

Ryedale Sports Club

Minutes of the 2018 AGM, held on Sunday November 18th at 5 pm

Those Present: J Ellis (President), J Gascoyne (Chairman), R Wilkinson (Vice Chairman), I Hutchison (Treasurer), R Williams, C Stead, F Blanchard, J Wardman, K Hill, P Hill, J Stott, C Graham, J Barnett, R Cosens, J S Ellis, T Temple, A Kirkwood, M Carter, R Thorpe, M Wilson, D Wilson, W Bulmer, D Shaw, A Blair, J Hurd, E Wardman (Secretary).

Protocol – J Ellis (President) took the Chair for the meeting.

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman, J Gascoyne, welcomed all to the meeting and cheered us by saying the Committee had had a good year and the Club was on the up. Much of this was due to R Cosens who was co-opted onto the Committee early 2018 as Business/ Project Manager. He inspired all to get the Club systems updated resulting in a new website (developed and run by I Hutchison), overhaul of the money handover system to streamline the finances, provision of a Club manual, collation and organisation of Club archives and many other systems. A Maintenance Manager was assigned (R Wilkinson) and he was given power to sanction necessary maintenance expenditure without Committee approval which previously had delayed action.

Other actions included obtaining a defibrillator for Club use – thus still needs permanent housing. We are also setting up a Welfare system that is intended to safeguard all, but particularly children and vulnerable adults, from verbal or physical abuse. A Croquet representative, D Shaw, has agreed to be the Welfare Officer and systems/notices are currently under production. Deputies from each section will be the first point of contact. The ground sharing/leasing scheme with Pickering CC continues to function and this year we have had a better financial return from it. Football however, lost its way during the first part of this year and the section was unable to fulfil its fixtures. The Chairman was pleased to announce that the section and team had reformed under the new management of J S Ellis and L Allardice. They are competing again in the Beckett League and are on a current winning run – well done! Table Tennis continues to thrive with 8 teams competing in local Leagues. Additional practice sessions for newcomers are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays thanks primarily to R Cosens and J Barnett – some fundraising comes in from their more recent well-being session based around TT. The League practice continues on Sundays and Tuesdays and the Chairman paid tribute to E Wardman who attends consistently, enabling players from a distance to come, knowing they will find someone to play.

Fundraising continues high on the agenda and Rounders Day was again a success – thanks primarily to R Wilkinson and J S Ellis but all sections contributed to the day. Individual sections have also been encouraged to organise events – Croquet made a paper Quiz which was sold for £1 at outlets around the town and raised a creditable £250 – thanks to W Bulmer. In the past week, the Tennis section organised a fun quiz and supper night which was well attended – financial results are awaited but thanks are due to P and K Hill for the event organisation. Additionally a 50/50 Club was started by R Cosens and J Barnett and that too swells the coffers.

John Gascoyne concluded by thanking R Cosens for his contribution during the year and stated that, in his 25 years of service on the Committee, this has been the best advancement of the Club in one year – a round of applause followed.

Apologies for Absence: M Wheatley, L Allardice, S Temple.

Minutes of the Last AGM

Theses had been circulated to Committee members but no further - they could not be accepted until they were read out by the Secretary. They were then accepted, proposed by R Wilkinson, seconded by J S Ellis. The Secretary apologised for the fact they were not circulated fully but systems were not available at the time. We are now able to circulate to most members with an email address thanks to the Membership Secretary – I Hutchison. Systems are also in place via reps to get information to those not on the web. There were no matters arising.

Election of Officers

President – J Gascoyne took the Chair for this election - J Ellis was asked if he would continue and he agreed. No other nominations were forthcoming so J Ellis was proposed by R Wilkinson, seconded by A Kirkwood and elected unanimously. He then resumed the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

Chairman – J Gascoyne had previously announced his intention to retire from the Committee. R Wilkinson was proposed by J S Ellis, seconded by W Bulmer and voted in unanimously.

Vice Chairman – this post was vacant, the previous incumbent now being the Chairman – R Wilkinson said he would like J Stott as his Vice-Chairman – he had shown an interest as Chairman previously. He agreed to serve, was proposed by A Kirkwood, seconded by J Wardman and voted in unanimously.

Secretary – E Wardman had said he would be happy to stand down if someone wanted the post - there were no takers so he agreed to continue – proposed by R Wilkinson, seconded by W Bulmer and voted in unanimously.

Treasurer – I Hutchison agreed to continue, proposed J S Ellis, seconded R Cosens and voted in unanimously.

Welfare Officer – D Shaw agreed to continue, proposed W Bulmer, seconded A Blair and voted in unanimously.

Minutes Secretary – this position was vacant, being done currently by the Secretary. He agreed to continue, no vote taken.

Fundraising Officer – J S Ellis agreed to continue, there were no other nominations. He was proposed by P Hill, seconded by K Hill and voted in unanimously.

Auditor – current incumbent R Gray. The Treasurer was asked if he would like R Gray again and he agreed – R Gray was then voted in unanimously.

Project Manager – R Cosens said that, due to pressure of other work, he would not serve on the Committee in this next year. He would however continue some of his projects, particularly with the archives. As this was a co-opted position, no replacement was sought.

Secretary's Report

E Wardman said he had prepared a report that was virtually identical to the Chairman's opening speech and he would not therefore repeat the information,

He then said that he would like to pay tribute to the retiring Chairman and thank him for his

untiring work and leadership. He asked the President to present J Gascoyne with the gift of a standing bedroom lamp as a retirement present: this was performed to warm applause (again) from the floor. John opened it, thanked everyone and announced how useful it would be during late night visits to foreign stock exchanges.

Treasurer's Report

The figures for the previous financial have been audited and presented to all. I Hutchison said the current period has started well thanks to generous sponsorship deals obtained by the Football Management Team. He stated that we had siphoned off £1500 for asset replacement, citing projects such as improved parking as possibilities for the future. There were no questions from the floor and his report was accepted, proposed J S Ellis, seconded R Cosens.

Gala Day

Before detailing the event, R Wilkinson personally thanked J Gascoyne for his friendship and help during Committee – more applause. On Gala Day he said the format was a winner because 10 teams at £30 per team guaranteed a profit before we started – we then made £50 on burgers, £300+ on tombola and raffles and more on cake stall, teas, ice creams etc. The only item that barely contributed was the bouncy castle but we all appreciate that, if the kids are taken care of, parents can relax and better enjoy the day. He finished by saying that thanks are due to all sections and the total profit, including that from the bar, was £1200. A donation of £100 was given to the British Heart Foundation and the presentation photo will have given the Club further publicity.

Questions from the floor

Croquet players expressed disquiet with the state of the lawns. J Gascoyne answered that this topic had been the subject of a long discussion during the previous week's Committee Meeting. Initial questions were raised by M Carter and J Hurd – D Wilson then joined in saying he was disappointed that when he had suggested we bring in an expert the Committee had rejected it as unnecessary expense as we had people who know what to do without paying for “expert” advice. J Gascoyne then repeated his recommendations as for the Committee Meeting. Someone needs to take this on as a proper project, not just throwing on weedkiller which affected short-cut grass more than the weeds themselves. We need to set one court completely aside, destroy the weeds and then reseed. This was essentially agreed but the section wanted to know that expenditure would be available to keep good conditions once they were established. This assurance was given by the new Chairman.

On a lighter note, D Wilson reported that the BBC were coming to Castle Howard for filming and Croquet players were required which might generate more publicity for the Club.

Any Other Business

J Wardman suggested that we consider a subscription increase to £45 as we hadn't had one for a time. It wasn't on the agenda – a Secretary error for which apologies! J Ellis said we could consider it under AOB and it was proposed by J Wardman, seconded by W Bulmer. A vote showed acceptance for the motion by around 18 votes for 6 against. During ensuing discussion that it would need to be introduced at the start of the next financial year, the

Football Manager, J S Ellis said it would adversely affect football membership as we are already more expensive than other clubs. The motion was therefore abandoned on technical grounds as a counter suggestion had not been offered.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 5-49pm

E Wardman (Secretary)