

CHESHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB
MINUTES OF THE 98th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHESHIRE COUNTY CRICKET
CLUB HELD AT THE GOLDEN PHEASANT PLUMLEY ON
19TH NOVEMBER 2012

The meeting opened at 19:30 with the President, AB Percival in the Chair.

Also present were JB Pickup (Chairman), DE Hastings (Hon. Secretary), PAG Babbage, Mrs. D Babbage, D Bailey, P Davies, LF Dixon, AG Hall, Mrs. J Hall, GC Hardstaff, KS McGuffie, C Murphy, Mrs. S Percival, Mrs E. Scrimgeour, MD Sharp, R Sproston, P Syddall and M Talbot-Butler

The meeting commenced with a minute's silence in memory of those members who had died during the previous year and in memory of two much missed ex-payers, John Cooper and Bruce Jones.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Committee members JD Bygate (co-opted), JW Law, JA Duffy (Captain) and A Newton, and from members Mrs. J Herbert, AJ Melville, HJ Rice and AJ Syddall.

2. MINUTES OF 97th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THE 14th NOVEMBER 2011

These were approved and signed by the President as a true record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 30th NOVEMBER 2011

The Honorary Treasurer said that the Examined Accounts to 30th November 2011 had been circulated to members. The Accounts showed a loss of £4,278 and were duly approved.

5. FIXING OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

There was no change proposed to subscription rates.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman said that the 2012 season was always likely to have been a season where the Club was looking to build for the future under a new Captain, James Duffy, and so it proved. Whilst the Club made a promising start in the MCCA one-day Knock-Out competition group matches it was not able to progress further than the Quarter Finals. At that stage lack of experience took its toll and this problem also manifested itself in the early Championship matches. However, an excellent team spirit and some outstanding individual performances in the latter part of the season gave reason for optimism for the future, under the leadership of the Club's Captain.

The Chairman of Cricket, David Bailey, ably assisted by Peter Babbage and Elise Scrimgeour, worked wonders dealing with the selection administration and the Club was very grateful for their invaluable and, at times, very trying work. Next season it was hoped that Andy Newton would be able to play an enhanced role in this respect.

The Development XI, a joint arrangement with the Cheshire Cricket Board, under a new Manager, Matthew Sharp, and a new Coach, Peter Hancock, aided on and off the field by a new team Captain, Ross Dixon who also played for the County 1st XI, once again provided good opportunities for cricketers aspiring to play for the County Team and the Club was indebted to them for their dedication and commitment.

A continuation of the harmonious relationship between the County Club and the Board is of prime importance for the future of Cheshire cricket, especially in present times, and the Chairman wished to thank the Officers of the Board and the other cricketing bodies in the County for their support and to take the opportunity to reiterate the need for everybody to work together for the same cause.

The AGM witnessed a notable landmark in that Graham Hall was retiring as the Honorary Treasurer of the County having served in that role for 31 years, starting in 1982. In fact, the County had only had four Honorary Treasurers in 81 years and no one in the history of the Club had held that position as long as Graham. During his time in office Graham had looked after the finances of the Club with impeccable integrity, always utterly reliable, going about his duties in an efficient but self effacing way, which had included booking the hotel accommodation for the team's away matches and dealing with the finances on tour. The County had also been fortunate in having additional support from Graham's wife, Jean, for which the Club was most grateful. The Chairman said, "We shall miss you, Graham, after all these years but hope that we shall continue to have your support in your role as an Honorary Life Vice President."

On behalf of the Club, the Chairman presented Graham with an iPod to help him enjoy his retirement and Jean with a bouquet of flowers.

During part of the season, when Graham was not too well, the Club's Honorary Secretary, Derrick Hastings, undertook additional duties and the Club was most grateful to him for doing everything in his customary efficient manner, which, John Pickup said, "was a great comfort to your Chairman."

It was the Club's pleasure to welcome its new Patron, David Briggs, in 2012 and the Chairman offered his grateful thanks to the Club's irreplaceable President, Tony Percival, all the Club's Officers, Chairmen of Committee and Committee Members who had worked so hard on behalf of the County and to the Club's Members whose support was greatly valued and those persons and organisations who have provided sponsorship for the County, in particular Andy Newton and ABNutrition.

Summing up, the Chairman said that as he looked forward to what he hoped would be a very enjoyable 2013 Season, it was appropriate that he should indicate that he anticipated, barring special circumstances, that he intended to retire from being Chairman of the County Club at the next year's AGM. In the meantime he looked forward to seeing everyone next season.

7. ELECTION OF HONORARY OFFICERS

The following candidates had been duly proposed and seconded before the meeting. As the posts were uncontested, all candidates were elected without the need for a vote.

Patron: TD Briggs M.B.E.
President: AB Percival
Chairman: JB Pickup
Vice Chairman: D Bailey
Honorary Secretary: DE Hastings
Honorary Treasurer: KS McGuffie

8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

In a slight change to the Notice of the AGM, three positions on the Committee were available for election or re-election for a two year period, but with Keith McGuffie being appointed Honorary Treasurer, there was a vacancy on the Committee for one year for another candidate.

Only three candidates had been proposed for the two year period and only one had been proposed for the one year vacancy. All four were therefore elected without the need for a vote.

C Murphy, Mrs. EM Scrimgeour and R Sproston were elected for two years and MD Sharp was elected for one year.

9. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ACCOUNTS EXAMINERS

Messrs Murray Smith were re-appointed and the Meeting expressed thanks to them.

10. OTHER APPOINTMENTS

The Chairman pointed out that the Constitution and Rules of the Club, in both their existing and proposed new form, state that, "Any property of the Club held for its own account (other than cash in hand and money on current and deposit accounts which are administered by the Honorary Treasurer) shall be vested in not less than two Trustees appointed by the Club in General Meeting who shall hold the same in accordance with the instructions of the General Committee."

He suggested that the Trustees to be appointed should be the same as those who have signing rights on the Club's Bank Account, namely the Chairman, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer.

This suggestion was proposed by AB Percival, seconded by David Bailey and carried unanimously.

11. ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE CLUB

The Honorary Secretary outlined the changes in the Constitution and Rules of the Club, which did not involve any fundamental differences in content but simplified the language of the earlier document and removed references to anachronistic sub-committees and practices.

R Sproston proposed that the new Constitution and Rules should be accepted and this was seconded by C Murphy. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Talbot-Butler said that Norman Halsall, who had played for Cheshire until 1980, was largely housebound and would welcome telephone calls or visits from old friends to his house. The Honorary Secretary agreed that the contact details would be put on to the Club's website.
(Action: DEH)

In conclusion, the President added his best wishes to Graham Hall and hoped that he had a long and happy retirement.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 19:46