



Village Bakers (VB) Committee Meeting Minutes

7th September 2026

Date:	7 th September 2026 @ 7pm	Location:	Teams
Attendees:	Kevin Sargent (KS)	Apologies:	Gavin Deadman (GD)
	Jonnie Balls (JB)		Andrew Bourne (AB)
	Ellis Jones (EJ)		
	Laura White (LW)		
	John Smith (JS)		
	Steve Brooks (SB)		

Agenda item	Detail		Action
Welcome / Apologies	KS opened the meeting and gave apologies from those unable to attend the meeting this month		
Finance (SB / KS)	Bank Balance: £5,873.84		
	Income: £1,000 £114.11	Details of Income: NISA Grant Didsbury Pride Sum-up incoming Some small incomes not itemised here but noted in the bank account	
	Outgoings: £538.00	Details of Outgoings: Manchester Pride Parade Costs – T-shirts, materials etc	
Membership (LW / AB)	August 2026 Social:		
	31 attendees 28 Card Holders 3 New attendees 2 New Member Cards Issued		
	- AB to send KS lapsed member list - KS to then send the keeping in touch emails - LW confirmed that members do like these friendly keeping in touch emails based on feedback she has received		AB KS
	KS to share the list of membership that needs cards updating for LW / AB to then follow up on so we get a good tidy end of year		KS
Events	Manchester Village Pride Parade (MVP) – 29th August 2026: - Cost around £500-600 in total - Feels a good investment as it looked effective in the parade - Videos seen and shared on social media are effective so helping promote the group in a great way - Big thanks to those all members and committee who brought it all together and did the crafting to create the great outfits as well as all those on the day performing. It feels a positive event to have done and worked well for the group. - It was feedback that it enabled members to network in a new positive way bringing people together that don't always catch up at Baking Socials so supported our networking efforts in a new way - Post Parade Social at Nells also was a positive networking opportunity for members		
	Local Prides: Didsbury Pride – 5th September 2026 Raised £210 for group funds		

	○ KS to pay the cash into the bank ○ 10% Didsbury Pride Donation to be paid to them still Chorlton Pride – 12th September 2026 • Confirmed KS, LW, EJ, JS attending ○ KS to check with AB if he will attend and member Julien • Needs to be setup by 11:30am for the event start at 12:00pm • JS asked if we have any key bakes we want on the stall ○ Discussed that cupcakes / bright colourful items go well with younger attendees, the lemon drizzle & banana bread also go fast. Cookies work well as a consolation cookie prize, and butterfly buns have gone well previously. Baking Masterclass – 17th October 2026 • Chorlton High School – this is already booked • Tickets on sale 11am Sat 19th Sept on Eventbrite • All other key items EG Recipes, booklet, order ingredients etc still to be done Halloween Drinks Social – 31st October 2026 • Confirmed this will go ahead • This will be a basic social, simple promotion at the next Sunday meet ups and on VB social media with location, timings and encourage fancy dress Bake Off 2026 – 8th November 2026 • Key Items to confirm: ○ Theme & Categories ○ Trophy's / Medals ○ Judge ○ Scoring • KS asked for help to work on the above – JS and EJ offered, LW may also be available to help • Discussed if we want to invite Howard Middleton to judge or not – LW proposed we invite Howard and see his reply. ○ KS to contact Howard.	KS KS/SB KS KS / JS / EJ / LW KS
Social Media & VB Newsletter	August 2026 Social Media Statistics: • Facebook reach – 4800 (2025 – 1800) • Instagram reach – 9300 (2025 - 1500) • Website views – 361 (2025 - 400) • Website visitors - 223 (2025 - 152) Notable increase in visitors around Manchester Village Pride timings VB Newsletter: • Look to do a newsletter in December with theme of 2026 Village Bakers Roundup of the year	KS / EJ
Outstanding Items from past meetings	Membership Survey Results (noted in July 2026 Minutes) • Still waiting GD to share the results to committee to allow discussion to form the 2027 and beyond strategy for VB Demographics Report (noted in July 2026 Minutes) • Still to be discussed by committee – to be reviewed alongside Membership Survey item above	GD
AOB	Christmas Cards • EJ asked about promoting to ensure time to print and distribute • Suggested promoting them in October for distribution to members that purchase in the November meeting. • KS to add cards to the shop on the website if time permits for this month's meeting, but if not for the October social.	KS

	SharePoint Access - LW needs some support to access the SharePoint - JS happy to try and assist LW on this	JS / LW
Diary Dates	Future Events / Activities (excl. Committee Meetings): 12th Sept – Chorlton Pride @ St Clement’s Church @12pm 13th Sept – VB Sunday Social @ Molly House @ 1pm 11th Oct – VB Sunday Social @ Molly House @ 1pm 17th Oct – VB Masterclass @ Chorlton High School @ 10am 31st Oct – VB Halloween Social @ Molly House @7:30pm 8th Nov - VB Sunday Social & Bake Off 2026 @ Molly House @ 1pm 13th Dec– VB Sunday Social @ Molly House @ 1pm	ALL
Next Committee Meeting	Monday 5th October 2026 @ 7pm GD to setup meeting	GD