WPSA UK BRANCH

# AGM Minutes

2026

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education organization research

## 60th WPSA UK Branch Annual General Meeting
## 23 April 2026
## The Alan Hotel, Manchester

**1. Apologies for absence**

None given

Show of hands demonstrated that membership reached quorate (>24 members)

**2. Minutes of 2025 AGM**

Circulated to membership on 27th January 2026; accepted as a true record

Proposer: Farina Khattak

Seconder: Rizwan Azhar

**3. Matters arising from the Minutes**

None

**4. President's report (Stephen Lister, President)**

The President reported on another successful year in 2025, including our joint meeting with BVPA. BVPA have approached us for another joint meeting in 2027, which council would value membership opinion on.

Membership numbers are slipping a little, however the Treasurer is reaching out to members who haven't renewed. The President appealed for members to stay in touch with us if they move, change emails etc. He reminded members of the value of the membership fee, and how pleased he was to see the variety of members in our society.

As usual, the President was pleased with the quality of the presentations at the annual meeting, and noted that the publications of the abstracts in British Poultry Abstracts has reached more than 3,000 views in 2025.

The President expressed his thanks to the Programme Committee, Secretary, Treasurer, and other members of council for their hard work through the year.

**5. Proposed changes to the constitution (Vicky Sandilands, Secretary)**

- Reviewed and approved by council in October 2025, to present at the AGM

1) Using gender-neutral terms

- Change all occurrences of 'Chairman' to 'Chairperson'
- Change all occurrences of 'Chairmen' to 'Chairpersons'

2) About the permitted Trustees

- 6 (d) Officers undertaking the duties of Secretaries and Treasurers shall act as agents of the Branch and shall not serve as Trustees.
    - Proposal is to delete 'and shall not serve as Trustees'

3) About terms of office durations

- This relates to allowing the possibility to extend the term of office for officers
    - President
    - Vice-Presidents
    - Treasurer
    - Secretary
- from one 4-year term, to further 4-year terms
- This **will not preclude** any other members from being nominated/ elected to those positions
- Features in 7(a), 7(b), 7(c), 7(d), 7(e)

4) About ballot papers (timing, to whom sent)

- 9(b)Nominations to arrive eight weeks prior to the date of the AGM.
    - Propose change to "six weeks"
- Papers currently can be sent to Secretary or Treasurer
- Suspect this was a typo, and should say:
    - Propose change to: 'Secretary/Assistant Treasurer'

5) With regards to meeting frequency

- 11 (d) The Branch shall arrange to hold a scientific or educational meeting in every calendar year.
    - Propose change to "shall aim to hold"

All Constitution changes passed with a show of hands, no dissenters

**6. Secretary/Assistant Treasurer's report for 2025 (Vicky Sandilands, Secretary)**

- Travel grants and student helper funding
    - 9 submissions, 9 offered awards, 8 taken up
    - 1 student helper
- President prizes (best oral, best poster)
    - Best oral and honourable mention
    - Best poster award
- Summer Vacation Scholarships
    - 2 submissions, 2 offered awards, 1 taken up
- Research Award
    - 2 submissions, 1 award offered
- GD Rosen Academic award:
    - No submissions
- Major updates to website including payment method

**7. Treasurer/Assistant Secretary's report for 2025 (Farina Khattak, Treasurer)**

The Treasurer shared details of membership from 2025 (total members 162):

| WPSA Membership Type | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| Individual members | 123 | 124 |
| Affiliate members | 3 | 5 |
| Students | 29 | 24 |
| Lifetime | 7 | 7 |
| **Total** | **162** | **160** |

The Treasurer also explained the branch accounts to year end 31 Dec 2025:

**WORLD'S POULTRY SCIENCE ASSOCIATION - UK BRANCH**
**ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2025**

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**

| INCOME | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| Interest | 111 | 456 |
| Membership | 5,378 | 6,067 |
| Dividends | 21,995 | 20,948 |
| Royalties | 183 | 102 |
| Research Award Refunded | - | 2,500 |
| Spring Meeting | 3,180 | 271 |
| | 30,847 | 30,344 |

| EXPENDITURE | | |
|---|---|---|
| WPSA Levies | 2,709 | 2,846 |
| Travel Expenses- Council | 371 | - |
| Secretary, Treasurer & Webmaster | 5,290 | 5,030 |
| Accountancy Fee | 419 | 444 |
| Postages, Stationery & Sundries | 70 | 70 |
| BPS Publication Costs | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Spring Meeting | 1,339 | 1,189 |
| Prizes & Awards | 6,668 | 19,175 |
| Depreciation | 10 | 10 |
| Website Charges | 111 | 1,256 |
| Marketing | 0 | 57 |
| | 18,987 | 32,077 |
| BRANCH SURPLUS 2025 | 11,860 | - 1,733 Deficit |

**SYMPOSIUM ACCOUNT**

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| Income | 19 | 286 |
| Expenditure | - | 14,894 |
| Branch Surplus 2025 | - 19 | - 14,608 |

**Balance Sheet at 31st December, 2025**

| ASSETS | | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Equipment | | 115 | 125 |
| Charifund -at cost | | 259,309 | 259,309 |
| ( 23,275 Income Units & 468 Accum.) | | | |
| (Market Value £ 592,720 ) | | | |
| Royal Bank of Scotland | Branch | 43,421 | 31,551 |
| | Symposium | 5,641 | 5,641 |
| Debtor -Advance payment ESPW 2027 | | 6,382 | 6,382 |
| | | 314,868 | 303,008 |
| **LIABILITIES** | | | |
| Creditors | | 419 | 419 |
| Reserves- | | | |
| Brought Forward | 302,589 | | |
| ADD: Increase in Year | 11,860 | | |
| | | 314,449 | 302,589 |
| | | 314,868 | 303,008 |

NOTES; As a registered Charity, the UK Branch of the Association is not liable to taxation on investment income, capital gains or corporation tax but is liable for VAT.

The Treasurer particularly thanked our WebMaster for his invaluable help in setting up the payment system

**8. Appointment of the auditor (Farina Khattak, Treasurer)**
Agreed to re-elect John Little
Proposer: Emily Burton
Seconder: James Bentley

**9. Report on 2026 Spring Meeting (Eloise Lawlor, Organising Committee)**
Grateful thanks to our conference organiser for her assistance this year (our first in recent history of hosting our own meeting, with all responsibilities therein), and the Programme Committee for their hard work.
There are 78 attendees, 31 talks (including 3 invited speaker papers) and 4 short oral + posters – a very successful event so far.

**10. UK Branch Council Membership 2026/27 (Vicky Sandilands, Secretary)**
Proposed changes to Council:

- Laura Faller nominated for President
- Cormac O'Shea nominated for Vice President
- Nominees for Elected Councillors:
    - Matthew Oldnall (previously co-opted)
    - Hannah Muus (suggest co-opted member)
- As there have been no other nominees for Treasurer:
    - Allow Farina Khattak to continue for another 4-year term*

(*subject to Constitution changes having passed – which they did)

| Role | Name | Term date |
|---|---|---|
| **President** | Laura Faller | 2030 |
| **Vice President** | Ade Adebiyi | 2027 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Vice President** | Cormac O'Shea | 2030 |
| **Secretary** | Vicky Sandilands | 2028 |
| **Treasurer** | Farina Khattak | 2030 |
| **Elected Councillors:** | Eloise Lawlor | 2029* |
| **(n=12 max)** | Salvatore Galgano | 2029* |
| | Fiona Short | 2027 |
| | Sarah Struthers | 2027 |
| | Emma Lund | 2028 |
| | Rizwan Azhar | 2028 |
| | Antonija Šimić | 2028 |
| | Rita Goncalves | 2028 |
| | Saad Gilani | 2029 |
| | Sarah Lambton | 2029 |
| | Allison Elliott | 2029 |
| | Matthew Oldnall | 2030 |
| **Co-opted** | Hannah Muus | 2027 |

* ineligible for re-election

All the nominees and re-elected positions were agreed to accept in one vote.

Proposer: Antonija Simic

Seconder: Eloise Lawlor

**11. Any Other Business**

None from the floor

The meeting ended at approximately 15:30

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NOTES; As a registered Charity, the UK Branch of the Association is not liable to taxation on investment income, capital gains or corporation tax but is liable for VAT.

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS: I have examined the accounts of the WPSA UK Branch for the year to 31st December, 2025
The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993( the act) and that an independent examination is needed.
It is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts (under section 43(3) a of the Act)
Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioner
State whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records.It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.
the procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention
1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 act and
to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the act.
have not been met; or
2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

John Little
1 Masonhill Place
Ayr, Scotland.
KA7 3PA

1st March 2026

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