

# The Portsmouth Lodge No 487

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

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026

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

item	SUBJECT	Action
1	<b>Attendance and Apologies</b>  There were 10 attendees & 7 apologies as per attendance sheet.	
2	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b>  Minutes of the last committee meeting held at FMC on Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February have been circulated, were approved & then signed by W Bro Gareth Manson	
2 a	<b>Matters Arising – there were none</b>	
3	<b>Lodge website</b>  W Bro Andy Brown reported that the website was now all back up and running properly following the 'glitch' identified.  He also said that he was now analysing the stats from the site and investigating the dining booking system and that more details would follow.  W Bro Gareth had noticed an issue when trying to access the minutes and reports which Andy confirmed and said he will investigate further.	AB  AB
4	<b>Candidates</b>  W Bro Gareth said he was going to take at least 1 person to the 'Dine A Friend' and possibly 2. Let's hope these take their first step into Freemasonry soon.  Bro Josh mentioned he also had a couple of potential candidates but they need more time.  However, it was suggested that all of these potential candidates be invited to our 'Dine the Master' evening, which would be less formal this year and a good opportunity to meet them. See AOB	
5	<b>Treasurers Report</b>  W Bro Adrian Jones has distributed his report and advised Brethren that subscriptions are due, if you have not paid already. W Bro Andy Brown mentioned that an invoice for Hosting of £70 (within the agreed limits of GP) had been paid	

6	<p><b>Charity Stewards Report &amp; 2027 Festival Update</b></p> <p>The Charity Steward was unavoidably absent but the CSR would be circulated electronically soon.</p>	
7	<p><b>Almoners Report.</b></p> <p>W Bro Gareth has been reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- W Bro Bob Blackman has had a Pacemaker fitted and that his new hip was working well</li> <li>- W Bro Howard to Pulmonary rehab but is doing ok</li> <li>- W Bro Roger Barnard has had four sessions of chemo with 2 to come but hopes to make the May White Table evening</li> </ul>	
8	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>There was no further correspondence</p>	
9	<p><b>Agenda for the next meeting</b></p> <p>March:</p> <p>Installing Master to be added to the Summons and unfortunately, W Bro Gareth is not available for the meeting, Danny will step in as WM/Installing Master</p> <p>The Secretary has invited the WM's of Phoenix, Harmony and Royal Sussex Lodge as Official Guests</p> <p>April: W Bro Danny confirmed that we would be undertaking the Raising of Bro Lewis Donovan at the April meeting. Unfortunately, our WM and JW will not be in attendance but suitable replacements will be found,</p>	
10	<p><b>LMO and Lodge Plan</b></p> <p>Dine a friend is on 6th May 2026 at Gosport and our LMO will update his Officer spreadsheet as per the minutes of the PM meeting list of Officers.</p>	RB

11	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Bro Josh confirmed that the 'Dine the Master' event will be held at the Blue Cobra on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 6.30pm with timings to be confirmed. It was also agreed (as above) to extend the invites to our potential candidates and hope they can join us.</p> <p>He also has plans for the May White Table but would work with our Treasurer on costings to see what is doable and would make a further announcement at his installation.</p> <p>W Bro Bob reminded our WM Elect that he would need to confirm his charity with Bro Mike Crick,</p> <p>Visit to Dorking on 30<sup>th</sup> March – so far W Bros Chris Ford, Barry Filer, Andy Brown &amp; Bob Cullen with Bro Mike Crick have confirmed they will attend. Unfortunately, our WM Elect is away on holiday. Please advise the Secretary asap if you are going to attend.</p> <p>Visit to Master Builders on 15<sup>th</sup> June – our WM Elect has confirmed his attendance and it would be great if other Brethren could support him at this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary White Table event.</p> <p>Dine a Friend – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May in Gosport (flyer circulated) Cheque Presentation – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May (timing to be confirmed)</p> <p>W Bro Andy mentioned that W Bro Bob Blackman could arrange for pens to be engraved with some reference to our Lodge. W Andy would check with Bob Blackman how this could be done and advise at the next GP</p> <p><b>Next Lodge Meeting is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b></p>	<p>JL</p> <p>JL</p> <p>JL</p> <p>AB</p>
<p><b>There was no further business &amp; the meeting closed at 7.50 pm. The next GP meeting (TBC) @ 7.00pm will be on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b></p>		

Secretary: R Cullen

Signed: (WM) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_