

## Exmouth Cricket Club

### Minutes of the AGM held at Exmouth Cricket Club, The Maer on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016

The meeting was opened at 19.31pm with a welcome from the Chairman.

**1. In Memoriam:** Richard Butler, Clive Marwood, Gerald Lye, Joan Treece, Walter Edworthy, Geoff Evans and Paddy Considine. The Chairman asked the members present to rise in memory of the deceased.

**2. Apologies:** Apologies had been received from 11 members: James Kavanagh, Dame Mary Bridges, Wilf Easterbrook. Chris & Annie Blong, Jeanette Sampson, Sandy Allen, Jeremy Tozer, Geoff & Nick Folland and David Lye.

33 members attended the meeting whose names were recorded.

#### **3. Minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 19th November 2015**

These having been previously circulated were recommended for approval by the Secretary. Peter Dobbs raised a query concerning the wording in Section 8, concerning a described Typographical error on the Fees discount and Membership fees for Families. The secretary explained that the minutes explained that the Typo had been amended and whilst the fees issued prior to the AGM had this error, this had been corrected for issuing at the AGM itself.

Rachel Tozer proposed and it was seconded by Jim Wood seconded that these minutes be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and they were agreed unanimously without further discussion.

#### **4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

The only matter arising from the minutes of the previous AGM was that the Paul Hurley had advised an error in the minutes issued in advance of this meeting, in that Steve Bolt not himself had liaised with Ocean. This had been corrected in the formal minutes.

Peter Dobbs raised a question as to how the statement in Section 8 of the 2015 AGM Minutes concerning Players who were selected for a particular team irrespective of whether the match was on, or the day of the match, had been received by the players or whether it had sometimes meant that a weaker team was selected where players weren't available. The Chairman advised that the comment was what had been made by Richard Butler at the time, however Ashton was unaware that it had created any problems. Dickie advised that the club was a voluntary organization and if players cannot play, there is nothing that the club can do about it! The strongest side had always been picked from the choice of players available. Jim stated that the intention of the statement was actually that Players registered with the club would be expected to play when selected, assuming availability, for whichever team that the selection committee decided.

#### **5. Honorary Secretary's Report for 2015 on behalf of the Executive Committee**

Paul Corder's report had already been circulated. There being no comments, Ashton Collinge proposed acceptance of the report, seconded by Debs Austin. This was agreed unanimously.

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### 6. Chairman's Address

Ashton Collinge gave a comprehensive address which is attached to these minutes and comprises part of them. He started by mirroring the Secretaries report and mentioning his personal shock at the sudden passing just after the AGM of Richard Butler. At the end of this report, the Secretary asked for any questions relating to the Chairmans report.

There were no comments, however Paul reminded the members of Trina's (and Lynda's) Coffee Mornings which will be on Friday mornings starting at 10.30 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Kay was also organizing a Coffee morning and Bring and Buy sale at her house on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Proceeds towards Club funds.

The Chairmans report was proposed by Paul Corder and seconded by Julian Page, and accepted by all present with grateful thanks from Jim Wood.

### 7. Honorary Treasurer's Report and Audited Accounts to October 2015

An Examined set of accounts, which had been previously circulated, was presented to the AGM by Bruce de Saram. (attached). He reiterated the Chairmans comments regarding our good financial year aided by the good car parking rota; lack of Overseas player; better control of building maintenance and finances; after Sandy's resignation as Groundsman we have negotiated better terms with Noel Westlake; the Bar has performed well. The figures are only up until 31<sup>st</sup> October whereas our financial year ends 31<sup>st</sup> December, so the figures are of course an estimated prediction for the end of year, as is customary. The figures show that assuming no financial pitfalls the Treasurer was happy to present a good set of figures and requested questions.

Peter Dobbs raised that the figures are stated as Audited accounts until September 2016, however the Secretary explained that this was an error on the Agenda as this year the Treasurer had managed to complete until October 2016 this year. Peter Dobbs then queried that it states on the Agenda "Audited" accounts whereas there are no signatures to accompany the presented accounts. The Treasurer advised that in accordance with other Clubs and as is customary for this club, the accounts, whilst they have been professionally examined, the full audited accounts are not prepared until after the year end in December. He confirmed that the 2015 accounts had been so audited. Peter Dobbs stated that the use of the term 'Audited' on the Agenda was incorrect and will be revised to 'Examined' in future. The Secretary advised that in Brian Webbers absence, Southons had assisted in producing and checking these figures. Bruce thanked Peter for making the point and this will be corrected for 2017.

Ashton stated that the current figures show a projected end of year profit of £3818, however there was still £5054 bar profit to be transferred making a total profit this year of £8872, compared to a loss last year of nearly £6000. Nigel noted that donations had been advised. Bruce explained that this was from Richard Butler's funeral and also a Legacy of £2000.

There being no further question, Paul Corder proposed acceptance of the accounts with grateful thanks to Bruce, not only for these figures, but all his hard work during the year. This was seconded by Dickie Davies, and agreed by all present

### 8 Revision of Club Constitution

The Secretary advised that there was just a minor amendment to make, as advised and issued with the paperwork for the AGM, and that was to remove the from the Membership categories, that of Life Member, introduced in 2011. He explained the reason that the category had originally been created, however the Committee recommend that the category is now removed. Existing Life Members will of course still retain the benefits of Life Membership. Alistair Kemp-Tucker asked if it was intended to convert Life Members to Honorary Life Members, the Secretary advised that that category was completely different, so the answer was No.

Acceptance was proposed by Sue Hurley and seconded by Amanda Schaufler.

### 9 Confirmation of Membership Fees for 2017

The Chairman stated that the committee had agreed that Membership fees remain largely as last year, except that the Lady Players fees will be reduced from £50 to £45 (£40 if paid before April 30<sup>th</sup>)

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Peter Dobbs then raised an issue concerning car passes as shown in the 2016 Membership book which was contrary to what had been agreed at the 2015 AGM. It was explained that this was an error in proof reading of the Membership book and that it had been previously agreed at the 2014 AGM to issue car passes to all full members. Peter Dobbs was concerned that as a non driver he felt that it seemed unfair. The Chairman explained that the decision had been made that it was very complicated when there were so many membership categories, which is why it had been decided in 2014 to remove the non car pass member category.

John Barnard highlighted an error on the Proposed Fee notice advised prior to the AGM, in that the advice for early settlement of fees for Families was incorrect in that it stated after April 30<sup>th</sup> not before April 30<sup>th</sup>! The Chairman advised that had already been corrected.

The Fees were agreed after a proposal by Jim Wood, seconded by Alistair Kemp-Tucker.

### **10 Confirmation of Officers, Club Auditor and Club Solicitors.**

The Secretary stated that the current members of the Committee, with the exception of Sandy Allen, who had resigned as Groundsman, had advised the Secretary that they were happy to stand for re-election to the committee prior to the AGM should the membership agree. He listed the Current list of the Committee for clarification. He advised that we still did not have a Social Chair, however expressed his thanks to Jo Watson for all her work in that respect and for her agreement to be seconded to the committee on an `ad hoc` basis.

Jim proposed that these be agreed `en bloc`; which was seconded by Julian Page and agreed by all present.

The Committee will be able to appoint any additional committee members if volunteers offer themselves in line with the Constitution.

The next section was overlooked at this time, however was undertaken after Section 11 in retrospect.

The Secretary advised the AGM that Every's had agreed to continue to act as Club Solicitors. John Hawkins rose and advised the members that although he had now retired, he suggested that the first point of legal contact should be himself!

The Club Auditor Brian Webber had agreed to continue with support from Southons (who also prepare the Club Corporation Tax return *in association with Nigel Sampson*). **This comment in italics added as requested at AGM**

### **11 Re-election of Honorary Vice Presidents and Election of new Honorary Vice Presidents/ Hon. Life Members.**

The Secretary advised that the Committee had nominated Jane Butler for Honorary Life Membership and hoped that the AGM would ratify it. There were no other nominations for new Honorary VP's or Hon Life Members, he proposed that we accept for re-election all of the present Honorary Vice Presidents as listed in the front of the 2016 Club book. This was proposed for acceptance by Nigel Sampson and seconded by Rachel Tozer and agreed `en bloc`. John Hawkins stated that Jane Butler had been unable to attend this evening, however she was very grateful for the honour.

### **12 Recommendations from the Committee for Capital Investment and Future Growth.**

The Chairman advised that he had surveyed the old Football stand with Simon Lawrence (Midas Construction) and determined that it was now unsafe. The Metalwork had rusted beyond repair and the covering material was asbestos. It had been ascertained that the asbestos could be removed for about £1500 which would result in us having a Asbestos Disposal Certificate. Our current Waste Disposal company (Coastal Waste) have agreed to remove it after it is all bagged up.

The previous Marquee had reached the end of its life as the framework was breaking and the canvas rotting. We have contacted Gala Tents who have provided some good quotes for consideration, however we have not ordered it yet as it would mean storing it for the remainder of the Winter. We will also have time then to consider whether we choose a better marquee which can then be rented out for outside events. Ashton also said that we could consider a

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permanent base for the Marquee as an option and maybe also site it in a different place. Ashton had contacted Viridor for potential funding and they might be able to assist. We are also going to apply for funds from DCC and the Co-op Community Scheme Projects. Ashton asked any members to vote for the scheme should that be accepted.

We were unsuccessful in our approach to Devon Cricket for the Waitrose grant, so we propose only asking for a small amount which hopefully will be well considered (paving slabs / garden furniture for the outside seating area). The Public Toilets also need updating.

Nigel asked where it was proposed to site the Marquee if not placed where it usually is. Ashton stated that if Madeira Bowls don't request a continuance of the Parking arrangement, we could consider placing it in that area. Ollie Pugsley's father had suggested something more permanent than a Marquee. Ashton felt that we could more than recover the loss of Madeira Bowls money with a more permanent structure, which could include public toilets. John Barnard stated that it seemed sensible to look at a quote for a more permanent structure, which should not cost too much as it was potentially little more than a glorified garden shed! We had electrics and sewers in place in that area which would make it easier. It was a project that had been under consideration some years previously. Ashton advised that Midas are surveying the drainage for the Madeira Bowls area. John Barnard advised that they were 'land drains'.

Alistair asked if the membership would be consulted and Ashton agreed that it would be put to the membership for comments before any work commenced.

Paul advised that of course that any permanent structure would need Planning permission.

### **13 AOB/Items received in writing prior to the AGM**

John Barnard had emailed the Secretary with a request to advise him, that as a Guarantor for the loan from ECB for the Nets Refurbishment he would like to know what the position is with that loan. Whilst this had been answered prior to the meeting, the members were advised that the loan balance currently stands at £1629 remaining and no payments have been missed or defaulted. The loan will be cleared in a year and a half!

Jim noted that we were hearing some really good news, not just regarding the finances but the social events, the Community day, the Colts night. The Club is really thriving for which he thanked the committee. Acclamation from the floor!

Alistair asked about the Fairy ring, Ashton advised that Noel has started his plan A which seems to be working. Hopefully that will work and he is confident of success. If however it doesn't work, he will revert to plan B which will of course be more expensive and intrusive.

John asked about the badger problem in the Nets. Paul advised that he had, in his final report to Viridor, mentioned this matter, however they were not offering to return to review it. We are keeping it under careful watch and will consider how we now proceed. Currently we are not sure whether they are underneath or whether the ground has subsided due to inadequate groundwork by Viridor's contractors

Ashton also told the club that following Bruce's visit to Councillor Maddy Chapman's house, the club has been donated a signed limited edition Print of Geoff Boycott and John John Edrich (who had played at this ground). This picture had belonged to her late husband Cllr David Chapman. It will be hung in the Pavilion

Ashton advised that in Brian Webber's absence he had been asked to undertake an additional duty.

Brian had advised that a member of his walking group (Mike Merrick) was a member of Woodbury Turners Group. He also had a family member with an Antique shop that had in stock a Stump, which had been used at the 1960 Test Match at Edgbaston between South Africa and England. Mike Merrick had taken the Stump and had made it into 2 ornaments, one of which Brian had taken to his old club in the Midlands for presentation to a long standing member of that club and the second one he wished to be presented to a long standing member of our club! Ashton was now delighted to present it to Nigel Sampson for all his services to the Club over many years.

Acclamation from the members. Ashton explained that there was a brief history of the stump enclosed with the stump and that he had at home a book which included the Scorecard for that match and he would photocopy it and laminate it for Nigel.

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**14 Date of next Meeting**

Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 19.30.

The meeting ended at 8.20pm.

The members remained for soup and light refreshment supplied by some of the ladies on the committee.

Signed as a true and accurate record .....  
Honorary Secretary 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017