

Studley Wood Seniors Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2025

The meeting opened at 1315 hrs

In attendance: Jonathan Perks (Chair), Paul Smith, Gerry Prickett, Chris Perks, Russel Matthews, Tim Mustill, Richard Ilett and Chris Fill

1. Apologies - David Hughes

The captain noted the sad passing of Barry Yates. He was a Club captain, a Seniors captain, and past president of SWGC. Being a long standing, influential and active member of the club his passing is particularly poignant.

JP will be attending his memorial service in Thame.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting.

It was noted that the minutes of the SCM held on 6 November 2025 were correct, and acceptable.

Matters Arising

All matters arising were either completed or addressed later in the meeting.

3. Feedback from General and Men's Committee meetings

From the General Committee:

3.1 It is still the intention to trial the use of portable, fairway mats. It is probable that they will be 'Spurk' mats which have a short and a long pile (long pile mats will be more suitable for us at SWGC). These are still to be sourced.

3.2 The club is waiting for sample winter tee mats to be delivered, prior to installation on the par 3 holes.

3.3 The green keepers will be installing a 'screen' around the practice putting green to prevent tree roots from intruding and damaging the green. They will also be installing new drainage on the 14th green.

3.4 Issues associated with the faulty GPS systems installed in the buggies have been reported to the supplier.

3.5 It was agreed that the club will notify members of the whole range of available fees, when the renewal invitations are distributed next year.

3.6 Following someone slipping on the wooden steps from the clubhouse, the surface will be roughened, salt deposited in frost conditions and a warning sign will be installed.

4. Treasurer's Report

PS highlighted that November was a quiet month with few movements through the Income & Expenditure account.

4.1 The key points are:

- November Roll Up Income £966.06
- November Roll Up Prizes (£906.56)
- Bank charges (£8.92)
- Monthly website fee (£9.60)
- Surplus at 30th November was £459.50

4.2 At 30th November the Lloyds bank balance was £6,797.86, with an additional cash in hand amounting to £330 and the Seniors Gold Card balance was £821.09.

4.3 The bank balance has been boosted in the month by receipts for the Christmas golf and meal of £1,978 and initial deposits for the 2026 Spring tour totalling £1,020. An initial deposit of £200 has been paid out for the tour.

5. Fixture Secretary's Report

5.1 RI stated that the Tadmarton fixtures have been confirmed and that they are in the club diary.

5.2 The new away match with Oxford City has been confirmed for 12 October 2026.

6. Awaydays / Tour Update

6.1 The tour to Monmouth is full.

6.2 Following discussion it was agreed to hold the Spring Awayday at the West Midlands course. **Action: CP**

7. Proposed roll-up programme for January

A discussion about which tees should be used in January (and February) concluded with the following.

- All individual competitions are to be played off the bronze tees.
- All team competitions are to be played off the bronze tees.
- All Winter League and silverware competitions are to be played off the silver tees (weather and course conditions permitting).

It was also agreed to limit the number of qualifying competitions to a maximum of 3/month, over the January to March period.

The proposed playing programme for January was agreed.

8. Roll-up & Results Rota

Individuals responsible for the organisation of January's roll-ups were advised that due to the change-over to Golf Genius the set-up of competitions will not be possible for several days/weeks. As a result, we will probably be operating a card-based process for both set-up and results processing in January. **Action: All**

9. Competitions and Matches

9.1 Further to the discussion held at the previous meeting, CF presented the results of the 3-Ball Texas Scramble teams using a 15% handicap. The results were very similar to those when the WHS system is applied.

GP had undertaken a similar analysis of other Texas Scramble competitions. His findings supported those established by CF.

It was agreed that in future, or at least until Golf Genius was installed, the following handicaps would be used for Texas Scramble events.

- 4-ball teams would use 10% of the team's aggregate CHs.
- 3-ball teams would use 15% of the team's aggregate CHs.

9.2 As a follow-up to the previous meeting's discussion about tied eclectic Scores, it was agreed that in future the Golf Genius system's method of measuring countback would be used as the definitive way of identifying the overall winner.

9.3 Results: November 2025

There were 4 individual competitions in November, all of which were qualifiers.

4 November - Seniors Stableford

Tim Mustill (36 pts) Div 1

Mike Atkins (34 pts) Div 2

11 November - Seniors Winter League: R2

Chris Fill (37 pts) Div 1
Colin Taylor (36pts) Div 2

20 November - Quarterly Challenge
David Hughes (73 nett) Div 1
Kingi Sharma (75 nett) Div 2

27 November - Seniors Stableford
Ken Tuffley (35 pts) Div 1
Paul Peros (32pts) Div 2

Three team competitions were held.

6 November - Seniors Alliance
Dave Drew, Brian Plater, Paul Smith & Tim Mustill (90pts)

10 November - Seniors Waltz (SCB)
Gordon McMurdo, Richard Hayward, Bruce Seymour-Taylor & David Hughes (94 pts)

25 November - Pairs Better Ball
Paul Fitzgerald & Gordon McMurdo (39 pts)

9.4 M4 Winter League

SW have now completed their fixtures in this year's competition. The record of 2 wins and 6 losses is disappointing and slightly unexpected. However, some participants have noted that with the exception of Sand Martins, all of the courses we play in the league are vastly inferior to SW.

A decision about whether to continue playing in the M4 league has been postponed until TM has been able to discuss it with all interested parties.

Action: TM

11 Christmas Lunch

Final arrangements for the Christmas lunch were confirmed. **Action: RM, JP, GP**

12. The Proposed Studley Wood Golf Club Trust

12.1 KH had been invited to address the committee and to explain the ideas, proposed outcomes and methods by which the Trust might work.

KH began by outlining the 'need' to support members, past and present, and their families when in time of need. He offered a recent example of how the club had come together to support a family when a parent had died. He explained

how the trust would work, with some of the trustees appointed from the different sections within the club.

The difference between the way a trust and a charity works was explored by members of the committee. This, for some, highlighted their concern that the trust would remove an individual donor's control over the way their money was distributed.

Concern was also expressed about the removal of a captain's decision about their choice of charity.

After some discussion KH agreed that each captain could be given an opportunity to direct 50% of their funds to a charity of their choice, and 50% could be given to the trust.

The development of the proposed trust will continue within the club and using external legal and financial advisors. **Action: KH, GP, JP**

13. Any Other Business

13.1 JP asked for contributions to be included in the next newsletter (particularly TM for M4 League and CP for Awaydays). All content should be sent to JP who will be drafting this over the Christmas period.

13.2 JP also stated that preparations (particularly the date) for the next AGM at the will need to be set at the next meeting in January.

The meeting closed at 1445 hrs.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Chris Fill
15 December 2025