

## **Prees Cricket and Recreation Club**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 8th of January 2017**

#### **1. *Welcome***

Mr Ray Grocott, Club President, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the 85th AGM and our 11<sup>th</sup> year in this clubhouse.

There were 25 members present with 5 apologies received.

Ray reported that this was the first year he had attended the AGM as President so it is new territory. He stated that the Club had another successful year in 2016 within the club and the with sports activities. The Club was continually being improved and maintained to a high level with money being reinvested. Many members did not see the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes to make the club what it is. This was due to the brilliant team we have. Gary and Jan and their team doing a great job with the bar and activities, Phil, Duncan, Dave and John doing all the outside work and Mark and his team with the junior football, Paul keeping our books balanced and Vinny in the Chair. On behalf of the Club Ray expressed his thanks to all the volunteers and sports coaches who give their time to the club since without them we would not be where we are today.

#### **2. *Members Remembrance.***

A period of silence was held to remember Gemma Latham, who had sadly died during the year.

Also our best wishes go out to the Maddox and the Llewelyn families for the difficult times they are facing.

#### **3. *Presentation of the Simon Lines Shield***

This year's award goes to Dave Brammer for his dedication and commitment to the Prees Jaguars under 16s junior football team. Dave stepped forward to take the job as manager when no parents volunteered even though he would be the last person to describe himself as having a football past. Dave has given 100% to keep the Jaguars together through some tricky times especially when losing players to other teams. He would come down to the club during his lunch time from his busy job as pharmacist at Shropshire NHS hospital to mark the pitches even though a retired father of one of the players lived just 100 yards from the club. Dave has always welcomed all players to his team including young refugees recently moved to the area. Last season the Jaguars gained promotion to the top division but have struggled to win games this season and consequently have lost some players which unfortunately resulted in the jaguars dropping out of the league. However, Dave didn't give up on his remaining squad and he entered them into a soccer Sixes League held at the club on Sunday evenings with the vision of entering the team into an under 18s or 21s League next season. Dave is a quiet man who never looks for credit but he is a perfect example of a superb junior football coach

#### **4. *Minutes of the Last Annual General Meeting.***

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 28th January 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

#### **5. *Chairman's Report***

Vinny Lines provided the Chairman's report:

He began by thanking Gary and Jan Dawson and their staff for the great job they do and for making the club so welcoming to all our visitors and members.

We have had further improvements during the year including the car park lights, the bowling green causeway and the toilets. Vinny thanked Phil Hodges, Duncan Austin and Dave Galuzzo for the outstanding job they have done and the monies they have saved the club by their work. The junior football section continues to flourish and the efforts of Mark and his team are very much appreciated. We now have a weightlifting section almost up and running with Chris Green doing all the setup work and providing the expertise.

The bowls section has had a successful but difficult season resulting in one team being disbanded for 2017. It is hoped that we will try and recover this situation in future seasons. Kevin Moult, despite some criticism, has done a great job with the greens and we get regular praise from our visitors.

Vinny also thanked the Treasurer and Secretary for the work they do throughout the year for the club.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

Paul presented the 2016 set of accounts and printed copies were circulated. He went through each line of the income and expenditure account and the balance. The following points were highlighted:

- Bar sales at £170,428 were £6,390 down on 2015 however, due to Gary Dawson's efforts at getting better value from our suppliers, our Gross Profit was up resulting in an improvement of £538 on 2015. Paul thanked Gary and all his staff for a tremendous effort
- Membership at £5195 was up by £648 on 2015 and Paul thanked Ian for his efforts.
- Sports sections income was £11,270 which came from match fees for football, bowls cricket etc.
- Income from the hire of facilities for sports and football plus room hire at £15,996 was down £500 on 2015.
- Wages at £75,588 were down £3,664 down on 2015.
- Entertainment and fundraising income was £11,441 and thanks go to Maggie Allen for this with the extra entertainment functions she has organised. Costs were £14,113 which included the SKY TV costs, the PPL licence and artists fees. This figure does not reflect the increased bar takings as a result of these events.
- Maintenance costs were £21,913 which covered improvement of the grounds and the clubhouse. The ground maintenance was down by £1.5k at £14.5k.
- There was an excess of expenditure over income of -£792.76 but we are a non-profit club and with all improvements/investments implemented in 2016 Paul said that we are still in a healthy position and continue to improve our assets.
- The total capital and reserves stands at £776,332 which is the net worth of the Club.
- Paul said he did not like to single individuals out but would like to thank Phil Hodges for the work he has carried out for the club. If we had to go to the open market for the work Phil has done it would have cost a fortune. Paul also thanked everybody for the investment of their time, the members and Gary and Jan for all their hard work.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer, on behalf of the Members, for his professionalism and the work he does for the Club.

## **7. Sporting Section Reports**

### **BOWLS**

**Sarah Stevenson provided the following report:**

- In 2016 the bowls section has celebrated a good season despite some really big challenges with the loss of some key players. In the Whitchurch league, Sue Taylor should be congratulated for bringing the Whitchurch League E team to 2<sup>nd</sup> position in Division 6 and it is shame that they are not able to go up.
- In the MD league the C team narrowly missed out of promotion from Division 3-2
- The Market Drayton Seniors team were promoted for the second year and will be playing in Division 1 next season – well done to Audrey Richards and players.
- A special mention to Matt Blackhurst who came runner up in the Individual Merit for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and to Josh Warner who had a fantastic year in Junior League and Individual competitions.
- Pete Batkin, Tony Pugh and Sue Taylor have attended League and County meetings, and this year, Tony has very kindly already been to one as I was unable to attend. Angela and Audrey have been our representatives at meetings for the Seniors League. Thank you to them and to everyone who works tirelessly to keep Prees Bowls Section a thriving one.
- In January we held a Captain's meeting, and it was decided that as there were no players representing the E team in the Whitchurch League, we would in fact have to drop a team. The rules state that we must drop our lowest team, and the League have therefore been notified of this. There will now be 4 teams in the Whitchurch League as follows:
  - A Team: Captained by Matt Blackhurst
  - B Team: Captained by John Taylor
  - C Team: Captained by XXXX
  - D Team: Captained by Jan Brain
- In the Market Drayton league, there will be 5 teams as follows:
  - A Team: Captained by Joan Groom
  - B Team: Captained by John Taylor
  - C Team: Captained by Tony Pugh

- D Team: Captained by Julia Davies
- E Team: Captained by Charlie Brookes
- At the meeting in January we also agreed that the A and C teams from the Whitchurch League, and the A, C, and E teams from the Market Drayton League would enter the doubles leagues.
- I would like to thank Sue Taylor for all her hard work as Secretary of the bowls section for many years, and also to thank her for all of the help she has given me personally since I agreed to become Secretary. Sue was meticulous and thorough in all that she did for this Club, and although I will try my best, I think she is a very difficult act to follow.
- We are looking forward to a great season and that the weather is kind to us.

## **FOOTBALL**

### **Prees Men's Football:**

There was no representation from the Men's management team.

### **Prees Junior Football Report – Mark Perkins (Chairman)**

- We are having a good season despite the weather have not had to cancel many games.
- Junior football section started with 15 teams but unfortunately lost 2 teams, under 7s to under 15s and 3 Girls teams.
- Next season we hope to add another girls age group and under 16s who had to fold in October will be reformed as either a under 18s or 21s and we have to thank Dave Brammer for this as without Dave this just wouldn't have happened.
- Of all the teams, we had 4 teams which made finals including the Charity Cup. Every team in Shropshire take part in this and I believe this is the first time a team from Prees has managed to reach the final for the 2nd year running and went one better to win the final. The same team also won the Powell Cup again, a first for Prees.
- Our success has caused a few problems around capacity but as was reported when the G3 was installed we would reach and exceed our capacity. We have invested heavily in our facility to accommodate all training requirements but feel we need another option for the winter months to protect the grass playing fields and are looking at other options.
- Part of our investment was the purchase additional lights for the junior section mostly from past football tournaments. We are currently investigating other fund raising options which could benefit other sport section and will advise if I believe it viable.
- Last season's tournament, for the 2nd time, was run over 2 weekends which enabled us to invite more teams and I am glad to report one of our teams ended up winning their age group.
- We entertained 84 team and roughly over 800 kids playing football, we hope to increase that number to over 90 teams in June\July
- We continue to put forward coaches/referees to attend FA football and coaching courses, again investing in young coaches who show willing to improve their coaching and refereeing skill.
- This year the crèche has been run by Declan Austin and George Williams and has been a great success which we will continue to support and hopefully get more players finishing youth football to continue into coaching.
- We held our first Girls tournament for under 8s and 10s and raised over £600 for charity with each winning team donating £100 each to Hope House and Downs Syndrome. Prees Junior Section donated £200 to the Stroke Foundation and Whitchurch Rotary Club. We hope to repeat this in September.
- Finally, I would like to thank the main Committee, Gary, Jan and Duncan for all the support over the last 12 months. Prees Club is regarded as one of the best clubs around and always makes people feel welcome.
- I would also like to thank Kris Morris, our welfare officer and secretary, and Jane Perkins, our treasurer, who do a lot of work which can go unnoticed and increases as the club grows.
- Finally, a big thankyou to Dave Brammer who has been at this club for over 10 years and has always supported us whenever possible by marking out our pitches for the tournament, helping out at officiating at the tournament and supporting our fundraising events to name but a few. As already mentioned Dave is going to continue into

adult football with his team.

The Chairman thanked all the coaches and volunteers for their efforts in making the football section so successful.

## CRICKET

Brian Hughes reported:

- The team finished fourth in the Shropshire League Division 2.
- We are still in need of more players but hopefully more of the boys will be coming through soon.
- It is difficult to keep the Monday coaching night going due to lack of coaching staff. We need to persuade some of the parents to take on coaching courses.
- We lose youngsters to other clubs because we do not have any youth teams to enable them to play matches.
- We will be playing in the Saturday and the mid week leagues next season.

## DARTS AND DOMINOES

Dave Price gave a report on the Darts and Dominoes teams:

- We play in the Wem Tuesday night league.
- In 2015/16 the darts team finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the league and lost in the quarter-final of the consolation cup.
- To date in the 2016/17 season the darts team have played 15 and are lying 4<sup>th</sup> in the league having lost in the semi-final of the consolation cup.
- In 2014/15 the dominoes team won the league for the record 3<sup>rd</sup> time and lost in the semi-final of the cup.
- To date in 2016/17 the dominoes team after 15 games are 9<sup>th</sup> league and lost in the quarter final of the cup.
- This season the dominoes team have lost 8 games 5-4 which had we won we would have been top. If!!!

## ANGLING

Duncan Austin presented the report for the Angling Section. The following points were noted:

- Angling Section is merging with the angling section from the top club which will increase the membership from 45 to 60-70 members as well as an extra water.
- The competitions were held: the Sunday Competition won by Andy Peat and mid-week competition won by Monty Vaughan.

### **8. Election of President, Vice Presidents and Trustees.**

The President stated that himself and Angela Walmsley were stepping down as Trustees. Neil Sadler and Alan Groom were proposed as replacements to introduce some youth into the Club management. This was carried by the meeting

Trustees: Paul Prince, Mike McGee, Phil Hodges,  
Brian Hughes, Vincent Lines, Mark Perkins  
Alan Groom, Neil Sadler,  
Rep from Prees Parish Council – Mr Joe Whelan

Mike McGee will be moving away and is therefore standing down from the Vice Chair role.

The following nominations were proposed and seconded and were approved by the Members.

Post	Nomination	Proposed by	Seconded by
President	Mr Ray Grocott	Vinny Lines	Sarah Stevenson
Vice Presidents	Mrs A Walmsley, Mr R Chambers, Mr J Gleave, Mr A Hocknell, Mr D Smout, Mr J Taylor, Mr M Walmsley	Brian Hughes	Vinny Lines

### **10. Election of Officers and Committee**

All existing committee members were happy to stand with the exception of Mike McGee.

Post	Nomination	Proposed By	Seconded by
Chairman	Mr Vinny Lines	Ray Grocott	Mike McGee
Vice Chairman	Mr Neil Sadler	Phil Hodges	Ray Grocott
Treasurer	Mr Paul Prince	Mike McGee	Brian Hughes
Secretary	Mr Brian Hughes	Vinny Lines	Jan Dawson
Club Premises Chair	Mr Phil Hodges	Vinny Lines	Ray Grocott
Club Grounds Chair	Duncan Austin	John Gleave	Sarah Stevenson
Health and Safety Chair	Mr Joe Whelan	Vinny Lines	Brian Hughes
General Representative	Mr Alan Smith	Mike McGee	Ian Stevenson
General Representative	Mr John Gleave	Phil Hodges	Ray Grocott
General Representative	Mrs Sarah Stevenson	Ian Stevenson	Mike McGee
General Representative	Mr Ian Stevenson	Brian Hughes	Paul Prince

The secretary advised that the following ex officio members will also serve on the committee:

Ex Officio Member	Role
Mr Ian Stevenson	Membership Secretary
Mr Brian Hughes	Website
Mr Lawrence Allen	Function Support
Mr Joe Whelan	Prees Parish Council nominated representative
Mrs Maggie Allen	Entertainment
Mrs Sarah Stevenson	Bowls Section Secretary
Mr Peter Richards	Cricket Section
Mr Dave Price	Darts and Dominoes Section
Mr Mark Perkins	Football - Junior Section
Mr Andy Hewitt	Football - Adult Men's Section
Mr Duncan Austin	Angling Section.

## 9. Subscriptions and Membership

Ian Stevenson reported:

- The statistics for 2016 are: Total 805 unique members. In total, there were 402 adult members, 180 junior members and 74 family memberships.
- The memberships fees accrued £5,215.
- There have been some issues with the junior football membership which has been discussed at length by the committee. This situation is now 50% better than it was and plans to improve the situation in future are in place.
- Since last year many membership cards were never collected but left behind the bar we will not be issuing membership cards in future. Memberships will be logged behind the bar and till receipts issued.
- I would like to thank everyone for their support during the year for chasing memberships and particularly Gary and his team for collecting the fees and providing the receipt details.

### PCRC Membership Report

total of memberships			amount paid	total of individuals	
family	74	25	£1,850.00		
adult	264	10	£2,640.00	adult	411
sc	60	5	£300.00	sc	64
juniors	85	5	£425.00	juniors	219
			£5,215.00	paid	694
				total members	805
				2016 new members	196
				total due not paid	111
				percentage due and not paid	13.79

Junior Football analysis			as at 8th December	as at 6 Feb

No of registered players			186	171
Paid up members			121	137
Members not paid			19	2
Players with no membership record			48	32
<b>Loss to club 67 x£5</b>			<b>£335.00</b>	<b>£170.00</b>

It was decided by the meeting that membership subscription for 2018 would remain unchanged.

**10. Any Other Business**

Mike McGee stated that Brian Hughes would be taking over the job of completing the Charity Commission report and as their point of contact. Also, the notification of change of trustees. He also said that unlike many clubs the Trustees work very closely with the main committee.

The meeting thanked Mike for his enormous contribution to the club over the years and wished him well in the future.

Mike stated that he has been proud to be associated with this club for the past 11 years and would miss the friendship and involvement.

Phil Hodges expressed his thanks to Duncan Austin for his help in completing the recent improvement to the club.

Gary Dawson thanked Phil for his work particularly as the work quoted by an outside company was £15k and with Phil project managing the work internally it was achieved for £3k.

Sarah Stevenson asked if the suggestion to name the function room and balcony in memory of Mike Batkin had been decided. Vinny suggested that this be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Brian Hughes reported on behalf of Maggie Allen:

- Monday night bingo evenings have recommenced and will continue until the end of March.
- A celebrity Darts Night featuring “The Wizard” Whitlock is scheduled for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> of March and tickets are selling well.
- It is planned to commence the series of musical entertainment evenings along with the occasional Members Night in April.
- The Club’s Sporting Evening is scheduled for October this year and will feature ex footballer Lee Sharpe who comes highly recommended.
- Details of upcoming events will be on the Club website.

**The next AGM was scheduled for Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 starting at 1930 hrs.**

Minutes accepted as a true record.....Chair.....Date.