



Telephone: (01373) 859669

Minutes of Committee Meeting
Tuesday 20 April 2026
4 Park View Drive

Present: John Masson (Chair), Ann Bizeray, Maurice Bizeray, Colin Gladwell, Dorian Jones, David Nolan, Mavis Payne, Nick Pyne, Charmian Horseman.

1. Apologies None

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2026 were signed as a correct record.

2. Matters Arising:

Coordinators had received their gift vouchers in recognition of the demanding job which they did throughout the year.

The potential new coordinator based in Switzerland would not after all be able to join us.

The Committee Minutes would in future be posted both on the volunteers' section of our website and on WhatsApp.

3. Reports

John

The recent 2025 Audit for the combined 8 West Wiltshire Link Schemes highlighted their enormous benefit to the area both in terms of service and economic value. It also highlighted the difficulty which all were experiencing in recruiting new volunteers as they were having to prioritise health related journeys over any other 'Good Neighbour' tasks. Of the 11,590 journeys completed by the schemes only just over 1,000 were not health related.

The Chairman proposed that we present long-service awards to volunteers who had worked for Link for ten years or more. This was received with enthusiasm, seconded and agreed by all.

Nick

We had no new drivers in the pipeline but one new coordinator would be joining us shortly. Dorian mentioned that sometimes it would be helpful if information which drivers received in their introductory package could be updated and/or clarified from time to time. Nick confirmed that this could be done easily.

Ann

Our finances remained healthy, the account standing at £25,542.90

The website was still attracting plenty of attention from the public with visitor numbers continuing to increase slightly.

Mavis

All invitations to our annual dinner booked for Friday 5 June at The Royal Oak, Hawkeridge had gone out and everyone seemed happy to have received these on WhatsApp.

4. Matters for Discussion

Clients' Mobile Numbers

Although not all our clients used a mobile phone it was agreed that it would be helpful to have as many as possible on record.

Possible limit on shopping days per month

This was deemed unnecessary as currently we had insufficient drivers to offer shopping for clients as a service. Designated drivers who still shopped for our few long-term regulars were happy with their own arrangements.

Update on Old Silkworks Journeys

We now had only four regular clients which it was felt was manageable, but we would not have the capacity to take on anyone else.

Drivers' Welfare and Expenses.

Thursdays were often very busy Link driving days and in recent months fewer volunteers had been able therefore to get to our monthly coffee mornings. It was felt that as a consequence some drivers might be feeling rather isolated and 'out of the loop'. If so, it was hoped that they would access the website, read and contribute to the WhatsApp social group and/or let it be known if they had concerns.

In the current uncertainty over fuel prices, it was also understood that one or two drivers might feel the need to reduce their driving distances for a while.

5. AOB

None

6. Date of next meeting

7.00 pm on Monday 6 July at 4 Park View Drive.

Future diary dates.

7.00 pm on Monday 21 September at 4 Park View Drive,

10.30 am on Thursday 1 October AGM