

DUNCHURCH FESTIVAL GROUP
Minutes of the meeting held on 20/04/2026.
Dunchurch Village Hall

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
Apologies	Julie Peters, Carl Peters, Chris Tabor, Carla Conway. Amber Cummins, Nicola Townsend-Kennedy, Marilyn Greenwood, Jaine Thornton-Weeks,	
Attendees	Guy Watt (chair), Fiona Stevenson (Treasurer), Phill Freeman, Rob Collings, Jodie Jackson, Margaret Littlejohn, Sue Turner, Sue Eversfield	
Agreement of Minutes	The minutes from the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record	
Chairs Report	What a great Fete to be part of, in my opinion one of the best, certainly the best I have been involved in. As a collective, everyone played a role in making it the day it was and I hope you all enjoyed it. The invite to the fete of the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire and him agreeing to attend was a master stroke, his comment that "As the eyes and ears of the King in Warwickshire, this is just the kind of event that King Charles wants to be going on in villages like this " was lovely to hear. He was a very approachable and man, along with his wife Penny and his Cadet. The Fete itself was very well attended, and the weather was just about perfect, I got to speak to a number of stall holders, and they all said what a great day they had had. From the vintage cars and military vehicles to the acts in the arena, the fact that as we got to 4pm the field was still full, is a testament to the work we do, paying off. I have already asked if and hope you all enjoyed it, as individuals and as a collective. I would like to record my and the committee' thanks to Amber for the book nook, in its second year and a wonderful addition to the fete. Away from the Fete, we had the planting of two oak trees, a small number of us along with the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire and Pat Judge, Natalie and Simon and family went to witness the planting of the trees to Celebrate 50 years of Dunchurch Fetes, and one to Celebrate the life of Mike Judge MBE. It was an honor to be part of such a wonderful event. I would also like to thank Phill and Rob for their dedication in ensuring the trees have a chance to survive the heat by watering them every day. I thought it was a great idea to approach Dunchurch park and see if they could provide any volunteers to support us, as I was emptying the water from the parasols, I watched as the volunteers from the hotel helped take down gazebos take in chairs and help close stalls which heled us escape. It was all in all a great event and a great day, one that we can all be proud of.	
Treasurers Report	1. Funds stand at £15,039.07 2. The Fete made a surplus of £7,167, which is £1,500 more than last year. My thanks go to all the organisations, teams and individuals who helped to make it such a great success. Breakdowns of the monies raised at the fete were shared at the meeting a copy of the documents will be circulated with the minutes	
Correspondence	• Pat Judge emailed to say that she and the family were very touched on Fete Day, by the warmth and feelings that Festival clearly had for Mike. Pat asked to pass on her	

	thanks to everyone and is comforted that Mike's memory lives on. • Natalie Judge wrote to say she was so happy that Mike was honoured during the Fete and with the planting of an oak tree, on a day that was important to him. • Following the success of the Fete Archive Stall, Ann Wright & Steve Prime emailed to say that they are looking at archiving all village events and will attend a meeting to report. • Fiona sent a letter to the Lord Lieutenant, thanking him and his wife for attending the Fete.	Ann Wright
Fete 2026 Reflections	• The Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire and his wife Penny were brilliant and really added to the Day • Pawprints suggested different categories for the Dog Show next year. They suggested more advertising up front. • The Cricket Club's stall was a great success. This needs to set up in front of the cricket nets. • More gluten free cakes needed on the Cake Stall • A board is needed in front of the Bar advertising what can be bought and the prices • The Ice Cream Van was a great success and will be invited next year. • The Classic Car group brought along 34 cars and would be happy to come along next year, with hopefully more vehicles. They were concerned that some children were climbing on the cars. A discussion will be had next year as to how to prevent this. • Aim to get more children's groups in the Arena. Impact Dance was suggested as a possibility. • Finders Keepers were great and it was agreed that they should be invited back next year. • Unusually there were 3 trade stall holders who didn't turn up. They were to pay on the day. It was agreed that moving forward, everyone should pay in advance. • Village Archive Stall to be included for future Fetes. • More volunteers needed to help with the car park • The additional volunteers from Dunchurch Park, to help on Saturday & Sunday, were a great help • Those who dressed up for the Procession were brilliant. Discussion moving forward with the schools as to how to get more children involved. • Suggestion to approach Woodbine Farm to bring along a Steam Engine • Suggestion to ask the local farmers to bring along tractors BBQ Thank you from Wendy for everyone who helped on Saturday & Sunday. • Extra power supply/sockets required • 2 large slow cookers needed to keep the onions warm. • Temperature probe needed • 2 large pyrex bowls needed for the burgers • Tin trays required to cook sausages	

Future Events	Play – “Whoops There Goes my Wheelie Bin” Friday 23rd October. Tickets £8. Audience allowed to bring along food/snacks Saturday 24th October. Tickets £15, to include a Fish & Chip Supper. Next meeting to discuss who will be: • leading the cooking • purchasing the bar stock (there is some in the VH attic) • manning the bar • helping serve food, washing up, etc. Halloween Disco – Friday 30th October Amber is OK to run the disco and Jodie is OK to lead the team decorating the hall, planning the evening, etc. Tree Lighting Fiona to check with Rev Ian Sweeney the date for the Nativity Santa’ Visit to Dunchurch Monday 7th December Tuesday 8th December	FS
Fete 2027	Discussions were had as to whether we should move the Fete back to a Saturday. As many volunteers work on a Friday, we would be down on numbers for key personnel setting up. Plus there is a regular hirer of the Club Room on Friday evenings, so we would not be able to set up the Refreshments. It was therefore agreed to keep to a Sunday. The date for the 51st Fete was agreed as Sunday 27th 2027.	
Next Meeting	21st September 2026 at 7:30 in the Village Hall.	
Meeting Closed	20:45	