



**The League of Friends of Axminster Hospital
Minutes of the Meeting held at Axminster Hospital
Tuesday 24th February 2026**

| | <p><u>Present:</u> Steve Holt (SH) - Chair Julian Hussey (JH) Chrissy Cawley (CC) Hazel Cross (HC) Helen Arnold (HA) Delia Driver (DD) Dr Phil Taylor (PT) Dr Sarah Ellis (SE) Mervyn Symes (MS) Karen Churchill (KC)</p> <p><u>Apologies for Absence were received from:</u> Teresa Denning (TD) Jeanette Ward (JW) Gill George (GG)</p> | <p><u>Action</u></p> |
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| 1 | <p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 18th November 2025 Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record of discussions held.</p> | |
| 2. | <p>Matters arising HA will notify PT re dates of next RDUH & League of Friends meeting</p> | <p>HA</p> |
| 3 | <p>Financial Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Donations received <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £59.35 Much Loved • £300 Membury Baptist Church • £131.26 AG Down • £230 Dalwood Christmas Event • £83.52 CAF • £728 Dalwood Fair • £1000 E Blackwell • 47.25 Much Loved • £175 Cogs • £17.46 Much Loved ○ Gift Aid There are still some issues to resolve with HMRC re our application. CC & HA to meet to complete amendment form. | <p>CC/ HA</p> |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bank Balance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● £367,277 current account ● £200,000 savings account ○ 100 Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 35 members and 3 new applications | |
| 4. | <p>Report from Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Axminster Hospice at Home There are 2 new appointments to join Hayley Allen (HA) in our H@H team. Helen Smart (HS) is joining us from Seaton H@H. Helen is excited by the model we are introducing being integrated with the community team. Michaela Board (MB) has gained additional qualifications in palliative care and wishes to specialise in end-of-life care. Their start dates are tbc. SH & HA are meeting with H Allen and MB to discuss patient packs. DD suggested there may be funding available to cover costs of patient packs. ○ Launch event Date tbc by steering committee when HS and MB start dates are confirmed. | <p>SH/HA/MB/ HA</p> <p>SH/SE</p> |
| 5. | <p>Update from Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fundraising 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quiz 6 March Axminster Football Club There are a few tables left. Thanks to Tesco and Complete Meats for donations of food and raffle prizes. CC & HA to organise food. KC raffle. ● Coffee Morning 30 April Church Rooms Thanks to Complete Meats for donation of bacon. Please let HA know if available to help. ● Annual Open Meeting 19 May Bradshaw Rooms Guest Speaker Rachel Armitage. Title to be decided. ● Stockland Fair 25 May | <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>HA</p> |



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Farm 7 June Consider offering more than cake and drinks. Please let HA know if available to help. | ALL |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Event at Great Jackleigh Farm Date tbc. HA to contact Jacqui Symes. KC is no longer able to organise Treasure Hunt. MS suggested Tractor Trundle and Bar B Q | HA/JS/MS |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalwood Country Fair 15 August • Hawkchurch Village Fete 29 August • Bingo Lizz Goff has agreed to run another event. Date tbc | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Charity Concert JH informed the meeting that the Musical theatre group are holding an event in the Minster at Christmas to celebrate their 100th anniversary. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS suggested that we contact Saxminster re an autumn concert. | HA |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food safety SH, HA, CC and MP have Food Safety Level 2. HC and KC to complete training | HC/ KC |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Donation station Information provided by GWD suggested that Whittington NHS Trust achieved £8.5k over 20 months from their donation station. The average donation was £9. This Trust is not comparable to Axminster Hospital. The other League of Friends did not respond to HA request for information or did not have a donation station. Trustees agreed to leave this for now but agreed we may return to this idea at a later date. HA to contact GWD. | HA |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Christmas Cards Over 2024/2025 selling Christmas cards at the hospital raised approximately £500. There is not a facility to sell on our website. Trustees confirmed that we should reorder from 2026. JH | HA |



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| | suggested that we should get quote from Axminster printing for equivalent product. | |
| 6 | <p>Update from Axminster Hospital Representative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TD not able to attend. ○ SH to write to Zoe Harris re attendance at meetings and information available to the League of Friends regarding performance of the Hospital. | SH |
| 7. | <p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of policies. Trustees will be sent policies by email that have been changed and are due for review. Any comments to HA. ○ PT to contact Scott Rowe re Charity of the Year ○ Flamingo Pool. <p>Trustees agreed that we could support a donation in principle specifically to support the hydrotherapy pool as this falls under our constitution. However, we would need to be assured the Trustees of Flamingo pool had a rigorous financial plan in place until the tender process was completed. SH to liaise with Axe Vale Show and Axminster Care Service.</p> | ALL PT SH |
| 8. | <p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>7.4.2026 19.5.2026 AOM 21.7.2026 8.9.2026 17.11.2026</p> | |
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Agreed _____ Date _____