



Minutes of Meeting April 2026

1. Ed Wood Long Service Recognition – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey informed the members that following Ed Wood notifying us that he had been a member of the Club for 25 years at the last meeting, we have now had a small plaque made for him in recognition of this. Steve invited Ed to come up so that he could be presented with his plaque.

2. Recognition of Steve Peglitsis's Competition Wins – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey informed the members that at the show of the British Model Soldier Society last week, Steve Peglitsis entered two figures into their competition and took gold with both. This is a fantastic achievement, and the Club congratulates Steve on his success.

3. 2026 Club Night Venue Confirmation & Hire Charge – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey addressed the members that he has recently had a meeting with the lady who runs the Ekco Sports & Social Club, and she has confirmed that we have a home at the venue on our regular meeting dates indefinitely. This is good news for the Club as we all like the venue and it would be difficult to find an equivalent of the same standard. They have also confirmed that there will not be a rise in the cost of hiring the hall for this year, for the second year in a row, meaning that we will still only be paying £60 per night. This is a bargain for such an excellent venue.

4. East Midlands Show Report – James Cater

James Cater spoke to members about our recent attendance at the East Midlands show. He thanked Ed Wood, Laura Flack, and Ken O'Brien for attending the show with him. He also thanked Christian Richards, Trevor Davis, and Stephen Snares for providing models that could be displayed at the show.

We had a large table at the show, which will filled well with a top-quality display. The show itself was very enjoyable, with plenty of clubs and traders in attendance. The only downside was that we had missed that there were limited chairs available at the venue and neglected to take any with us, but we will rectify this if we attend next year. Even with the lack of seating, a good time was had by all.



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5. Club Finals Night – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey spoke to members about our upcoming finals night on the 19th of May. Steve has now had confirmation that not only will Airfix be in attendance to present the awards this year, but they have also offered to attend next year as well.

Steve also asked that the recipients of awards at last year's finals please return the shields in advance of the May meeting so that they can be presented to the new winners that night.

6. 2026 Show Schedule – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey reminded the members that the Club will be attending the following shows in 2026 (with the name of the member organising the attendance):

- Model World Live NEC 25/26 April – Steve Bailey/James Cater
- De Havilland Show 17th May – Tony Cater
- Essex Modellers Show 26th July – James Cater
- Medway Model Show 5/6 September – Tony Cater
- St Ives Model Show Brampton 27th September – Tony Cater
- IPMS Scale Model World 7/8 November – Steve Bailey
- London Plastic Model Show 6th December – Tony Cater

James Cater continued to address the members that anyone wishing to attend the NEC show or supply models for the Club table speak to him about it this evening. James is coordinating events at the show as Steve is now unable to go due to his recent operation. We have confirmation that the Club stand will be four tables long, giving a very impressive frontage to the visitors.

Tony Cater added that he has spoken with the organiser of the de Havilland show to confirm our attendance and that the organiser has apologised for the late notice of the show. This has been down to issues with the venue, which have now been sorted out. Any members wishing to attend, please speak to Tony.

James Cater updated the members that the Essex Modellers Show organisation is well underway. As usual, he is booking traders with Colin McAuliff of Chelmsford dealing with the clubs and John Huston of Hornchurch dealing with the venue and



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promotion. As ever, we are looking for volunteers to assist on the door, tombola, and in the kitchen. Anyone interested in doing so, please speak to James.

7. Club Outings – Tony Cater

Tony Cater addressed the members regarding the upcoming visit to the Spitfire Factory. We now have 15 members booked onto the tour on Thursday 4th June. He also reminded all members attending that the final payment is required by the 30th April.

Tony went on to discuss his fact finding visit to Chatham Dockyard with Jim Smith and Ken O'Brien to discuss the options that they may be able to offer to us. The staff at the dockyard were very helpful and we have now scheduled a Club visit for Wednesday the 15th July. A guide will take us on an orientation tour when we arrive (approx. half an hour), and we will have a "behind the scenes" tour of their model stores.

The provisional plan would be to arrange a coach to leave from the Ekco Club, aiming to arrive at the dockyard at 10am with tea & coffee on arrival. There would be a buffet sandwich lunch provided, and we will have the day to explore the dockyard until closing time at 5pm. We will look for a local pub to have a drink at prior to heading home, as we did with the Airfix tour last year. Costs for this would be £50 per person, including entry to the dockyard, with a minimum of 30 members needed to make the coach viable. Anyone interested should speak to Tony so that he can co-ordinate the trip.

8. Proposed Club Curry Night – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey updated the members regarding the curry night proposed at the previous meeting. He has spoken with the restaurant (the Hassina on the Rayleigh Road) but has not yet firmed up a date with them due to his recent operation. He will update the members when a date has been arranged.



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9. Safeguarding – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey informed the members that it has been drawn to his attention that the Club is now of a sufficient size that we are legally required to have a Safeguarding policy in place. As such, this has now been drafted and is available to view on the website. In addition to this, Andy Hillier has been appointed as the Club Welfare Officer and Stephen Snares will be taking on the role of Safeguarding Lead in addition to his Webmaster role. If any member feels they have been mistreated by anyone in the Club or put into a vulnerable position while attending a Club meeting, please speak to Andy or Stephen in confidence, and they will decide on the appropriate action to be taken to rectify this. Both Andy and Stephen have the appropriate DBS check and training certificates to fulfil these positions.

10. Themed Competition Nights – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey spoke to members about our upcoming themed competitions. The upcoming themes are:

- July – TV & Film. All models must be related to TV or film to enter.
- November – Twins Challenge. This will be a challenge alongside the main competition on the night, with models eligible if they are powered by two engines, two sails, two horses etc. Just two of something.

11. Presentations – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey thanked Tony Cater for his presentation this evening, and updated the members on forthcoming presentations:

- July – Creating Rock Landscapes – Gary Daisley
- September – Soldering techniques – Phil Lloyd Worth
- November – Creating realistic civilian vehicles – Stephen Snares.

Steve continued to add that Terry Regan from the Chelmsford club was again in attendance this evening as he wished to discuss arrangements for a second presentation following the success of his previous presentation to the Club.



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12. Amendments to Club Night Competition, Entry & Voting Slips – Steve Bailey

Steve Bailey spoke to the members about some upcoming changes to the competition from the June meeting. As the members had no doubt noticed, we were trialling an alternative table layout this evening as members had commented that it is sometimes hard to see all the details on the models as they could only be viewed from one side. As such, we have now arranged the tables as two individual rows rather than back-to-back.

We will be making the boards identifying the classes double sided, and we will be purchasing some simple dividers to make it easier to know which models are in each class. There will also be some updates to the entry slip, adding a space to provide the kit manufacturer on the slip, and a box to tick should you wish for feedback on the build. The name of the builder will be moving to the reverse of the slip to anonymise the voting. We will also be reviewing the voting slip to ensure that it is as easy as possible to understand, along with ensuring that new members are shown how to fill these out.

Previously the Club has taken the stance that you should not vote for your own model, however from June onwards we will be withdrawing this rule and leaving it to the individual to decide which model in the class is truly the best build in their opinion even if it is their own build.

One new feature that will be introduced will be “two bites of the cherry”. This will give members a second opportunity to enter a model into the competition if it doesn’t win the class on its first showing. Eligibility for this is as follows:

- The model must have been built during the Competition Year (June – April)
- The model can be re-entered in any month of that Competition Year
- The model cannot be re-entered in a future Year without significant material change (i.e. remodelled or incorporated into a diorama etc.)
- The model cannot be entered in a future month if it has previously won a Class or Award



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13.Any Other Business

Steve Bailey mentioned that should any new members wish to, there are some name badges available to identify themselves until people have got to know their name.

James Cater addressed the members regarding the sales of models from Andy Sutherland. Andy is a former member of the Club who is sadly now unable to build due to having had a couple of strokes, and he has asked the Club to assist in selling his stash. James thanked the many members who have already purchased items from this, as Andy has generously agreed to split the proceeds equally with the Club. Anything unsold tonight will be back at the June meeting. There is also a large number of vac form kits and Matchbox sprues to be catalogued, which will also hopefully be on sale in June.

James Cater
Club Secretary and Membership Secretary
IPMS Southend Model Club