

Ferring Amateur Dramatic Society

Minutes of committee meeting held on Wednesday 5th March 2025

President	Pat Attree	A	Committee	Judith Mason-Griffiths	P
Chairman	Veronica Cringle	P	Committee	Simon Weston	P
Hon Sec	Roy Stevens	P	Committee	Carole Holliday	P
Treasurer	John Croot	A	Box Office	Andrea Leisk	p
Tech Manager	Nigel Bubloz	A	Committee	Graham Batchelor	A
Membership	Elizabeth Toon	A	Committee	Steve Baker	A

1	<p>Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graham Batchelor, Pat Attree, Steve Baker, Nigel Bubloz, Elizabeth Toon, John Croot 	Action
2	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes read and approved 	
3	<p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Silk flowers No serious interest from Facebook Marketplace. Judith suggested trying GumTee and has offered to take this forward.</p> <p>Shadowing the Treasurer Steve Baker is, unfortunately unable to take this on due to family commitments. There are no other committee members able or willing to shadow John at the present time. This could cause a problem if John does go ahead with his surgery, especially if it coincides with a show week. Simon may be prepared to consider , but is concerned about how it may impact his work schedule. C/fwd to March for further review.</p> <p>Google Drive, FOH badges Please see technical report for update</p> <p>FOH team Su U'ren is currently in the process of asking for volunteers, MailChimp message sent to members asking for help.</p> 	<p>JMG</p> <p>SW/JC</p> <p>NB</p> <p>SU</p>
4	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nigel has had a conversation with Georgina Downs about continuing as Bar Manager. She has advised him that she will not be able to cover any more shows after the March production as it may impact on her employment. It is not clear if this is due to her name appearing on the alcohol license and he is attempting to get more clarification from her about this. 	NB

5	<p>Treasurer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report distributed via email prior to the meeting: • Trial Balance 26 February 2025 sent to committee showing adjustments made to figures now Sea Lane the property has been revalued. These figures have now been produced utilising the year end accounts which are now prepared for the AGM. • John has been asked by NODA to pay membership subs for 2025/26 these fees are based on ticket sales for the previous year. Last year ticket sales totaled £11,980 excluding patrons membership fees. These sales place us in Band C and the fees are £205. I am seeking authority to pay this sum before April 2025. • A vote was taken regarding payment of NODA fees and it was agreed to pay the 2025 subscription. • Current funds held by the Society was approx. £10,500 • There was no update regarding the move to electronic banking. 	<p>JC</p> <p>JC</p>
6	<p>Technical Report Nigel had reported prior to the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage Sound reinforcement: I have been experimenting with overhead microphone positions in order to get the best pick up from upstage areas. Continuing to test during current rehearsals. I am confident that whole system will be fully functional before show week. Had some very useful advice from Mike (Roy's son in law) regarding microphone set up. • Cooker and Fridge: Southwick Players would like to borrow the cooker we have (after POL) for their April show). I have agreed this (I did not see any issue). The question then is – do we want it back? These items must be removed from the scenery shed (as they are totally in the way). They must either go to the furniture store, or be disposed of. Do we keep them or dispose of? My suggestion is that both these items are dumped. – agreed as we need to reduce the volume kept in the store. • FADS Web site: Nothing more to report. I am continuing to keep it up to date. • FADS Google Drive: I have arranged to provide access for current committee members to have access, to read and edit, documents/files stored on FADS Google Drive. Files applicable for sharing can be placed in this location by any committee member. • Badges (FOH) I have looked at where it may be possible to obtain suitable badges for FOH staff, and there are multiple places to get them. I am not necessarily stating we should go with this specific place, but here is an example of the kind of thing I was thinking of: Personalised name badge with pin or magnet fixing eBay I would suggest that all it needs to have on it is 'FADS' and 'FRONT OF HOUSE'. Happy to take any other suggestions, but I propose it is kept simple. – The committee were happy for 12 or even 24 badges to be ordered. 	<p>NB</p> <p>NB</p> <p>NB</p>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair report NTR - see comment regarding sale of property store in section 8 	

8	<p>Props/Costumes/Scenery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed new scenery/costumes/props hut: Veronica reported that after 3 independent estate agent valuations Michael Jones has been instructed to sell at a price of £95k. An offer of £90k has been received almost immediately from a commercial buyer. Nigel, prior to the meeting had suggested that this offer be rejected initially and we ask for the offer to be increased to FAP. Michael Jones have done this, but the offer remains firmly at a max of £90k. Veronica proposed that we accept the offer of £90k and a vote was taken. It was voted unanimously that we should proceed with the buyer and accept the offer [NB had also indicated that he would be prepared to vote with the majority should it be decided to accept the lower offer] LT has also cast a proxy vote to accept the offer of £90k. • Roy expressed his opinion that we should be confident on our ability to achieve the construction of a new storage facility of the required size using the proceeds from the sale of Sea Lane. An architect has yet to be consulted in respect of planning, construction style or costs. We still need to obtain final approval from the Village Hall trustees and it is likely they will require a cash injection from FADS from the proceeds of the sale of Sea Lane. No terms for the use of the land have been agreed with the Village Hall, there could be ongoing lease costs. Peter Lewis has suggested that the whole of the shed housing our scenery may need to be demolished, and a new building erected. Veronica has been doing some research on this and is confident that a prefabricated building can be constructed for a reasonable cost. The following actions were agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quotes for conveyancing to be obtained – VC to speak to GWCA & recommendations from Michael Jones. VC • VC to liaise with selling agents and accept the offer of £90k VC • NB to pass his sketch drawings for the design of the new store to RS • RS to use his connection with ECE Architecture to employ a recently qualified architect at a reduced fee for the purpose of drawing up suitable plans, designs and consulting on planning requirements. RS • VC to do further research into cost of temporary storage for props and costumes. To include the possibility of scenery later if the existing building is demolished. VC • VC and NB to meet with the Village Hall trustees with a view of ascertaining what terms and conditions they require in respect of FADS using the land behind the hall for the construction of new storage facilities. VC/NB 	
9	<p>Publicity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicity continues for Pack of Lies via Social Media. This includes the release of the video produced by Roger Butler. A press release from Simon was published in the March edition of <i>All About Ferring</i> and <i>The Worthing Journal</i> . A further press release needs to be issued in respect of the June production ready for the April magazines. 	RS SW VC

10	<p>Future productions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pack of Lies – March '25 Rehearsals are progressing well, cast are <i>all off book</i>. Ticket sales are going reasonably well, Thursday, Friday are 80% full and matinee is also selling well. Sales for the other performances are still poor. • The Mirror Cracked – June '25 Show Meeting completed. Roy to send MailChimp email to encourage members to attend auditions of 1st April and also to promote on Facebook. • Boeing Boeing - November '25 The play was featured in the February play reading session. Show talk 19th May auditions 1st July. Judith has enquired about ex- hostess trolleys and unfortunately these are no longer available. It was suggested that Martin Oakley may be able to make these. • 2026 programme Suggestions for plays and directors for next year. Simon is looking at the March show and has suggested <i>The Libertine</i> Veronica is looking for something that will involve audience participation for the June show as it will celebrate FADS 90th anniversary. Suggestions welcome. Roy is considering a production of <i>Clue</i> for November. 	RS RS NC SW VC RS
11	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March play reading – <i>Elephant</i> – recommended by Carole <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting closed at 8:50pm</p>	CH
Next meeting Wednesday 2nd April 2025 - 7.30 pm		