

## Exmouth Cricket Club

### Minutes of the AGM held at Exmouth Cricket Club, The Maer on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019

The meeting was opened at 19.34 pm with a welcome from the Chairman.  
At the request of the Chairman the Secretary conducted the meeting

**1. In Memoriam:** Wilf Easterbrook who had died on September 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 and Richard Hope a former 1<sup>st</sup> Team Captain and member on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 The Secretary asked the members present to rise in memory of the deceased.

**2. Apologies:** Apologies had been received or were presented from 11 members: Stephen Jones, Brian Webber, Steve Horler, Chris & Annie Blong, Andy Buzzza, Tom Sandford, Julian Page, Sean Day, Richard Baggs and John Daborn.  
26 members attended the meeting whose names were recorded.

#### **3. Minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 29th November 2018**

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 Lucy 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**

The Secretary advised that he had no matters arising.

Annmaree Kain having emailed before the meeting that she had some comments regarding the minutes pertaining to the Womens Cricket discussion. As she had another appointment she asked if she could raise them now. Having accepted that she was not in attendance at the last AGM her comments were regarding the minutes as presented. She reminded the members that she ran and Heather Edworthy Captained the Womens Team. She apologised for not being at the last AGM however she felt that the comments whilst not inaccurate, the tone of them had surprised her. The Chairman asked her to continue. She started with Nigel's comments on the cricket standard and gave an explanation for some of the rationale of the team's structure (in terms of no bar to standards age or ability). She felt that not having a coach was a big issue. In previous years George Greenway and the Overseas player had offered assistance. She noted that the minutes mentioned Alvin coaching the ladies had not been successful, with other commitments, Alvin did not continue coaching them. Annmaree stated that the Women would also like to use the wicket for training on practice nights which had been difficult. The Chairman stated that with only probably 5 turning up for practice and with the fact that we now have to pay our groundsman to prepare wickets, it was not viable to expect a wicket for practicing with such a small contingent when the nets would be a more effective option.

Annmaree said that recruitment was difficult and the fact that when players got older they either left the area or got jobs and therefore the team had become depleted. She was aware of the Wine & Wickets scheme but she had not the time to run it as well as a Hard Ball team. She advised that she withdrew the Womens team from the league because she had insufficient players to make it viable to be in the league. She was now trying to recruit from the Community College both Hard & Soft Ball players in co-operation Alex Joplin at DCB. The Chairman advised Annmaree that the Mens teams were in exactly the same position with regard to recruitment. Debs Austin stated that Annmaree seems to be going the same route for recruitment as she is with the Colts and that seems to be a fractured approach and needs co-ordination.

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The Chairman advised Annmaree that over the last year the Committee have spent many hours trying to resolve the lack of a Womens team in Exmouth and at one meeting had asked our President for his advice. It was sad that although there had been many requests for attendance at committee meetings of a representative of the Womens team, it never happened. He stated that the entire club and committee were totally committed to having a Womens section and he felt that maybe she should attend the next committee meeting. 12 Sunday's were reserved last year for Womens cricket and they didn't happen. Annmaree talked about the desirability of Soft Ball cricket as it is shorter timewise. She also stated that the Womens team felt that they weren't wanted as they hadn't been asked to become involved. The Chairman refuted that as he had many emails/texts proving that attendance had been requested on several occasions. The discussion continued for some time repeating what has been reported earlier and the subject closed with a final remark from the Chairman stating that Cricket countrywide is struggling and our Womens section is no different. Commitment from the Womens' team is necessary and that a representative should be sent to the committee meetings to present their case so that we could have an all inclusive approach.

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

The Secretaries report had already been circulated. And no comments had been received The Secretary asked the members present if there were any comments. None received from the floor.

### 6. Chairman's Address

The Chairman, Mark Davies once again thanked those who had attended and especially pleased to see so many faces.

He went on to state that whilst the Club seemed like a swan, calm and serene on the surface, underneath the club had been struggling. To get 3 teams out on a Saturday was extremely difficult with even himself having to dust off his kit and play on occasion. It had been a thankless task which he hopes will not be repeated in the next year. The lack of players at the AGM is indicative of some of the problems. He explained that of course he loved this club but stated that we cannot have a repeat of this year. The non commitment of some of the players is fundamental to some of the problems and this must be resolved. The lack of a proper 1<sup>st</sup> team impacted on the other 2 teams creating a tremendous amount of phoning around weekly in order to field teams. The Committee were well aware that the club's decision not to pay players to play or pay expenses would be a problem, but didn't realise the scale of the impact on players leaving at the end of last year. He stated that he and the committee wanted players who were committed and were willing to play for the right reasons. This problem is of course not unique to Exmouth as unless a club has wealthy benefactors finding money to pay players in an Amateur sport is impossible. However on a positive note, all of our teams kept their league standings and considering the difficulties this was a great achievement. He felt great respect to the approximately 70 players who supported the 3 teams over the year. He was sad however that only 2 players were present at the AGM. Jeremy Tozer as one of the players present, stated that it had been massively hard to find teams every week and those teams probably over performed considering what has been said. Jeremy also felt that if Julian Page had been present that he would certainly have agreed that putting sides out had been difficult. Mark advised that we did have an Overseas player during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season (Ben Ellis) and he felt that without his contribution during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season it would have been a very different position with the 1<sup>st</sup> Team. Mark expressed great thanks to Alan & Amanda Schaufler who had once again opened up their house to accommodate the Overseas player and he asked for appreciation from those present. Amanda advised that Ben built her a shelf so he was a great improvement on the last Overseas player. Mark advised that the Colts sessions had been very successful with as many as 100 training most Friday nights. He hoped that we would run between 4 and 5 teams in their respective leagues so in respect of what he stated before we can hopefully build up from there!

The Club is in a great financial position mainly thanks to the Gate staff, so a massive thanks to Tony, Mike, Bryon, Alan and Joe and of course Lucy for co-ordinating it.

The Ground again looked amazing so a huge thanks to Steve accompanied by his very 'young' team of helpers namely Dave, Barry and Derek with approximately 260 years between them. He hoped that Barry would enjoy using the totally refurbished Heavy Roller which the committee had organised.

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He also thanked all of the Volunteers who had undertaken jobs during the year and in particular the Monday Club who were all in attendance tonight. In that respect Dickie had a gift for the Monday Club, as they weren't at the Club Awards Ceremony, which he presented to Bryon.

He thanked the trustees for their work in trying to resolve the difficulties due to the seafront re-development and road re-alignment which had taken a great deal of effort to try to resolve, although there was no real resolution forthcoming from the Council.

He thanked Rachel for not only her scoring work but in the administration work for the teams which was essential and was much appreciated.

Finally he also thanked the Committee for all their hard work during the year.

### **7. Honorary Treasurer's Audited Accounts for 2018 and Interim Report from January 2019 to November 14<sup>th</sup> 2019.**

The Treasurer advised that an abbreviated copy of the Audited accounts had been distributed to all members with the paperwork for this AGM, and she asked if there were any comments. There were none.

She was pleased to report that 2019 figures to date were similarly healthy to last years. We had completed and paid for the 2 new mowers ordered last year which had been shown as debts on last years accounts. We had also sent the Heavy Roller to be totally overhauled at the end of the season (as mentioned above by the Chairman). The flooring in the Changing rooms is currently being replaced making them more pleasant and hygienic to use. The Car Parking income had been of concern because of the realigned road impacting on our entrance has in fact once again topped £20,000. Grateful thanks to all concerned who helped in anyway (as mentioned above) Lynda also thanked the other committee members for their assistance. A summary sheet was displayed on the TV showing that the opening balance as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 after the mowers invoices had been paid was £36922.04. Our current balance after all debts paid was £54553.24. Hard copies were offered to anyone wanting them. Alistair asked if any progress had been made as to finding a project to be funded from the Peggy Browning bequest. The Chairman stated that currently we are looking into projects for which quotes have been requested. One idea is to refurbish the Clubhouse by removing the partition between the clubhouse and veranda and fully glaze the veranda. This would increase the clubhouse size whilst making the veranda waterproof and secure. Alistair felt that something like a plaque should be affixed to whatever was undertaken in Peggy's name. The Chairman advised that another idea would be to create another entrance to try to overcome the difficulties created by the road re-alignment and this could be named after Peggy. The Secretary advised that he felt that any project undertaken as a result of a bequest should be something permanent rather than something which would need replacement over the years. Nigel felt that 2 years on we had nothing tangible however the Chairman advised that the money was ringfenced awaiting a realistic project. We had, over the last 2 years had the problems created by the seafront redevelopment which had made any investment unwise. We spent a large amount of money last year on equipment but that was not a suitable item to be named after Peggy. The new gate scheme had moved on since the last committee meeting and currently the Chairman was awaiting quotes from Phil on the updated scheme. The Secretary asked Chris Greenway what the time limit was on the permission granted by EDDC (6 months from the permission). We had started earlier this year so we need to progress this urgently to comply with the permission. The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for her report.

### **8. Revision of Club Constitution**

The Secretary advised that there were none proposed this year.

### **9. Confirmation of Membership Fees for 2020-/21**

The Secretary advised that after consideration the Committee had felt that the Subscription Charges for 2020-2021 remain as last year. However it had been noted that the Senior Players and Family Subscriptions were quite a large amount for some to find in one payment, so it had been agreed that these categories ONLY could be paid by three equal monthly payments between March and May. This will be explained on the Members Application Forms. The Secretary proposed acceptance of the Membership Fees for 2020-2021 as presented, seconded by the Treasurer and agreed by all present.

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### **10. Election of Officers, the Club Auditor and Club Solicitors.**

#### **a) Election of Officers.**

The Secretary asked if the members were in favour of the Club Officers and Club Committee being elected 'en bloc'. This was agreed

The Secretary then advised the meeting that the President Jim Wood; the Chairman, Mark Davies; the Secretary Paul Corder and the Treasurer Lynda Corder had all agreed to remain as Club Officers and that the following had all agreed to remain as Committee members; the Membership Secretary Amanda Schaufler; Estate Manager John Barnard, Welfare Member Debs Austin; Independent Member Jeremy Tozer; and 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. Rachel Tozer proposed and Mike Dixon seconded the proposal. It was agreed by all present.

The Secretary advised that Phil Brenton had offered to stand as Ground Manager (Chair of Ground) if agreed. The Secretary proposed and the Chairman seconded these appointments, which was agreed by all present.

The Secretary advised that we still had vacancies for a Social Member and Business Manager (Ground/Facilities hire) He reminded those present that we should try to fill these committee positions.

The Secretary advised the members that the Chairman has the right to Co-Opt additional support from other members at the Committee Meetings. Jo Watson has kindly agreed to continue as the Bar representative, Giles Colton has agreed to act as the Colts representative and Sean Day as the Cricket representative.

#### **b) Election of Club Auditor and Solicitors**

The Secretary advised the AGM that assuming that the membership agreed, that Southons continue to act as the Clubs Auditor and will submit all returns to HMRC as required and 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 Secretary and seconded by the Treasurer and agreed by all present.

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

The Secretary proposed that we accept for re-election all of the present Honorary Vice Presidents as listed in the front of the 2019 Club book. This was proposed for acceptance by the Honorary Secretary and seconded by the Jeremy Tozer and agreed by all present.

The Secretary advised that there were no Committee nominations for Honorary VP's or Hon Life Members;

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

The Secretary repeated that the Heavy Roller as mentioned previously had been sent to be totally overhauled  
The Changing Room floors were undergoing replacement

The Chairman advised that Jo was hoping to revamp the bar area.

The secretary also advised that Phil Brenton had offered to lay the cable from the clubhouse to the nets and also build a temporary structure in which to terminate the electricity and house the nets equipment. This was hoped to be undertaken over the winter.

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

None

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**14. A.O.B.**

Bryon asked if the Devon/Somerset match was still planned to be at Exmouth. The Chairman advised that it was and discussions will take place soon with the Chief Executive of the DCB. However many volunteers will be required in order to undertake this match. Bryon advised that he had previously offered his assistance but he was of the understanding that the `boys` would be doing it! The Chairman noted that we will be needing everyone. The date is provisionally Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July starting at 4pm and will be a 40 over game.

Bryon advised that Madeira Bowls will not be having a Bowls tournament this year which will impact on the Car Parking takings.

The President thanked the Committee for all their hard work during the year on the Clubs behalf.

**15. Date of Next AGM**

It was proposed that it be Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020 subject to confirmation.

The meeting ended at 8.20pm.

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



Signed as a true and accurate record .....

Honorary Secretary 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**PLEASE NOTE DUE TO THE COVID PANDEMIC IN 2020, NO AGM WAS POSSIBLE THEREFORE THESE MINUTES WERE SIGNED AT THE AGM IN 2021.**