

MINUTES – RAVENSCOMBE SYNDICATE

Date: 12/08/2025
Venue: The shooting lodge, Ravenscombe
Present: Bernard Pryce, Hugo Beaumont, Flora Beaumont, Giles Kenyon, Colin Morley, Terry Oakes
Recorded by: Colin Morley
Approved by: Bernard Pryce

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1. Opening of the Meeting

Bernard Pryce opened the meeting and welcomed the members ahead of the coming season.

The meeting noted that the syndicate's opening day falls on Monday 1 September 2025.

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2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved without amendment.

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3. Safety and Procedures

Bernard Pryce reviewed the current safety procedures for organised drives on the Ravenscombe estate.

The following procedures remain unchanged:

- All participants must wear a positioning unit while a drive is in progress.
- Radio silence applies during drives unless safety requires otherwise.
- The shoot captain is responsible for stand allocation, assembly and debriefing.
- Any departure from an assigned stand must be reported to the shoot captain.

Terry Oakes pointed out that some parts of the area still have a weak signal in denser stretches of woodland. Bernard Pryce noted that the units will be checked before the opening day.

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4. Shooting Lodge and Practical Matters

The firewood supply has been restocked for the season. Colin Morley is responsible for buying coffee, batteries and basic supplies.

Flora Beaumont proposed that the old map box in the shooting lodge be labelled more clearly. The matter was deferred to a later meeting.

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5. Finances and Subscriptions

Colin Morley gave a brief report on the syndicate's ongoing expenses.

Subscriptions remain unchanged for the 2025 season. Any adjustments will be taken up after the season ends.

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6. Shooting-Rights Agreements and Review

Hugo Beaumont informed the meeting that the Ravenscombe estate will carry out a review this autumn of older leases, routines and agreements relating to the shooting.

The shooting-rights agreements are to be renegotiated after the season, before next year's shooting plan is finalised.

Bernard Pryce stated that the existing order has worked well for a long time and that any changes should be made with great caution.

Hugo Beaumont acknowledged the comment and stated that the matter will be addressed as a whole after the season ends.

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7. Other Business

Giles Kenyon asked whether older maps are still kept in the shooting lodge. Bernard Pryce stated that the maps remain in the filing cabinet. Terry Oakes pointed out that some boundary markers in the eastern part of the area should be checked before later drives.

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8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held after the close of the opening week or when called by the shoot captain.

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9. Close of the Meeting

Bernard Pryce closed the meeting.

Ravenscombe, Cranborne Chase, 12 August 2025

Colin Morley
Recorded by

Bernard Pryce
Approved by