

Minutes of Panda Bowmen Committee Meeting 22nd June 2026, 8.00pm on Zoom

Present: Anthony, Rosemary, Duncan, Sally, Keith, Paul, Phil

Apologies: Mark

The **minutes of the meeting 27th April 2026** were accepted by all as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising

Indoor venue: Paul had heard nothing as yet from Pat, who was going to investigate potential venues that had come to her mind. He will wait for now.

Anthony reported that one of the Wednesday evening course participants had suggested the Yorkshire Canine Academy in Eccup as a possibility. They have an indoor space, with astroturf on the floor, we have no idea of the size. Anthony will email to enquire if they would be interested in renting out their space over the winter, and what facilities would be available (eg. storage).

Randamonium report

Anthony read out a brief report that he had compiled shortly after the shoot took place:

29 people entered, 14 PANDA members and 14 visitors shot and 4 spectators enjoyed the day.

Keith, Phil and Anthony marked the field out on the evening before.

Members arrived about 9am to set up targets and a gazebo before getting their own kit set up.

Keith, as club President, welcomed everyone to the shoot. Anthony was field captain for the day.

Rosemary, Sally and Ellie provided tea and coffee as required and ran a tombola raising a few pounds.

Sally queried the number of 29 people, as her records showed payment for only 28, but she wasn't sure if someone had paid with cash on the day. She said she would send the details to Anthony and Rosemary to check.

(NB. The subsequent check showed that only 28 people had entered, so Sally's figure was correct. One visitor did not turn up on the day, so only 13 visitors shot.)

Sally reported that we had taken £55 cash on the day, and spent £77 on target faces, line paint and badges. The overall profit was just over £200.

Feedback from entrants was generally positive, but people felt that the score cards were too small to deal with. This made it difficult for the scorers trying to add everything up.

Anthony accepted this as fair comment and said he had already modified the relevant file so as to print 2 archers to a sheet next time rather than 4.

Another request from entrants was to have score sheets on different colour paper. Sally felt that this was not down to us, but suggested that we can offer to send out a file of the scoresheet so that entrants can print out their own on appropriate colour paper. This was deemed a good idea.

Sally said that people had been genuinely confused by the scoring system, which she thought was great! We reiterated that although people think of it as a competition, it is primarily intended to be a fun time.

Coaching report

We have run 3 courses – 2 on Saturday mornings and 1 on Wednesday evenings. The Wednesday course had 10 participants, which Anthony felt was too many. Archery GB say that a single coach can deal with up to 12 people on a course, but Anthony felt that he would cut it down to 6 or 8 if he was leading another course on his own.

Six people completed the first Saturday course, 10 the second course, and 10 the Wednesday course.

One person dropped out of the first course (reason unknown); 2 people dropped out of the first course, transferred to the second course but then didn't attend that either because they were still too busy.

This year all the beginners were shooting right handed; this resulted in a shortage of low draw weight bows. Anthony had to shuffle bits of equipment around to fit everybody as best he could, so the contents of the bow bags are a bit confused at present.

Various club members helped out at the courses --

The first Saturday course: John Haywood, Lee Chau, Mark Fletcher, John Pelham, Rosemary Hilton, Keith Harrison, Stuart McIntosh, Richard Keegan, Phil Wiles helped to set up the first session. Lee, Keith, Phil and Rosemary helped at all the sessions.

The second Saturday course: Matthew Wright, Richard Keegan, Damian Foy, Rosemary Hilton, John Haywood, Mark Fletcher helped set up the first session; Keith, Phil, Damian and Rosemary helped at remaining sessions.

The Wednesday course: Ian Snowball and Matthew Wright helped out.

Matthew enjoyed helping out and has expressed an interest in coach training. He is in no rush for reimbursement of the costs but is happy to see how well he takes to the training first.

One range returner came along to the final session of the Wednesday course, mainly to see the different bow styles. He completed a beginner course at Bronte about 4 years ago and shot briefly afterwards. Anthony will assess him and give him some refresher training as needed, at a cost of £5 per hour.

Keith enquired how much money the coaching brought in; it was about £1700. This is much more than we can get from tournaments.

Paul asked how many had joined from the courses. Rosemary said that so far, 3 people have joined from the first course (Damian Foy, Heather Marshall, Hollie Watson); 1 person from the Wednesday course had emailed his application form that morning.

Anthony felt that we might get about half a dozen from the Wednesday course, and maybe 5 or 6 from the second Saturday course.

Anthony reported that he has renewed his coaching qualification, it is now valid until June 2029. Keith thanked him for this!

Staged payment of membership fees

Anthony explained that a family from the Wednesday course (2 adults, 2 children) were interested in joining. The dad had enquired about staged payment of fees because £380 is a lot to pay out all at once.

Keith commented that AGB would not want staged payment, that would need paying all at once.

Sally felt that if we pay AGB up front and the family pay us gradually, that would be a risk for us, especially as it's a new family and we don't know them. The family would have to approach AGB to see if they could provide help.

Duncan suggested the family could pay the AGB fee in full, and then maybe we could have the next installment; Sally felt that was still a risk, as they might not stay in the club.

Paul asked how payments are working out following the introduction of anniversary membership, he was concerned that some people may end up paying YAA and NCAS fees twice. Sally explained how the payment of all membership fees is now on a rolling system so that each person does pay all their dues just once a year.

YAA currently do not have a permanent treasurer, so their accounts are a little behind and they are not chasing us for payment of their fees.

Anthony said he had explained to the dad that the Archery GB payment has to be paid up front; he suggested that we ask the family for half the membership fees at the time of joining, which would basically all go to AGB, and follow that with 2 equal payments over the next 2 months (so 3 payments altogether). The second payment would cover all the other expenses that we have to pay out (YAA, NCAS, rugby club) and the third payment Panda would keep.

Sally felt that if it is the difference between a family joining and not joining, we must try to be accommodating. Paul felt that as we have taken in £1700 from the courses, we could use that to mitigate the risk involved in staging the fees; but that it is reliant on Anthony, Nick and Matthew continuing to run courses.

Keith felt it is important that the family understand, the AGB has to be paid in full so that they will be insured to shoot with us; but we should make an effort to help with the rest of the fees.

Anthony felt that if they are offered staged payments this year, they will likely expect the same next year. Paul felt we should say that this is a one off concession, and that they could save up during the year ready for renewal next year.

Duncan suggested offering to split the membership fees into 2 payments, half and half, to see if they actually need 3. If they cannot manage that, then offer to stretch it to 3 payments (but the first one still needs to be half the full amount). Anthony agreed with that and said that an email would be sent to the family.

Anthony commented that some clubs offer reduced fees to people who join immediately after completing their beginners course. We could not do that this year because some people have already joined and paid the full amount, and it would be wrong to make a change now, but maybe we could think about it for next year? Sally wondered if those other clubs charge more for their beginners courses in order to offset the discount offered on joining...

Paul thought we had looked at discounts before; he recalled that York(?) have a tiered membership where fees are reduced for members who help out with coaching, running events etc; those who don't help out pay a higher membership fee.

Anthony said that was not what he was thinking of. He had in mind that (for example) someone who has paid £65 for a beginners course and then joins the club might receive a discount of £25, or the Panda component, for that year only. This is something we could think about.

Members Report

Rosemary reported that since January this year 8 people have renewed their membership: Dave Bilton, Daisy Jones, Nick & Sue Beech; John Haywood; Hannah Keegan; Evan Lear; and Pat Ferrie.

Four people have not renewed: Jon and Dexter Carter; Chris Chapmen; Sarah Fenton.

Eight are due for renewal in early July: Wilson and Rayna; Samuel Knudsen; Ayesha Primrose; Daniel, Cyprian, Adam Grabarczyk; Richard Keegan.

Sally suggested some kind of follow up for those who do not renew, to find out why they don't want to stay with us. Rosemary explained that she had emailed those who did not renew at the end of May, but had heard nothing back from them.

Sally said she might produce a little survey form that could be attached to emails, asking a few pointed questions about why people are not renewing...

Building for indoor archery

Mike Bidgood had come over to chat at Randamonium, Sally had asked him about the likelihood of the rugby club giving Panda space for a building of some sort for indoor shooting; Mike seemed quite positive about the idea! He talked of the plans that the rugby club had, to accommodate other sports, and suggested that Panda might be able to have

the strip of land over the bridge, adjacent to pitch 4, where there is currently a rusty container. We had previously thought the rugby club would not be supportive, but now it seems they may be.

How would we proceed as a committee? Look into costs; fundraising... Sally is open to suggestions.

Keith suggested that the first step is to draft a letter from the Panda committee to the rugby club committee to get something in writing rather than word of mouth. The rugby club are always looking for funds; would we have to lease the land? Who would own the structure after it is built? Mike had mentioned a new bridge – Keith wondered if the present one is past its best and the rugby club want us to fund a new one!

Firstly, get something in writing – an outline agreement, to be followed by outline plans; see if they go through before we get anywhere near fundraising.

Sally agreed; we would need to ascertain whether (for example) the rugby club would pay for the building and rent it out to us, in which case they could rent it out to others as well outside of archery times and maybe make some money; or whether they would just give us the land and we could do what we want with it...

Keith raised the question of disposing of the old rusty container – who would arrange and pay for that? It's very expensive. But get something in writing first.

Paul suggested writing to the rugby club and asking them to put this on the agenda of their next committee meeting; and asking when the next meeting is, with a view to representatives from Panda attending and being able to discuss the issue in person and get first hand answers.

The question was raised, who will write to the rugby club; Paul offered to draft a letter and send it to the committee for approval/amendment... the offer was accepted!

Sally commented that Mike had mentioned other work going on at the rugby club, we need to find out as much as possible.

Club shirts

Duncan admitted not having looked at this for a long time.

He felt that the way forward was to have a form online where people could select their size and style of shirt, and when enough people had submitted their preferences an order could be placed. This would be the easiest way for him to administer the ordering.

Duncan said that the supplier can basically do whatever we ask for; Anthony thought that one of the styles (with embroidery) had a minimum order requirement, but the printed ones did not.

Paul asked about levels of interest; it was agreed that the shirts need to be advertised.

Nick Lock had enquired about a shirt just before the first beginners course but there was not time to do anything about it.

Anthony asked if we have current pricing, Duncan said he would have to re-check.

Duncan said that by the next committee meeting he will look at prices, minimum orders etc so that we can proceed.

Anthony recommended that Duncan liaise with Mark to make the necessary changes to the information on the website.

Any Other Business

Paul said he had only been able to get one foam layer for the target, as that was all there was. We would need this on the agenda for our next committee meeting.

Sally said she would sort out payment for the invoices Paul had submitted.

Rosemary announced that she would like to pass on the job of Panda secretary to someone else, ideally at the next AGM.

Duncan asked if she had anybody in mind to take over that role; Rosemary said she had not. She will email Panda members to ask for someone to come forward.

Sally commented that it's a difficult job, she wasn't sure there would be much interest; but it's a good thing to announce it, and then anyone interested can come along to committee meetings before the AGM to see what's involved.

Date of next meeting

This was agreed as Monday 3rd August 2026 at 8.00pm on Zoom.

Rosemary commented that we will need to set our fees for the coming year. Anthony mentioned that AGB have already set their fee at £70.