

The Portsmouth Lodge No 487

Minutes for the General Purposes Committee meeting

held at the Fareham Masonic Centre.

Tuesday 5th May 2026

The Meeting was opened at 7.00pm with

W Bro Josh Letzer in the Chair

item	SUBJECT	Action
1	<p>Attendance and Apologies</p> <p>There were 11 attendees &amp; 7 apologies as per attendance sheet.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>Minutes of the last committee meeting held at FMC on Tuesday 14th April 2026 have been circulated, were approved &amp; then signed by W Bro Josh Letzer</p>	
2 a	<p>Matters Arising – there were none</p>	
3	<p>Lodge website</p> <p>W Bro Andy Brown reported that he had trouble posting the White Table Flyer on the website but W Bro Bob Cullen advised that he had produced a PowerPoint Slide which he would forward. Hopefully, that could be put on the site.</p> <p>W Bro Andy also mentioned the photos of the Install were too large to load so he is looking to re-size them to fit.</p> <p>Both W Bro Adrian Jones and W Bro Chris Ford mentioned they had been having issues logging on and this would be investigated.</p>	AB
4	<p>Candidates</p> <p>On subsequent checking with the Provincial Office Bro Joshua Watkins, of the Seven Seas Lodge cannot become a joining member of our Lodge until such time as he has been Raised by his Mother Lodge and is in possession of his Grand Lodge Certificate. The Seven Seas Lodge have accepted his Passing and have notified their Province as such.</p> <p>W Bro Roger Barnard advised that Mr. Stephen Burt would be attending the Dine A Friend as will Mr. John Milner, W Bro Gareth's candidate. Hopefully, these will continue on to initiation although Mr. John Milner may not be available to join until January 2027. In addition, Mr. Mark Smith is still interested and the plan is to do a double initiation for him and Mr. Stephen Burt, if possible, in September. After the Dine A Friend, the Secretary will write to the candidates to confirm the 25<sup>th</sup> September is suitable.</p> <p>The WM is still talking to a number of his friends who are still interested but he is not now able to attend the Dine A Friend. He will keep the GP apprised of the progress of his candidates and potential joining dates.</p>	BC

5	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>W Bro Adrian Jones has posted his report on the website. He did mention that the cost of Dining for the May White Table is £30pp</p>	
6	<p>Charity Stewards Report &amp; 2027 Festival Update</p> <p>The Charity Steward was unavoidably absent but his latest report will be on the website shortly.</p>	MC
7	<p>Almoners Report.</p> <p>W Bro Gareth said that it has been pretty quiet from his perspective but he has spoken to W Bro Barry, who is back on antibiotics and W Bro Bob Blackman who is getting back to full health but is having to care for his partner currently.</p>	
8	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>All correspondence had been forwarded to the Brethren</p>	
9	<p>Agenda for the next meeting</p> <p>May: Will be a White Table evening and just the usual Lodge Business without a ceremony. Tyle would be at 6pm as usual.</p> <p>September: Intention is to do a Double Initiation for Mr. Smith &amp; Mr. Burt as per the notes above. Cost for those candidates joining in September will be £195</p>	
10	<p>LMO and Lodge Plan</p> <p>W Bro Roger Barnard advised that his report was on the website as with the latest 5 Year Plan. The potential candidates were mentioned previously and that they were coming along to the Dine a friend on 6th May 2026 at Gosport.</p> <p>W Bro Roger has to provide an updated Pathway Document to align with the Provincial requirements which he will share with the Membership Team before reporting back to the GP. He will also try to arrange a date for the next membership Team meeting.</p>	RB
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>W Bro Gareth Manson asked that the WM speak with the Florist direct ( A Webb &amp; Son) to sort out the table decorations for the White Table event. He also asked if the Lodge were able to provide Sponsorship for the Havant Rugby Club who were not a registered charity. The Secretary said he would find out the rules for that and said potentially the TLF would be able to support.</p> <p>W Bro Roger Barnard mentioned that he had forwarded an invitation to Southsea Lodge to the WM who should reply either way.</p>	JL  JL

