Minutes of AGM

Thursday 2nd October 2025 @ 7:30pm

Document	Minutes of AGM
Location	The Lenches Club
Date	Thursday 2nd October 2025
Time	7.30pm
Attendees	Daisy Badger (Chair, DB), Emma Dyer (Manager, ED), Jo Beasley (Secretary, JB), Keri Ford (KF), Laura Phipps (LP), Charley Robinson (CR), Sally Worthington-Slegg (SWS), Suzy Clarke (SC), Jenny Dainty (JD), Sinead Beck-Esson (SBE), Lucie-Anne Fowkes (LAF), Charlotte Taylor (CT)
Apologises	Sam Price
Minute taker	Jo Beasley (JB)

Meeting start 7:30pm

1. **Apologises**

   Sam Price

2. **Chairpersons Report (recent change of chair, report from previous chair also included)**

   - Thank you to all attendees. DB welcomed all to meeting, quick recap of current situation regarding staff (previous chair persons report also covers this).
   - DB discussed how the current staff setup was much more settled after issues with former staff. DB and ED to review and amend staffing/hours if required.
   - DB gave a huge thank you to ED and all members of staff especially as we navigate and embrace the new changes the pre school is currently going through.
   - Historic issues raised regarding a former committee member and potential financial discrepancies. JB, KF and LP aware of this situation and believe it should be looked into after being dismissed previously. JB to look back at bank statements to investigate.
   - Last years minutes discussed and signed off.
   - Agreed to maintain same constitution.

- Thanks to Mrs Price at Church Lench first school for allowing us to use their premises for the Wellness Garden and for their continued support of the preschool, we hope to continue building strong links.
- Thanks to all committee members, wish every success to incoming members and that the coming year will be rewarding.

3. Treasurers report

- Supplied by Nikki Coote who was treasurer for the previous year but resigned prior to the AGM and therefore was not in attendance.

4. Managers report

- ED discussed current staff, all happy with their roles and the way things are currently running. Will need a member of staff as 1:1.
- Numbers of children on role are positive, steady amount of queries from potential parents an several viewings planned. 100% success rate on viewings converting to joining TLPS.
- ED managed to negotiate the funding portal.
- Slowly but surely getting to grips with everything. DB offered any support as do all the committee if needed.
- Lots of plans in the pipeline for Curiosity Corner.
- ED queried whether we continue using outside providers Funics and Freedom Forest school.
- Discussed fundraising for the upcoming year, looked at what had been successful in the past including a Halloween party (for both PS children and children from the local community), raffle (at end of year) and sponsored sunflower growing competition. Possibility of wreath making workshop (suggested by LAF).

5. Outgoing committee resignations

- Jo Beasley

6. Election of new committee members

- Sinead Beck-Esson (nominated by DB, 2nd LAF)

- Lucie-Anne Fowkes (nominated DB, 2nd JB)
- Charley Robinson (nominated JB, 2nd LP)
- Charlotte Taylor (nominated SBE, 2nd LAF)
- Sally Worthington-Slegg (nominated LP, 2nd KF)
- Suzy Clarke (nominated DB, 2nd JB)

- Samantha Price, Keri Ford and Laura Phipps staying as affiliate members.

7. AOB

- Discussed advertising, posters, banners and where they are currently displayed and possible future locations.

Meeting closed 21:00

Millie Benbow's AGM Chairperson's Report 2025

The Lenches Pre-school ended the academic year (July 2025) with 6 staff members (4 staff in rotation, 1 on gardening leave, 1 off sick) and ?? children on role.

Looking ahead to the start of September 2025 Pre-school has 15 children on role. 10 children started school in September 2025. ?? went to Church Lench First School.

Proving popular last year, we increased Forest school sessions to twice weekly. Forest school continues to be popular with both children and staff.

We invited parents/carers along to participate in a Forest school session. It was a great turnout with all children attending having one of their family members joining the session.

We establish a Wellness facility over at Church Lench First School for joint use, focussed on supporting children's wellbeing. The facility has a new log cabin for shelter, areas designated to quiet and active sensory play, quiet reflection and similar activities that support children's' wellbeing. It was established by a previous parent and committee member.

We offered Funics sessions each Wednesday for the whole of the year, delivered by 20 years plus experienced Early Years Teacher Rachel Hartless. Funics very much supports, develops and prepares children predominantly going to school in September for 'school readiness'. Funics focusses on developing all areas of EYFS.

We further established Curiosity Corner – a section of land adjacent to where we operate. Containing Mud Kitchens, water play, tyres, mark making, balancing, climbing all whilst being outside supporting children's development in EYFS.

For another year, local community member Jenny regularly read and did short activities with the children. Supporting the wider community links and intergenerational working.

At Christmas we had a visit from Santa. Held a disco fundraiser. The children enjoyed a trip to Little Owl Farm.

We continued to improve links with the local school CLFS, supporting children's transition to school with regular visits. All contributing to building a positive relationship with the local school. Towards the end of the summer term, we yet again saw some more staff changes including the Manager. We welcomed new Manager, Emma Dyer.

On 14th July 2025 we had an unexpected visit and inspection by OFSTED who graded our provision 'GOOD'. It was a pleasure to be able to share our provision with the inspectors and have them see for themselves what we offer children and families.

OFSTED July 25 "Providing hands on learning that promotes curiosity, wellbeing and love of nature".

Daisy Percival

We've dropped the Forest School to once a week until we have increased numbers on Fridays Funics was due to be dropped by the old guard but we have chosen to keep it on, it is a fantastic class and a real asset to the children's development.

We are building ties with the first school with Sam Price as an affiliate committee member, Jo Beasley as our Office Manager. Emma has also taken the children to the school's harvest festival, they will be going to Christmas dinner & joining in with other school events.

We have plans to re-vamp the curiosity corner and make the kit weather the winter. We are making new planters for the children to use at a good height for them to work in.

We're going to be holding a Family Wreath Making Workshop at the end of November for fundraising.

The plan is to host it at The Lenches Lakes, which is a place we're building ties with as a place for the children to explore and learn in.

We are waiting to join the voting booth on the Tesco Stronger Starts – something Millie put into motion that we're still wating to come off.

My project is to secure funding to revamp the walking shelter in the community orchard, the roof and floor are both rotten. I'm also setting my sights on an inclusive swing in the playground and an inclusive seesaw.

To continue our consolidation and improvement post OFSTED inspection I am in conversations with Zoe Corfield for guidance with leadership in the Chairperson role.