

CHESHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB
MINUTES OF THE 100th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHESHIRE COUNTY CRICKET
CLUB HELD AT THE GOLDEN PHEASANT PLUMLEY ON
17TH NOVEMBER 2014

The meeting opened at 19:30 with the President, JB Pickup MBE in the Chair.

Also present were D Bailey (Chairman), DE Hastings (Hon. Secretary), PAG Babbage, Mrs. D Babbage, P Davies, LF Dixon, JW Law, KS McGuffie, C Murphy, AC Newton, Mrs EM Scrimgeour, R Sproston, P Syddall and DA Woods

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from the Patron, TD Briggs MBE KStJ, Committee members JD Bygate, P Chorlton, GC Hardstaff and AB Percival, and from members Mrs. J Herbert, AJ Melville, JL Petch, AJ Syddall and M Talbot-Butler.

2. MINUTES OF 99th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THE 18th NOVEMBER 2013

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 2013

The Hon. Treasurer said that the Examined Accounts to 30th November 2013 had been published on the web site. The Accounts showed a shortfall of £2,400 which was caused primarily by the success of the Club during 2013. The Championship Final had cost about £7,700 towards which the MCCA had contributed slightly in excess of £5,000. Another unusual expense was the purchase of the Road Show Marquee.

The Treasury Stock Bond has now matured and the Hon. Treasurer has started to look at re-investing in a new Bond which will return 5% per annum, which will lead to an annual income of £4,000 rather than the £2,500 of the previous one.

Moving on to the Accounts to the end of November, 2014, the Hon. Treasurer expected to see a surplus of about £3,800. This was largely thanks to the £5,000 from the Principal Sponsor, Chess Telecomms, and he thanked the Chairman for his work in securing the sponsorship.

The Accounts for the year ending November 30th, 2013 were approved.

5. FIXING OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

It was agreed that the Annual Subscription for Joint Membership for members aged over 60 should be reduced to £13 rather than the £18 previously charged. There were no other changes in subscription rates.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman had reached the end of his first year in office and was pleased to report that on the cricketing front, there had been a considerable improvement in the Club's performance in the Knock-out competition and that the Championship results had exceeded expectations at the start of the season.

Andy Newton and his team had originally been faced with the fact that several players were unavailable but new players had come to the fore while other players had improved on their performance during the season. It was unfortunate that the Club "fell at the last fence" at 2pm on the last day of the season. He offered his thanks to the team organisers and his congratulations to James Duffy and Daniel Woods for their Captaincy efforts during the season. He was sad to report that James Duffy had decided to stand down as Club Captain but thanked him for his brief spell in that position.

The Chairman offered his thanks to all the Cricket Clubs that hosted the Trophy and Championship matches. He recognised that things are becoming much more demanding when fixing hosted matches among the increasing number of League and other games being played.

He praised the Hon. Treasurer for the way he has grown into the position and for the quality of the information available on a regular basis.

He thanked the two scorers, Mrs. Janet Herbert and Jim Law for not only doing the scoring but also mastering the technology to keep the web information up to date. In addition, he thanked Jim Law for his excellent press coverage which has brought the Club to a much wider audience than had been the case in the past. He had difficulty coming to terms with the fact that this exposure is achieved without any cost to the Club.

Owing to personal difficulties, the Clubs Liaison Committee was unable to become operational this year, but Rob Sproston is confident that it will come into action in 2015. The Chairman said that the relationship between the Club and the host clubs had improved over the last few years and he feels that it is important that this improvement should continue. The Clubs Liaison Committee will be the way to achieve this.

The Chairman was delighted that the Club had been able to accept the invitation to host the inaugural Unicorns Twenty20 Northern Group Qualifying Round. It was hoped that this would be staged at Chester Boughton Hall but this had not been confirmed at the time of the meeting. This would be a great showcase for Minor Counties Cricket.

Moving on to sponsorship, the Chairman said that he was sorry that the Patron could not be at the meeting as he had been tremendously helpful in making initial contacts with potential sponsors so that the Chairman had an easier task when approaching them later. He thanked Chess Telecom for their generous sponsorship and he also thanked the other shirt sponsors, AB Nutrition, John Rigby and Serious Cricket, and also all those who had kindly sponsored balls at the various home games. He said that the idea of Corporate Sponsorship had started well and he was hoping to increase the number of Corporate Sponsors by six new ones each year.

This year, the Development XI had changed direction slightly and looks to continue to change to meet new challenges under the direction of Chris Murphy and Paul Chorlton, whom he thanked. He also thanked Lee Dixon for his input to the Development XI. He was pleased to say that the Cheshire Board are still supporting the Development XI.

The Chairman thanked everybody who had contributed to the successful running of the Club and for the support that he had received during his first year. In particular, he thanked the Hon. Secretary for all his help and hard work, which had helped make his first year as Chairman a relatively simple task.

He finally wished everybody a successful 2015.

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: JB Pickup
Chairman: D Bailey
Vice Chairman: JW Law
Honorary Secretary: DE Hastings
Honorary Treasurer: KS McGuffie

8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Three positions on the Committee were available for election or re-election for a two year period,

Only three candidates had been proposed so C Murphy, Mrs EM Scrimgeour and R Sproston were therefore elected without the need for a vote.

9. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ACCOUNTS EXAMINERS

The Hon. Treasurer proposed that Messrs. Murray Smith should be re-appointed. This was agreed and the Meeting expressed thanks to them.

10. OTHER APPOINTMENTS

There were no other appointments.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business, the President summed up by wishing everybody a Happy Christmas and wished the team in 2015 success in every competition.

The meeting closed at 19:54