

Exmouth Cricket Club

Minutes of the AGM held at Exmouth Cricket Club, The Maer on Thursday 29th November 2018

The meeting was opened at 19.35pm with a welcome from the Chairman.
At the request of the Chairman the Secretary conducted the meeting

1. In Memoriam: Tim Riley, who died on 11th March and Ruth Appel who died on the 5th April. The Secretary asked the members present to rise in memory of the deceased.

2. Apologies: Apologies had been received or were presented from 21 members: Dame Mary Bridges, Wilf Easterbrook, Brian Webber, Chris Fox, Annmaree Kain, Alvin Pollard, Lawrence & George Greenway, Barry & Shirley Dawson, Jim & Trina Wood, Chris & Annie Blong, Jeanette Sampson, Bryon & Lynda Fishlock, Mike Dixon, Geoff, Maureen & Nick Folland,

25 members attended the meeting whose names were recorded.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 16th November 2017

These had been previously circulated to all members. There being no adverse comments, the Secretary recommended them to the membership for approval.

Rachel Tozer proposed and it was seconded by Dickie Davies 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

There were no matters arising

5. Honorary Secretary's Report for 2018 on behalf of the Executive Committee

Paul Corder's report had already been circulated. And no comments had been received The Secretary asked the members present if there were any comments. None. Acceptance of this report was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by ?? and approved by all present.

6. Chairman's Address

The Chairman, Mark Davies once again thanked those who had attended noting that another year has now passed with himself as Chairman. He advised that as the Secretary had covered much in his report he wouldn't duplicate that content. He moved immediately to a synopsis of the various teams Cricketing achievements. The 1st team finished 5th in the league and of course won the Devon T20 which was good result, 1 cup out of the 2 available! The 2nd team under Lawrence's astute leadership had a fantastic season, winning their league resulting in promotion with a very youthful side (and Richard Baggs!). The 3rd team, maybe not as youthful, with a much higher average age also had an amazing season resulting in their promotion also! He noted that the promotion in itself was presenting problems which will be discussed later. Sunday and Mid week Cricket have however taken a 'hit' due to player availability, however this is apparent with most other clubs also, so we are not alone. Quite what the future for these fixtures are, is uncertain. Even less Touring sides are requesting Fixtures. The Colts fielded an

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Under 19s team with grateful thanks to Ryan Schaufler for his hard work in organising that and they did really well. The U15's, U12's and U10's teams and the Chairman thanked Russ Corney, Phil Brenton and Alan Pyne in particular for running those teams. The Ladies had an 'interesting' season primarily due to lack of availability and players. This needs to be improved although how, is the problem. The Chairman noted that Jim had hoped to be present as there could be assistance from the ECB on the back of the revenue raised by TV coverage of Ladies matches. It is hoped that this might present some solutions. The All Stars and Colts ran really well on a Friday night under Andy's astute coaching ability! The Chairman thanked all who had assisted at these Colts sessions. The Chairman re-iterated the Secretaries report which had made a plea for help from the membership to assist in the running of these sessions and of course, in other areas too. The Chairman asked Andy Buzza for his comments, and he said that there was a huge gulf between the Colts system and the supply of new players for the senior teams. He explained that by investing in the U13's now this should start improving the situation by providing the players of the future. The Chairman gave his thanks to Steve Horler and his team (Barry Dawson, Dave Fouracre and Derek Hooper and Phil Brenton). The improvement year on year means that Devon CC are now taking notice and expressing interest in us hosting matches on their behalf! The Chairman also thanked Phil Brenton for his work on the Patio in the Winter, which has resulted in much more use as an outdoor entertainment area and also in repairing one of the sight screens. He also thanked Tony Marks and his team for a record year for car parking and looked forward to him repeating it next year! He also thanked the Monday Club for their work during the year and last but not least the Committee for all their hard work during the year. Applause!

He stated his agreement with the Secretaries report on the thanks to all of the Volunteers and the committee who have assisted in making this a successful year. In particular he thanked Steve Horler for his tireless work on the ground after he took over from our previous groundsman. He took over on the basis of 18 hours a week and in actuality gave us more like 80! He thanked Tony Chris and Nigel for their sterling work with the car parking and Jo for her hard work running the bar. He advised that the profits this year from the bar will be re-invested in the seating area and patio at the bottom of the stairs, which he will explain more fully later in the meeting (Agenda Item 12).

On the cricketing front he congratulated in particular the Under 15's for finishing 3rd in the country (England, Wales and Scotland) and felt that it was of course all because of the quality of the manager!!! (laughter from the floor). The 1st team finished a creditable 4th in the league, the 2nd team finished 5th which was a brilliant effort considering the young age of the majority of the team; Unfortunately the club had found it necessary to withdraw the 3rd team due to lack of players, however by combining with Ottery had managed to play some matches. He was pleased to announce that Julian Page has found sufficient players including some new young players and he will captain the reinstated 3rd Team. We are also going to rejoin the South Devon Sunday league to encourage some entertaining Sunday Cricket which will have the added benefit of keeping what was the Under 15 team together as there is no further Colts league. The Ladies had a great season however it was marred by poor weather. The Friday nights Colts nights were very successful and he thanked Debs, and the coaches and volunteers for their hard work. We managed to field 4 age group teams, the Under 10's, 11's, 14's; 15's.

He looks forward to encouraging a more family friendly approach with more engagement to further improve the club.

7. Honorary Treasurer's Audited Accounts for 2017 and Interim Report from January 2018 to October 2018.

The Treasurer commenced by saying that when she 'volunteered' for the post at the AGM in 2017 it was to fill a vacant post which she was apprehensive about, as the club was not at that time in a particularly healthy position. However immediately after the meeting when we were clearing up, an envelope, appearing to be from a Time Share company was found on the table by the door. This envelope contained a cheque for £20,000 from the Late Peggy Browning, so things were off on a positive note!

She advised that as she presented her first financial report she was pleased to advise that she was able to present a more favourable financial position. The Treasurer advised that an Audited set of accounts for 2017 had been

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distributed to all members with the Agenda for this meeting. Whilst she had not been part of the preparation of these accounts she would attempt to answer any queries. (No queries tabled).

The Treasurer then moved onto the account for this year (2018) to date and started by noting that this year had been more profitable for 2 reasons. Firstly we had been extremely fortunate to have the services of Steve Horler as groundsman without the huge wage bill that usually accompanies this position. The second major contributing factor was the record income generated from the car parking for which she thanked Tony Marks and his many helpers for their sterling efforts.

The Income and Expenditure accounts were then presented graphically on the Large screen TV directly from the Accounts spreadsheet. The Treasurer explained the various figures displayed to the members present. (A printed copy of these Graphs is retained on file). She then asked for any questions. One question from the floor was what was the overall bank balance, which was £52670.98.

The Chairman stated that whilst this was a great set of accounts we have to bear in mind that in future we are going to have to budget for Groundsmans fees as Steve Horler can no longer devote the time that he has been to date. He is prepared still to help and guide the work and help train up someone but is not able to spend the many hours that he has been. The Chairman noted that of course, if we had some willing helpers this situation would be much better! Alistair mentioned that he had been speaking to a potential helper and this will be further discussed after the meeting between Alistair and the Chairman.

The Treasurer extended her thanks to the committee members, to Lucy for collecting money (parking) and to the Secretary for his computer skills in entering the accounts and formulating the figures such that they can be presented to the accountants.

The Accounts as presented were proposed for acceptance by Rachel Tozer, seconded by the Chairman agreed by all present with thanks to the Treasurer. Applause!

Alistair asked if there was a plan for the Peggy Browning legacy money. The Treasurer advised that the money was 'ringfenced', however there were some plans for investing in some new Mowing Equipment for the Square to replace the 40 year old mowers. The Chairman explained that this was on order and would be in the region of £16,000. The Chairman advised that the committee were very aware that it would be easy to 'fritter' it away however had no intention of allowing that to happen.

The Secretary advised that the Legacy money was in what was known as the Facilities account which was no interest bearing. There was also money from the Defibrillator which had been purchased from the main account for accountancy reasons and a donation towards the replacement sight screens. Also £10,000 had been transferred from the Main account into the Facilities account to take advantage of the interest on that account. This leaves the Facilities account standing at £37, 947.14 but the main account still has £9,966.92 in it for 'day to day' running.

8 Revision of Club Constitution

The Secretary advised that there were none proposed this year, but he did feel that there was confusion over the various types of Honorary Membership which gave the Membership Secretary some problems. The Secretary personally could not understand the need for 3 different types of honorary member and also that some Honorary members (Honorary Vice Presidents) needed to be re-elected annually! He therefore felt that it was worth giving advance warning that this might be presented next year at the AGM as an amendment

9 Confirmation of Membership Fees for 2019/20

The Proposed figures having been sent to all club members prior to the AGM the Secretary asked if anyone had noticed the 'deliberate error'? The Chairman stated that he had (laughter)! The Secretary advised that he had inadvertently failed to include the 'Early Bird' discount for Family Membership which should have read £100 discounted to £90 if paid before 30th April 2019.

The Chairman noted that the Committee had tried to keep the subs in the main, the same as last year, however it had become evident that the Player subs would need to be raised largely down to the lack of support the players give to help around the club and in particular CricketForce weekends (both at the start and end of the season). The

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Chairman was hopeful that under the new 1st Team Captain this would change! Andy Buzza asked if the club could setup a Direct Debit system, however the Treasurer noted that this was not possible, however the players could set up a Standing Order. The Treasurer noted that it would present the membership secretary with difficulties in terms of how the payment was being made/received. The Chair advised that the committee will discuss this at the next committee meeting.

Paul noted to the meeting that he had introduced different colours for different categories of membership to hopefully make it easier to identify them. This is also to highlight to all members, including Honorary members that it is essential that they complete a form annually to comply with GDPR.

The Chairman reiterated that the Membership Secretary cannot keep an up to date database as required by law unless a completed membership is sent! It is also essential that the membership secretary is advised of any change of details like moving, phone number changes or email address changes! It is essential and vital to the clubs!

John Hawkins asked about whether the Ladies subs had been changed and the secretary confirmed there had been no change this year.

The Secretary proposed acceptance of the Membership Fees for 2019-2020 as presented, seconded by Jeremy Tozer and agreed by all present.

9 Election of Officers, the Club Auditor and Club Solicitors.

The Secretary advised the meeting that the Chairman, Mark Davies; the Secretary Paul Corder; The Treasurer Lynda Corder; the Membership Secretary Amanda Schaufler; Welfare Member Debs Austin; Independent Member Jeremy Tozer; and as Fixtures Secretary Lucy Davies had all offered themselves for re-election. The Secretary asked the meeting if they were all happy for them to continue, could he have a proposer. Julian Page proposed and Tony Marks seconded the proposal. It was agreed by all present.

The Secretary advised that Alan Schaufler had resigned as Estate Manager due to a change in work, however John Barnard had agreed to return to the position. There were no other nominations for the position. Also as we have no chair of Cricket Mark Davies had offered to add it to his portfolio of jobs if agreed. The Secretary proposed and Nigel seconded these appointments, which was agreed by all present.

a) Social Member and Business Manager

The Secretary advised that as Jennie Ames had resigned from the positions of Social Member and Business Manager (Marquee/Clubhouse/Pitch hire & Events Organiser) we still had vacancies for these important posts. He asked the meeting if there were any propositions for these positions? No reply.

b) Club Auditor and Solicitors

The Secretary advised the AGM that Southons had agreed to continue as the Clubs Auditor and will submit all returns to HMRC as required. Every's had also agreed to continue to act as Club Solicitors. John Hawkins had prior to the meeting suggested that the first point of legal contact should be himself and that he would direct us to the correct contact within Every's.

This was proposed by the Treasurer, seconded by the Chairman and agreed by all present.

11 Re-election of Honorary Vice Presidents and Election of new Honorary Vice Presidents.

The Secretary advised that there were no Committee nominations for 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 2018 Club book. This was proposed for acceptance by the Honorary Secretary and seconded by the Rachel Tozer and agreed by all present.

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

The Chairman rose and advised the membership that the committee had decided that the Mowers for the Cricket Square were gone beyond their lifespan and needed replacement. As previously mentioned the Club had been fortunate and financially had a profitable year, in large because of the voluntary work from Steve Horler, Phil Brenton and Tony Marks (to name a few). This was of course very welcome but does however leave the club liable for a sizeable Corporation Tax bill. The club had previously been advised that we had no further equipment that could be included for depreciation which would offset the tax liability, so upon advice from the Auditor (Southons) it was felt that we needed to purchase equipment which not only provides a tax reduction for this year but for the following 4 years as depreciation costs. The last few years have seen large maintenance bills for the Mowing equipment and also there have been significant equipment failures during the season incurring more costs. These bills play little part in offsetting out Corporation Tax liability. After discussion with Steve Horler he undertook a review of the equipment, its potential lifespan and failure and provided a proposal for replacement equipment. The Committee after discussion have agreed, on the Clubs behalf to the purchase of new mowing equipment for the Square. It is pretty obvious that in the long term further investment in the Garden Equipment will be required however to purchase it all in one 'hit' was considered inadvisable for 2 main reasons, it would deplete our reserves and mean that potentially in the future potentially all of the equipment would need replacing at the same time! It will however be considered as funds allow.

The next major project is to improve the poor state of the Changing room and the floors so badly renovated by Sport England's contractor! In the short term the Away Changing room door will be moved to its original position and the corridor currently the access to the away changing room converted into a store accessible from either end. The committee are actively trying to source grants to undertake this work as it would be imprudent to utilise the Peggy Browning bequest leaving the club with no reserves. The Secretary noted that we had hoped that our Chairman Jim Wood would be present to explain the potential for grants from the ECB, in particular for projects which would improve the game for Ladies, and the Changing rooms would seem a prime project. Sadly Jim has had to advise that he would be unable to return from London in time.

The Clock, which has long needed replacing has been replaced with a modern electronic movement clock.

13 Items received in writing prior to the AGM

Julian Page had requested some time to speak concerning the way forward for the 3rd Team, so the Secretary requested him to address the meeting. Julian commenced by asking if the Club felt that it needed or wanted a 3rd team? He felt that for the last 10 years the 3rd team had survived due to the fantastic work of Tom Sampford, then our Chairman, Mark Davies for about 3-4 years now himself for the last couple of years. Returning to the opening question, Julian explained that he felt the Exmouth Cricket Club could not survive without the benefit of a 3rd team! He had undertaken some research and outlined that between 15 & 16 1st team players started in the third team! He asked the question, if we hadn't had a 3rd team, how many would actually be playing for Exmouth now? They would have gone elsewhere where they could get a play in a seniors team to learn their craft! He went on to explain the virtues of having a 3rd team in that it can be a source of players for the other teams when they are short. This of course creates a problem for the 3rd team Captain, and is one he regularly encounters during the season. The 3rd team also had another function, in that it enabled older players to still be able to play competitive cricket! He explained that whilst it was hard sometimes to field a team due to players being required for the 2nd and 1st team, there was a fair degree of resources from which he could choose including 'older' players and Colts. Julian spoke passionately about the past season and the problems that its success has created in terms of the distance the 3rd team will now have to travel to some away Fixtures. He was however confident that the team could resolve the situation, however it could be necessary to ask Colts parents to be prepared to assist in the transport to matches. He felt that the committee should look at the fees for 3rd team players, in particular because they didn't actually play at Exmouth and had to 'self fund' their away matches transport. Umpires and scorers were a problem, but this is endemic everywhere. He also felt that support in terms of people actually coming to watch would be of assistance! Applause!

The Chairman stated that he agreed with Julian's address, he had been there and it was a massive issue. As regards playing at Exmouth that could only be possible if they could revert to a Sunday side, however other than that it was

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only possible at Newton Poppleford and that as an outside resource actually was a large expense for the club at least as much, if not more than playing on our own ground (around £2000 p.a.)! The club maintains the 3rd team essentially at a loss and of course the younger player pay smaller match fees anyway. He explained that at most fixtures the cost of the ball was not covered! The Chairman said that he would love to be able to say that costs could be subsidised more but it was hard to justify. The committee would be looking at the potential of paying some expenses for longer distance away matches (3 in number). Andy Buzza suggested that perhaps the club could find a sponsor to supply a mini bus, to which the Chairman said that we could look at that option. Andy suggested that if we went for example to Thrifty Car Hire, then we could offer them a Thrifty Day on a Sunday during the season as a Sponsors day! The Chairman agreed that would be a great idea. Amanda advised that her school had a minibus that they hire out as well!

The secretary noted that Andy's fresh ideas were exactly what the committee needed and was one of the reasons that he had appealed for new committee members during the past year and in his Secretaries Report! The current committee needed fresh input!

The Chairman advised Julian that the committee will keep the matter under review and suggested that possibly to encourage spectators for the 3rd team perhaps the 3rds arranged a friendly on a Sunday during the season at Exmouth!

The meeting were of the opinion that the 3rd Team was a very necessary requirement for the ongoing future of the club and its 2nd and 1st Team that the 3rd team remains an active part of the club.

The Secretary advised that our President Jim Wood, as previously stated had hoped to talk to the AGM about funding etc. however had been delayed. He hoped that Jim could find some time to do a presentation to the committee.

14 A.O.B.

Nigel asked he could talk about the Ladies Team, he had been embarrassed when he had brought visitors down to the club on Sunday's when the Ladies were playing and he wondered what the club was doing to improve the standard! He asked what the committee felt they could do to help. Graham Andrews stated that they didn't have a coach which was depressing and to all intents were playing a form of 'rounders'! Andy advised that the ECB had promoted a 'Wine and Wickets' programme to encourage women players. It was a softball programme, however when he had approached our Ladies team with a view to Exmouth enrolling it was rejected because they want to only to play hardball. Andy went on to explain that he had run a competition for the Wine & Wickets scheme at Sidmouth at which over 100 women played. Andy explained that this scheme would not of course provide instant results, but over several years should provide a pool of enthusiastic players. Andy could not understand how Exmouth as a club didn't operate the scheme. The Chairman agreed the Wine & Wickets scheme seemed great, however volunteers were needed to run it and that was the perennial problem for the club. He agreed that the Ladies team needed a coach, however when Alvin tried to do it a couple of times last year, the Ladies didn't like his methods and didn't want him to continue! The Chairman knows that it is essential for the club to have a successful Ladies team and there is funding available to promote it. Had Jim been present we could have asked if there was funding to provide a Level 2 or 3 coach, however the Ladies would need to accept it. The Community College needs to be approached with the idea of finding players. Jo stated that to include the Wine & Wickets on a Friday night Colts night would perhaps encourage Colts mums to play! The Chairman agreed but reiterated the lack of volunteers to run it! He asked Andy if there was a time limit to enrol in the scheme and also he felt that the Ladies team were wrong in rejecting the softball option as if we were to host 3-4 Softball tournaments during the season we would be able to attract more lady players! The Chairman stated that he had great respect for our current Ladies team who continued playing even though their results were poor! They seem to like playing but!!!! There was a continued discussion covering the fact that one of our Ladies players in the 3rd team, plays for Topsham Ladies rather than Exmouth. The secretary reminded the meeting that the last 3 Chairmen had tried to encourage a representative from the Ladies team to attend occasional committee meetings and this had not been successful. There was a lack of engagement with the club which he felt was not helpful to anyone! He felt that the Ladies needed help and guidance which closer involvement with the club would help. The Chairman noted that he agreed

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with the lack of involvement, in fact it was agreed last year by the ladies that they would become more involved, however it did not happen, in fact they had their presentation evening separate from the Clubs! He agreed that the Wine and Wickets was a really good idea, in particular because Mens cricket is no longer viable on a Sunday it would be of great benefit to the club to have a successful Ladies team playing on a Sunday! He totally agreed with Nigel's original statement. Andy noted that in his opinion our ground was one of the best in the country to play yet currently we didn't have an effective Ladies team. Ladies hockey is very successful and there are elements that should transfer to Cricket.

The Chairman was in total agreement, we have a great resource, but as always, the clubs needs people who will volunteer!

The secretary felt that if we ran the Wine & Wickets that hopefully the Ladies team would see it in operation and hopefully become involved in it?

The Chair thanked Nigel for raising the matter and it will be kept under discussion.

Graham Andrews asked if anyone was in negotiation with EDDC regarding the road re-alignment to ensure that access to our club wasn't compromised whilst the work was being undertaken. It was difficult to gain access tonight and this was not good. Jeremy advised that he and Lucy were seeing representatives from EDDC next week. Paul wondered if the current works was related to the replacement of the seafront gas main rather than the road re-alignment. John Daborn advised that EDDC under the terms of our lease cannot prevent us having good access at all times.

The Chairman agreed that our access is vital to the club. John Barnard noted that with the road now passing our entrance it could improve our parking revenue.

John Daborn asked if the equipment upgrades would affect the insurance cover. The secretary advised that as we were disposing of some equipment that we had sufficient cover, however we would review the cover when we had received the equipment.

Andy wanted advice about his aspiration of making our nets all weather. He had a scheme that involved covering the nets which he hoped to present for consideration which would make Exmouth the first club in Devon with such a facility. He wondered what the process was and if there was a method of finding funding for such a scheme.

The secretary noted that whatever was undertaken under the terms of the original Viridor grant the facility must be made available for community use, in other words anyone can use it, which is why generally it is left unlocked.

Andy noted that he was under the impression that we might need building regulations but as a temporary structure (it would be taken down in the summer) not planning permission John Daborn felt that this would not be in breach of our lease, however it would be prudent to write to EDDC and advise them as we did the Marquee.

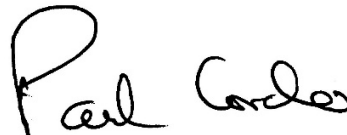
The Chairman could see no objection, however John Barnard was concerned that with the adverse weather that we experience that it would be very prone to wind damage unless correctly designed and fixed.

15. Date of Next AGM

It was proposed that it be Thursday 14th November 2019 subject to confirmation.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm.

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



Signed as a true and accurate record

Honorary Secretary 14th November 2019