

Bollington Photographic Group

Minutes Meeting 4

September 3rd 2026
The Church House 7pm



Present: John Howarth, Janet Beech, Andrew Huggett, Tony Hopwood, Alan Hodgson, Simon Nottage, Julia Latham, Kevin Welton, Pam Lob

Apologies: Pat Hirst, David Hirst, Geoff Latham

“This meeting is time to shape ideas that will generate for our future as a group.”

Treasurers Report – September 3 2026

- As of August 24th, we have £1551 in the account
- The Third-Party Liability insurance renewed in August costing £55
- Expected income from September to end December is £211
- Expected spend from September to end December is £178 (website)
- Neither the expected income nor spend include any costs associated with the photo wall
- Clarice Gill has not renewed her membership (due in July)
- Enquiries from a possible new member, Tim Higham, who will contact me once he has moved into Bollington – possibly September

The amount £211 is odd. It is a result of Stripe taking what they call taxes.

We could pay for our membership through Bank Transfer, Cheque and cash and Terry would be accepting of this but Stripe makes things much easier for him. Perhaps something we could discuss another time?

BTC Grant Application

- We need to consider and submit a possible grant from BTC by end October. The grant needs to meet the following criteria:
- The application must be within or for the residents of the Town.
- The application must come from a 'not for profit' or non-commercial organisation. The application must benefit the local community.
- Terry is going to ask for £250.

We discussed several ideas about a project that will be acceptable to support our application. Andrew mentioned his idea of a Time Capsule. This seemed to generate enthusiasm. We decided to put this forward and, if accepted, we will work on this idea. It needs careful organisation.

Members

Members September 2026	
Members in Red are not on WhatsApp	
Terry Heathcote	Alan Hodgson
Simon Nottage	Andrew Gregory
Janet Beech	Denise Skiffington
Andrew Huggett	Pam Lob
John Howarth	Jackie Timms
Robert Warhurst	Tony Hopwood
Ian Walker	Neil O'Hara
Don Dwyer	Kevin Pritchard
Pat Hirst	Geoff Latham
Kevin Welton	Julia Latham
Steven Gilligan	Carole Loynd
David Hirst	Stewart Garnett

Turners Wall.

The big question is where to relocate this exhibition.

Martin Simmons, one of the Bollington Town Councillors has suggested the Civic Hall as an option.



He is one of Simon's neighbours. We have asked Simon to contact him to see if this is possible and how do we arrange it.

In the meantime we would like to continue with this project. So our future themes are

- October - Glass
- December - Contrasts
- February - Movement
- April - Small Furry Animals.

Here's the new time-scale.

(Note, all dates are inclusive.)

1... 1 to 13 September. Submission of images via the Bollington Photographic web site

2... 14 to 28 September, Voting - again via the Bollington Photographic web site

3... 29 to 31 September. Confirmation of 9 images with most votes. If we have a place to display them will print the A3 images.

4... 1 October. Images either displayed or stored on the website.

WhatsApp Groups

BPG Photo Sharing

BPG Events Arrangement

BPG General Ad Hoc Chats

BPG Arrangements

BPG Organisers Photo Walk

We need to agree a place for the documents generated for the photo walks so everyone knows where they are and have access. ie: the statements of risk.

- Kevin has worked very hard to shape the idea introduced by David Hirst. We need to use them so that we can perfect them. And thank you so much for all your hard work.
- As you can see from the Membership list only six of our members are not using the groups. I will update them by email to make sure they have important details.
- I will also contact these six people to ask if they would consider joining.
- Janet had posted some photos and then wanted to delete them because she thought they were no longer relevant. Apparently there is only 59 hours to clear them completely. There is a way to delete all photos etc. permanently if we want this. Kevin suggested that we might want to do this once a month. To be decided.

Belfield's Window Display

We asked Terry if he could check that Ann Belfield is still OK for us to use her window - and, if so, what dates would suit her. this is what Terry has found out.

"Dear All,

Hi. I was actioned to speak with Ann about the use of the window in October, which I have this morning. It was agreed that we can use the window from Thursday October 1st to Monday October 26th. The reason we do not have it until the end of October is that Mrs Thickett requires it 2 weeks before Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the British Legion which I'm sure we all agree is a good reason for the Group vacating on October 26th.

Kind regards,

Terry"

Janet suggested that we need a group of us to organise this. She will send details of the first meeting soon.

Oh, and Ann suggested that part of the payment for this priveledge might be to buy something from her!

Open Meetings and Photo Walks 2026

OPEN MEETINGS	PHOTO WALKS
September 3rd General Meeting Leader Janet	September 10th A visit to Adelphi or Clarence Mill Leader Janet
September 17th 6 in 10 Leader Simon	September 24th Walk to Birchencliffe Leader Terry
October 1st Back to Basics Leader Andrew	October 8th Ginnels and Back Streets of Bollington Leader Alan
October 15th Post Production Workshop Leader Simon	October 19 -23 Brewery Tour 01625 575380 Leader Janet
November 5th Night Shots. Techniques for Photography Leader Kevin	November 12th Night Photography Leaders Pat and David (not yet confirmed.)
November 19th Night Scapes. Astrophotography talk by Andrew Greenwood. Leader Andrew H	November 26th Nightsapes/Astrophotography Walk - cloud cover dependent. Leader Andrew G
December 3rd Review of Night Photos Leader Kevin	December 10th Christmas Decorations in Shops and Pubs Leader Not confirmed.
December 17th Christmas Party Leader Janet	December 24th No walk
January 7th 6 in 10 Leader ???	January 14th Daytime in Salford & River Cruise Leader Kevin
January 21st General Meeting Leader Janet	January 28th A Winter Walk Leader Pam
February 4th Talk from Geoff and Julia? Or Alan? To be confirmed.	February 11th Slow Photography in One Location Leader Janet
February 18th 3D Photography Leader Andrew	February 25th 3 D Photography in Practice. Leader Andrew

Website

BPG Website and Plugin Suite

Presentation by Simon Nottage — résumé for the minutes

- Simon asked if he could explain what he has been working on in the Website.

He read a prepared presentation and started by saying

“Somebody said to me not long ago that we are a photography group, not a website group. They were right.

And if this last year the website has felt like the main event — if it has felt like a thing that gets **in the way** of the photography rather than out of its way — then that is fair, and it is on me.

So let me tell you what all of it has actually been for. Every hour any of us spends on admin is an hour not spent taking photographs. The whole of the last year, for me, has been about making this website ask for less of our collective attention, not more.

The aim was never just a better website. It was to let us think about admin less often, freeing up our time for Photography instead.”

Since Simon read it in full during the meeting I am not going to copy it verbatim on these minutes but if you would like to have a copy I will willingly pass it onto you. And, if you need to address anything the presentation contains, then you can email Simon directly with your thoughts.

- From Pam Lob

I've just done a GEO check. Ai is taking over from google and SEO. We get 7.5 out of 10. So pretty good. Will bring all the details to our Sept meeting.

- Simon explained that the website is an excellent marketing tool for the group since non members can access many of our photos for example.

A.O.B.

- Andrew suggested that the “Old timers” Simon, Janet, Terry and Andrew should form a committee to discuss identified problems (sorry about the old timer bit Andrew. You aren't as old as me) That way problems etc. can be addressed, brought to the members for ratification and leave meetings for photo stuff and enjoyment. That met with agreement. (Perhaps we need an appropriate name for this group.)
- Apparently the BPG is not listed on the Bollington Town Council's list of groups. We wondered if we are on the Happy Valley site too. This needs to be checked and rectified. Who can do that please?
- We agreed in one of Kevin's meeting that we do not need ticketing for any of our events. And at the moment each event on the website is saying there are 15 places left. Please could that be sorted, Simon?
- Kevin was asked to continue to post a poll on WhatsApp for up coming events at least for now.
- Pam has some research about our website that she will share later.

Next Meeting

January 21st 2027