

The Portsmouth Lodge No 487

Minutes for the General Purposes Committee meeting
held at the Fareham Masonic Centre.

Tuesday 4th November 2025

The Meeting was opened at 7.00 pm with W Bro Gareth Manson in the Chair

item	SUBJECT	Action
1	Attendance and Apologies There were 7 attendees & 9 apologies as per attendance sheet.	
2	Minutes of the last meeting Minutes of the last committee meeting held at FMC on Tuesday 7 nd October 2025 have been circulated, were approved & then signed by W Bro Gareth Manson	
2 a	Matters Arising These would be picked up within the following agenda items except that there was a brief discussion on Steven Lincoln, the candidate who decided at the last moment not to join. The GP asked what could be done in future and it was agreed that the interview team should inform candidates, as far as possible, more of the procedures for the initiation. In addition, it should be optional to wear the initiation garment, if the candidate feels strongly enough. W Bro Roger did mention that he had received an updated offer, not confirmed, on the 175 Year Badges and would raise it again at the next meeting.	
3	Lodge Website W Bro Andy Brown mentioned the contents and links of the new website and that everyone had signed up except two Honorary members. There are a number of links including to the Summons, Minutes, Treasurer & Charity Stewards reports, the UGLE Pathway (now called Building Together). The site is evolving and more links would come as it does, such as the meal booking system. The website does have a counter so that we can analyse traffic and W Bro Gareth mentioned that traffic could be identified so W Bro Andy would investigate that.	
4	Candidates W Bro Gareth said that he was inviting a potential candidate to the Xmas White Table and hopefully this will encourage him to join at some point in the near future. Bro Mike Crick was hopeful of bringing in a joining member in January and W Bro Bob Cullen asked him to provide a Clearance Certificate form his previous Lodge.	
5	Treasurer Report Dining cost in November would be £22 and the Xmas meeting £30. W Bro Gareth agreed to arrange the Flowers for the Xmas white table and W Bro Andy Brown would attend The Portsmouth City Band rehearsal to confirm our booking and get contact details.	GM AB

6	<p>Charity Stewards Report & 2027 Festival Update</p> <p>Bro Mike has the £200 cheque for Solent Diabetes and would make arrangements next week to visit them to present it. He also mentioned that W Bro Andy Brown was completing a 60 Mile walking challenge and would be pleased for any sponsorship with proceeds going to Prostate Cancer Charities.</p>	
7	<p>Almoner Report</p> <p>W Bro Gareth mentioned the following W Bros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barry Filer has been in and out of hospital but was currently in but hoping to come out again soon - Chris Ford was still awaiting test results but hopeful progress would be made soon - Roger Barnard has had a CTScan and now waiting on an Ultrasound on his liver and will update how that goes - Bob Blackman has had a CTScan and awaiting a hip replacement - Kevin Hunt has had his driving license restricted but thankfully can still drive his car. 	
8	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>The Secretary advises that all correspondence has been circulated except that letters of thanks had been received from W Bro Adrian Cleightonhills (APGM), W Bro Alan Hares(Provincial ADC) and Our Official Guests from Dorking for receiving them at the October meeting. They all very much enjoyed the evening which was conducted in difficult circumstances but wished the Lodge well for the future.</p>	
9	<p>Agenda for the next meeting</p> <p>November Summons – the Lodge will perform a ceremony of Passing for Lewis Donovan or a rehearsal of the ceremony of Passing. The DC was hoping this meeting would be the PM’s night but that would depend on available brethren.</p> <p>The December meeting will be short but W Bro Bob Cullen will add the Proposal by the Treasurer to raise subscriptions following a Notice of Motion to be given at the November meeting - £195 Members & £173 Country Members.</p>	

10	<p>LMO & Lodge Plan</p> <p>The 5 Year Plan has been circulated to all Brethren and currently we may have the Junior Deacon role vacant from Install in March 2026, unless someone volunteers. However, W Bro Roger has some thoughts on that which he'll share at a later date and when it is was clearer what ceremonies were going to be performed next year.</p>	
11	<p>Any other business</p> <p>The Secretary advised that he would not be present at the November meeting and would ask W Bro Roger Barnard to step into the role for that meeting.</p> <p>W Bro Bob Cullen attended Bishopswood Lodge as representative of 487 at their Trafalgar Night meeting on Thursday 23rd October.</p> <p>W Bro Wayne Frampton would take up the Official Visit to Southsea Lodge and Bro Josh Letzer will go to St Vincents.</p> <p>W Bro Bob Cullen questioned the need for a GP on 2nd December, so soon after the November meeting, especially as December is a white table meeting. There is a LMO meeting planned for 6pm on Tuesday 2nd December but the suggestion is that we could hold that meeting at 7pm instead. W Bro Bob will discuss with W Bro Danny and advise.</p> <p>It was agreed to put the LMO Reports on the website and that W Bro Andy Brown would send Roger Barnard a copy of the photos taken at the November meeting</p>	
<p>There was no further business & the meeting closed at 8 pm. The next GP meeting (TBC) @ 7.00pm will be on Tuesday 2nd December 2025</p>		

Secretary: R Cullen

Signed: (WM) _____ Date _____