Entries are now live on Racesignup. Volunteers required.
- 8.9** July 2026: Summer League – Hyde & Gorley Common Maprun
Planner: Eamon/Kirsty Staunton
- 8.10** Sun 5th July 2026: Summer League – Sturminster Newton
Planner: Vicky McCreadie; Organiser: Tristan M
- 8.11** Weds 11th November 2026: Military League South (MLS) – Moors Valley
Organiser: TBC; Controller: **KF**; Planner: **RM**
- 8.12** Sun 13th December 2026: South West League – Godshill
Planner: Phil Harvey; Organiser: TBC
- 8.12.1** Phil Harvey is currently remapping the area.
- 8.12.2** Usual car parking field by Godshill Village Hall has now been sold and no longer available. However, Eamon Staunton has sourced an alternative car parking field.
- 8.13** Sat 26th December 2026: Boxing Day Canter – Moors Valley
Planner: Alice F; Organiser: **KF**

9 Mapping Updates

There are no mapping updates.

10 AOB

- 10.1** Involving Scouts/Guides in Orienteering: **KH** attended the meeting to share his thoughts on how we could get Scouts & Guides involved in orienteering.
- 10.1.1** Scout huts in the local area have already reached out to WIM asking if we can teach them how to orienteer.
- 10.1.2** Discussed use of existing permanent courses in the area to both minimise planning and mapping efforts.
- 10.1.3** Insurance complexities that might arise from hosting our own event. Would it be possible to map land belonging to Scouts and/or get them to run the

event with our support?

10.1.4 However, this would incur additional time and mapping costs. Better to use one of our own tried and tested areas e.g. Potterne Park.

10.1.5 We should invite leaders of local group(s) to take part for free in Summer event on 10th May at Potterne Park (see **8.4**). **Action: KF (and KH)** to contact several local leaders with invitation.

10.2 Access Updates: **RM** and Eamon Staunton have been working on this to potentially revive old areas, rekindle relationships with landowners.

10.2.1 Milton Abbey – has been used in the past, but area no longer available. Recent discussions with landowner indicated that this position is not likely to change.

10.2.2 May's Wood (Bere Regis) – the woodland is not mature enough.

10.2.3 Ringwood North – there is potential to extend the map north onto the adjacent Cranborne Common, and surrounding land, which is believed to be owned by Dorset County Council. We must establish the exact sites of scientific interest (SSSI) and be mindful of them.

The meeting was adjourned at 21.40.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25th June 2026 at 19.45 in Verwood.

Tom Alcock – Secretary
secretary@wimborne-orienteers.co.uk