

MINUTES OF SEVENOAKS AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS VOLUNTARY SUPPORT GROUP AGM

30th May 2026

18 people present + all 7 members of the committee

Total 26

GROUP ORGANISER'S REPORT

MATTERS ARISING

Approval of Minutes of AGM 2025

Mary Cunnington pointed out her name had been spelt incorrectly

Proposed by Ashley Adams

Seconded by Joy Hill

Fiona asked if anyone would like to join the committee, we have less members than in the past.

She thanked the committee for their work and pointed out it is the groups 23rd year.

All the committee members willing to serve another year.

If anyone has a recommendation for a venue, please let us know.

Re election of committee proposed by Rosemary Pilcher,

Seconded by Diana Jepson

COMMITTEE

Fiona Turnbull Group Leader

Mike Wilcock Deputy Group Leader

Group Secretary Sharon Batty

Mary Cunningham Treasurer

Sally Spike and Susan Potts Refreshments

Sue Hart G/F venue recommendations and Talkabout newsletter

TREASURERS REPORT for 2026

Annual accounts up to 31st December 2025

We opened the year in January 2025 with

£4475.31

Income total	£1230.50
Outgoings	£980.20
Balance at February 2026	£4641.34

Funds were boosted by the gift from the Stonewall Park Trust of £1000.

DEPUTY GROUP LEADER'S REPORT

Mike shared a communication from Coeliac UK from yesterday, saying that the auditors felt we had too much money in our account and we need to reduce this. Options include more GF events, direct support for research into Coeliac Disease or making a donation to Coeliac UK for all the work they do. He felt that members should have the opportunity and time to consider this and asked that people email us at sevenoaks@coeliac.org.uk with their views.

BBQ Saturday 1st August 2026

Bob has kindly offered to host this again. Please take your own drinks and a garden chair.

If you wish to attend, please mail us at sevenoaks@coeliac.org.uk or Coeliac UK will be sending out information re booking through Eventbrite, a platform they use for booking events.

We will be subsidising the event to use some of our surplus funds.

Mike is also hoping to organise an afternoon tea at Coblands garden centre.

The meeting ended at 1435 and was followed by a talk from Dr Rose-Marie Satherley, from the University of Surrey.

Dr Satherley's research has examined the support that coeliacs need and now aims to provide a toolkit/training for medical staff and staff in the hospitality industry to help them understand and support people living with Coeliac. She drew the analogy that everyone has to carry around baggage - it's just Coeliacs have to carry a bit more because of our condition and need support.

Members were very keen to hear more about Rosie's research and asked if some details could be posted on the group Facebook page. They were also keen to support Rosie in her further work and offered to host her students at future events or take part in any follow up focus groups if wanted. Rosie indicated this would be very useful and would contact the group later in the year to discuss options