



Wiltshire Treehouse

Registered Charity No: 1159719

**Minutes of
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday 13th May 2026

18:15 – 19:00

The George & Anne Tweed Room, Westlea Primary School, Langstone Way, Swindon, SN5 7BT

Item	Details	Actions
	<p><i>WTH = Wiltshire Treehouse. Green font = decision made/approval</i></p> <p>Wiltshire Treehouse AGM 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- AGM opening, welcomes and introductions- Chairs Report* - Helen Pepler <p>HP took on the role on an interim basis after the former Chair stepped down in August 2025. She thanked everyone for their support during this period, and spoke of her joy at what the charity has achieved since being part of its creation in 1999.</p> <p>In 2025 the charity faced financial challenges alongside increased demand for its service. Business Team costs were streamlined in order to focus funds on direct services for families, which meant we were still able to increase programme spaces and outreach sessions. Business Director Sarah Bear has worked hard to build links with corporate partners which has helped funding. We have also introduced a chargeable 1 to 1 service to broaden our offer and diversify income.</p> <p>The charity is very lucky to have a strong trustee board with exceptional skills and dedication, who work continually to reflect on and improve our service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation on 2025/26 - Kath Brownlee, Service Director https://wiltshiretreehouse.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/2026-AGM-Presentation.pdf <p>405 bereaved children and young people were supported in 2025, and our work created a wider positive impact for 898 siblings and parents/carers. The training and support we provided to professionals is estimated to have a positive ripple effect on the lives of over 60,000 children.</p> <p>Special thanks given to amazing volunteer team without whose time and talents the charity would be unable to function. 2025 saw recruitment of additional telephone volunteers who make the initial calls to families. We also now have several Charity Champions who help with promotion and community fundraising.</p>	

The charity is always building on the support offered across Wiltshire so that we can reach as many families as possible, working to diversify and help address coverage of support across a very large and rural county.

‘Supporting a child when someone is not expected to live’ Information Pack was created with support from the Prospect Hospice following an increase in request for pre-bereavement support.

Feedback from children, young people and their families continues to be really positive.

Looking ahead to 2026/27 – 1 to 1 support has proven really popular and will continue. The charity will also be focusing on youth participation, to ensure that young people have a voice locally and on the national stage.

- **Treasurers Report***

2025 was a challenging year for the charity financially, along with most other small charities. The charity met the challenge, adjusting our outgoings accordingly and closed the financial year with a £6000 surplus.

We also secured funding from the National Lottery for the next 4 years which has provided a great head start for this years funding efforts.

- **Questions/Feedback from Attendees**

No questions put forward.

- **Trustee Board Elections**

Chair of the Board

Proposed: Claire Penny **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Faye Auty

Vice Chair

Proposed: Jean Ash **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Rosie Harris

Treasurer

Proposed: Faye Auty **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Helen Pepler

Assistant Treasurer (Interim Role)

Proposed: Simon Chaplin **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Helen Pepler

Fundraising Lead

Proposed: Rosie Harris **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Faye Auty

GDPR Lead

Proposed: Lucas Gleed **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Rosie Harris

HR Lead

Proposed: Stephen Adams **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Faye Auty

IT Lead

Proposed: Lucas Gleed **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Rosie Harris

Safeguarding Lead

Proposed: Helen Pepler **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Jean Ash

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Proposed: Jean Ash **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Helen Pepler

Service Delivery Lead

Proposed: Jean Ash **CONFIRMED**

Seconded: Faye Auty

- **Volunteer Recognition of Service Presentations** – Kath Brownlee, Service Director

New section added to AGM programme going forward to recognise volunteers and all that they do to keep the charity running. Certificates will be presented to individuals for time served.

This years certificates will be posted out during Volunteers Week (1st – 7th June) along with personalise thanks.

- **AGM Close**

** See 'Wiltshire Treehouse Annual Report 2026' for full written versions of reports and accounts.*