



# The Hungerford Club

3 The Croft, Hungerford, Berks, RG17 0HY, Tel: 01488 682357

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

These minutes were approved by the committee on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

### Attendance

Trustees: Micky Lambourn and Chris Ticehurst

Officers: Jennifer Bartter, Treasurer and Paul Ivinson, Secretary

Committee: Chris Dodd (A.G.M. Chairman), Chris Scorey, Bruce Powell, Matt Bronson, Claire Ward

Including the above 45 members attended.

### Meeting start

The meeting started at 19:05

The meeting was chaired by Chris Dodd.

### Welcome by Chairman

The Chairman called the meeting to order and explained that Denis Brown has been acting Chairman for the past year but is unable to attend today. Therefore he (Chris Dodd) would be chairing the meeting. The following had been prepared to be read to the meeting.

- The club has gone from strength to strength this year, building on the success of the previous year.
- Thanks to Debbie and Garry for the tremendous effort they put in.
  - We are pleased to see Gary is making a good recovery following his two hip replacements.
  - The beer festival was a great success. Also they have organised quizzes and music evenings which have been very well received and contribute greatly to the social life of the club.
- The club's good financial position allowed us to make significant improvements to the club house.
  - The roof has been renewed with new felt, battens and tiles. We were pleased to find the main roof timbers were in good condition. but, following advice from a structural engineer, we had to strengthen some timbers.
  - We took the opportunity to install solar panels. These were integrated into the roof and reduced the number of tiles required. Also we applied for a low carbon grant which covered 40% of the cost of the panels. Since the panels were commissioned we have seen a 30% reduction in the electricity purchased and we go into the winter period with a healthy surplus in our utility account.
  - Overall, the work proceeded smoothly thanks to the oversight of the contracts by Chris Scorey and the work by Graham Brown and Paul Ivinson and the rest of the committee.

- Following the felling of ash trees the club boundary will be planted with a mixture of wild tree saplings to form a hedge. The saplings will come from the Woodland Trust. To protect the saplings while they mature a simple stock proof fence will be erected.
- We plan to renovate the porch to the club. The current porch has served us well but rot has set in. We intend to replace the porch but keep the design very similar to the existing porch.
- Court 1 is the main focus for the tennis section with fundraising continuing throughout the year. The court was last refurbished in 2000. More details will be covered in the Tennis Section AGM.
- A newsletter had been prepared by the secretary during 2022 but has faded away during 2023 due to the pressure of work. Comments have been received saying the newsletter is missed.
  - The newsletter is a compilation of copy received from the sections and the Steward. The task is one of combining the input and editing.
  - If anybody has the time and capacity your assistance would be appreciated.

## Remembrance of Members deceased

It is with sadness that we have to report the death of the following members during the last year.

- Jan Beard
- Mick Gainey
- Jim Wilshire

We have been informed that the following ex-members died last year

- Glynn Harris
- Bill Hunter

The chairman asked if any other members or ex-members should also be remembered. No names were given.

The chairman then asked all members to stand for a few moments silence in remembrance.

*[About 30 seconds silence.]*

## Apologies for absence

Denis Brown, Graham Brown and Jason Bellman all sent their apologies for not attending the A.G.M. Each had other commitments that could not be re-scheduled.

Apologies were also received from Tony Handleby and John Conn via attending members.

## Minutes of previous AGM as circulated

The Chairman asked if there were any questions about the minutes of last year's A.G.M. as circulated? There were no comments.

## Matters Arising (from the minutes, not otherwise covered by the agenda)

The Chairman asked if there were any questions not otherwise covered by the agenda?

Vic Lardner asked about the plans for the wood from the felled ash trees. Jay Sawyer said he had a log splitter arriving soon and so the wood will be removed soon.

Approval of Minutes:

Proposer: Vic Lardner

Seconder: Phillip Brown

There was a show of hands and all were in favour. There was no vote against.

## **Treasurer's Financial Report as circulated**

Jennifer Bartter is standing down as treasurer. The Chairman thanked Jennifer for the tremendous work put into the accounts over the years. It is thanks to her efforts that we have success a clear and accurate view of the club's finances.

The club is moving to the online version of Sage (accounting software). This will allow the work of entering invoices to be delegated to selected individuals in each section and so reduce the workload on the book-keeper.

The treasurer had circulated the accounts and accompanying financial statement prior to the A.G.M. The Chairman asked if there there were any questions? There were no questions.

Approval of Accounts:

Proposer: Chris Scorey

Secunder: A Gibbs

There was a show of hands and all were in favour. There was no vote against.

## **Subscriptions 2024**

The Chairman announced that at the committee meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> September it was agreed that the Indoor Sports subscription should be unchanged for next year. This gives the bowls and tennis sections the information they need when discussing their subscriptions.

Chris Ticehurst recalled that in previous years the Indoor Sports subscription has increased. The Chairman agreed but re-iterated the subscriptions would be unchanged for the year to come.

The Secretary reminded those present that at the previous A.G.M. it had been suggested to change the order of the Club A.G.M and the section A.G.M.s and the committee had agreed to do so.

The bowls section A.G.M. will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> November.

The tennis section A.G.M. will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Section Reports: Bowls, Tennis and Indoor Sports all as circulated**

The reports from the Bowls and Tennis section have been circulated. There is no committee for Indoor Sports and nobody to prepare a report.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions about the reports? There were no questions.

## **Election of Officers and Committee to 2023/2024 Committee**

The election of Officers and Committee was conducted by the Secretary.

### **Election of trustees**

The Secretary announced that Micky Lambourn and Chris Ticehurst have completed a three year term as trustees. They have both said they are willing to stand for a further three years. No other candidates have been proposed.

- The Secretary asked all those in favour of electing Micky Lambourn and Chris Ticehurst as trustees to raise their hands. All raised their hands.
- He asked those not in favour to raise their hands. Nobody raised a hand.
- The election was recorded as "All in Favour."

## **Election of President**

The Secretary announced that John Conn was standing down as President. Last year the A.G.M. voted to grant John a life-time membership to recognise his contribution to the club. Rodger Sandford has been proposed for the role of President for this year. No other candidates have been proposed.

- The secretary asked all those in favour of electing Rodger Sandford as President to raise their hands. All raised their hands.
- He asked those not in favour to raise their hands. Nobody raised a hand.
- The election was recorded as “All in Favour.”

## **Election of Chairman**

Nobody has been proposed for the role of Chairman so the new committee will have to agree amongst themselves who will be acting Chairman at each meeting.

## **Election of Treasurer**

The Secretary announced that after many years as Treasurer, Jennifer Bartter is standing down as Treasurer. He thanked Jennifer for the tremendous amount of hard work she has put in. It is to her credit that the accounts of the club have been well managed and will make for an easy handover to the next treasurer.

Caroline Walker has been proposed for the role of treasurer. Caroline is a qualified accountant and we are fortunate that she has agreed to be proposed. No other candidates have been proposed.

- The Secretary asked all those in favour of electing Caroline Walker as treasurer to raise their hands. All raised their hands.
- He asked those not in favour to raise their hands. Nobody raised a hand.
- The election was recorded as “All in Favour.”

## **Election of Secretary**

The Secretary announced that he (Paul Ivinson) has been secretary for two years and puts himself forward again. No other candidates have been proposed.

- The Secretary asked all those in favour of electing Paul Ivinson as Secretary to raise their hands. All raised their hands.
- He asked those not in favour to raise their hands. Nobody raised a hand.
- The election was recorded as “All in Favour.”

## **Election of members to the committee**

The Secretary explained that last year’s committee had two unfilled positions, one of which had been filled by co-opting Jason Bellman. Claire Ward also attended by virtue of her being chair of the tennis section.

Phillip Brown asked why Jason Bellman had been co-opted. The secretary explained that it was deemed he would be a useful member of the committee.

Two members, Denis Brown and Matt Bronson, have served one year of their two year term.

Four members have completed their two year term.

- Colin Currill resigned from the committee during the year.
- Chris Dodd has decided not to stand again this year. The Secretary thanked Chris Dodd for he time and service on the committee and also for chairing this meeting.
- Graham Brown is the maintenance officer and managed the refurbishment of the roof. Graham has said he is willing to serve again.

- Chris Scorey's business background was invaluable while we were negotiating the contracts for the roof refurbishment and the installation of the solar panels. Chris has said he is willing to serve again.

As a result, there were six vacancies for the committee.

The Secretary explained seven members had been proposed and so we have an unusual situation. The rules of the club say that we should hold a ballot and the six candidates receiving the most votes will be elected to the committee.

The Secretary invited each candidate to address this meeting to introduce themselves and to explain why they have decided to stand and state what they will bring to the committee. He also explained candidates are not obliged to speak but if they do so they have one minute. The candidates were called in alphabetic order of their surname.

- Rhian Barnett addressed the meeting.
- Jason Bellman did not attend the meeting. Phillip Brown said he had some questions for Jason Bellman and asked if he could speak. The Secretary refused his request.
- Dave Broderick addressed the meeting.
- Graham Brown did not attend the meeting.
- Ian Doolan addressed the meeting.
- Chris Scorey addressed the meeting.
- Cliff Winckless addressed the meeting.

## **The Ballot**

Each person was given one ballot paper. The Secretary re-iterated the rules. There are six vacancies to be filled so members may put up to six crosses against their chosen candidates. Members do not have to use all six crosses. He also explained that in the event of a tie for the last place the rules of the club state that the presiding Chairman of the meeting should have a second and casting vote.

It was emphasised that a paper with seven or more crosses would be invalid and not counted.

When each member had completed their paper they were to hand it to one of the two tellers and leave the Snooker Room.

When the tellers had received all the ballot papers they proceeded to count the votes.

The meeting reconvened when the count was complete.

The Chairman announced the successful candidates in alphabetic order of surname. The successful candidates were

- Rhian Barnett
- Dave Broderick
- Graham Brown
- Ian Doolan
- Chris Scorey
- Cliff Winckless

and each was deemed appointed a member of the Committee 2023/2024.

## **Any other business**

The Chairman asked if there was any other business that members wish to raise?

Alex Jinivizian thanked the Chairman and Secretary for a well run meeting.

Rhian Barnett thanked the outgoing committee members for their time and service.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed. The time was 20:24