

BRIGHTON SPREAD EAGLES

Barclays Group Pensioners' Club

MINUTES OF THE 48TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT BRIGHTON AND HOVE GOLF CLUB, DYKE ROAD BRIGHTON, ON THURSDAY 5TH MARCH 2026.

PRESENT: David Stedman in the Chair together with 60 members (A full list will be kept with the minutes)

Apologies for Absence were received from Rose Semmons and Rosemary Hall.

Minutes of the 47th AGM had been circulated and were taken as read. That they be taken as a true record was proposed by Neil McNamara and seconded by Viv Hill. This was carried.

Matters Arising. There were none.

Chairman's Report

Good Morning everyone and welcome to the 48th Annual General Meeting of the Club. I would like to thank you all for attending and supporting me and the Committee and for your general support for the activities that have been organised on your behalf.

MEMBERSHIP

At the year end we had a total membership of 219. This comprises 146 eligible active members and 73 inactive eligible members (those who have not attended any event this calendar year). The number of eligible active members had a net reduction of 22 but the number of ineligible active members increased by 17. As sadly it is always the case we had a few members who have passed away our membership has retracted by 15 despite the influx of a few new members.

As many of you will know any reduction in our membership is reflected in the amount of grant that we are able to claim from the Bank and at this point it must be said that we are eternally grateful that the Bank continues to support our members in their retirement years.

I make no apology in making an appeal to those present today to encourage any member that you may be acquainted with who may not have attended an event for some time to encourage them to attend at least one event during the current year even if it is a coffee morning. To put in financial terms our yearly income is falling. Last year we were able to claim £7783.60. In 2026 we have submitted a claim based upon the laid down criteria for £7107.10, a reduction of £676.50.

Being mindful that our income will continue to fall we have taken the view to arrange outings for our members that are local and more cost effective and we will continue to do so giving you good value and a varied programme of events. Do please examine the accounts and supplementary pages that show how the funds have been spent and the subsidy applied to each event.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Don will expand on the events that took place throughout the year later in this meeting and I would comment as follows: -

Jill and I attended all the events apart from a couple of coffee mornings and judging from feedback from members in the main thoroughly enjoyed them all. One of the highlights of the year (apart from the Xmas lunch) was the visit to Eastbourne to see "Fawlty Towers" followed by a very impressive tea. The Cineworld Events are showing rising attendances and I am happy to continue to support Don in organising them. My thanks go to all of you who have supported the events organised by Don and myself.

GIVING THANKS

I never tire of thanking our hard working Social Secretary and Treasurer, Don who continues to do a magnificent job organising some great outings for you to enjoy. The amount of effort he puts in to running the Club is outstanding and I ask you all to give him a rapturous round of applause. Thank you Don.

My appreciation also extends to our Secretary, Cyn, who again assists the Club in organising the collation and distribution of our Committee meeting minutes and provides use of her home to

accommodate us for our meetings including refreshments. My thanks to the Members of the Committee giving up their time to travel and attend 3 meetings per year namely, Gill Hill, Graham Clark, Colin Mockford, Rosemary Singyard, Tony Comber, Jean Clarke and Robin Frost. Jean and Robin will be stepping down this year. More on this later in the meeting but in the meantime my grateful thanks to them both for all the contributions they have made to the club over a good many years. A round of applause please for the team.

AND FINALLY

I ask you all to join me for a minutes silence for those members who have sadly passed away during the last calendar year ending 31st December 2025. This concludes my report.

Treasurers Report and adoption of Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2023

Copies of the Income & Expenditure Account and Report for the year to 31st December 2025 were distributed with the notice. They are also available on the web site. The accounts had been audited by Roger Francis, and a signed copy will be held with the minutes.

The grant from Head Office for last year was £7783.60 and the rates are the same for this year's grant.

We do have slightly fewer active members this year, so our grant for 2026 will be £7155.50.

This year to date the account is in line with the budget and will be monitored during the year.

Don asked if anyone had any questions, but there were none, so the Accounts as published were adopted.

Social Secretaries Report

A full report with loads of photographs is available on our web site. If there is anyone here who does not have access to the internet, please let me know and I will send you a copy.

During 2025, we have had Shuffleboard afternoon at the Harbour Club in Shoreham (27)

The AGM was held at Tottington Manor and was excellent and attended by 34 members. Although it was not an official club event, Dave Stedman and other colleagues of his brother Merv, organised a bus ride on the bus with Merv's name on. It was attended by about 50 of his colleagues including several club members.

There were then trips to the Greyhound Stadium (42 members), Goodwood House (29).

There was the Spring Golf Competition held at Lewes Golf Course.

We then had our only ramble of the year organised by Graham Clark walking round Ditchling and ending up with a splendid meal in the White Horse.

This was followed by the trip to the picturesque Chichester Canal (49)

We had the Mid-Summer Lunch attended by 64 members who had to suffer my 'House of Games' Quiz.

We visited the Bluebell Railway that was attended by 32 members, some arriving a little late!!

There was the Autumn Golf Competition held at Brighton & Hove Golf Course

For the final two events of the year, the theatre trip to see Fawlty Towers was amazing and 42 members attending, and finally the Christmas Lunch at The Alfriston attended by 122 members

We have also had a five very successful visits to Cineworld (131 total)

For 2026 here is the itinerary:

Monday 30th March Cineworld Brighton Marina - How to make a Killing

Tuesday 21st April Spring Golf Meeting at Royal Eastbourne Golf Club

Sunday 26th April Meal at the Greyhound Stadium Hove with optional betting.

Thursday 21st May Ramble organised by Graham Clark

Wednesday 10th June Afternoon Tea at the Riverside South Downs Café at Houghton Bridge, Amberley with Optional Boat Hire

Thursday 23rd July Lunch at Sussex County Cricket Club, followed by Don's 'House of Games' Quiz

Tuesday 18th August My Fair Lady at the Chichester Festival Theatre with meal and coach travel.

Wednesday 9th

September Visit to Michelem Priory with guided house tour and Cream Tea

September Autumn Golf Meeting
Thursday 22nd October Barnum at the Congress Theatre Eastbourne followed by tea.
November Theatre Trip
Thursday 3rd December Xmas Lunch at the Alfriston Hotel

Welfare Officer's Report

Tony reported that once again he had not received any requests from Members needing assistance. However he reiterated that should any member need help, they should not hesitate to contact him or any other member of the committee.

Election of Officers and Committee for 2026-2027

We have received notices of resignation from Robin Frost and Jean Clarke. Pam Groves has confirmed that she is willing to stand as a committee member. This was proposed by Graham Clark and seconded by Christine Clark. As there were no other changes, Dave suggested that we had one vote for the re-election of the present Officers and Committee members. This was agreed by a show of hands of all the members present at the meeting.

For the record, the committee is as follows:

Chairman:	David Stedman
Secretary:	Cyn Fleetwood
Treasurer:	Don Semmons
Social Secretary:	Don Semmons
Chief Welfare Officer:	Tony Comber
Committee Member:	Graham Clark
Committee Member:	Pam Groves
Committee Member:	Gill Hill
Committee Member:	Colin Mockford
Committee Member:	Rosemary Singyard

Vote of thanks to Accounts Inspector and Election of Inspector for 2026

Roger was thanked for his work in the past year and has kindly agreed to continue this year.

Any other Business

Don spoke about the charity that he does voluntary work for. AbilityNet is a UK charity offering free IT support at home to people with disabilities and older people (over- 55s) by helping them to use computers and other digital technology.

Dave made a presentation to Robin Frost in appreciation and recognition of his contribution as a committee member for the last 30 years.

As there was no other business, Dave declared the meeting closed at 11.55am. He thanked everybody for coming, wished them an enjoyable lunch and a safe journey home.