

BRIMFIELD & LITTLE HEREFORD SPORTS CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 13 November 2023

MINUTES

PRESENT: Frances Addyman, Ade Allen, Jim Allen, Lynne Allen, Sandra Allen, Andrew Allsop, Tina Bickley, Peter Bloomer, Jennie Cole, Claire Coleman, Wes Coleman, Brian Draper, Dean Everall, Anthea Griffiths, Barbara Griffiths, Kath Morgan, Susan Northwood, Mark North, Brian Richards, Clive Sheridan, Rosie Sheridan, John Stone, Alec Tandler, Lynne Thorn, Bill Wheatley, Marion Wheatley,

APOLOGIES: Dave Cole, Richard Griffiths, Jenny Lilliman, Richard Powell, Jan Williams, Phil Williams,

1. To approve the Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting held on 18 November 2022

Approved: Jim Allen Seconded: Mark North

2. To receive and note the Chairman's Annual Report for the year:

The last year has seen a lot of change for the Club.

Prior to the lock-down the Club had an annual loss of approximately £4k a year. Once the Club reopened, following the Covid restrictions, it was hoped events and money raising activities would resume to expected levels. Unfortunately, in the first half of the year, the Club did not see the return of expected functions. We were also continually being badly hit by the rising bills linked to a recession.

To address the shortfall our Social Secretary at the time, Sue Webb, arranged several new events to raise much needed funds including the Car Boots with John Stirling. With a Craft Fair, Craft Days and a weekend Café for visiting football teams and monthly social evenings this helped raise enough funds to cover the original £4k loss.

However, despite all this hard work by all of the Committee, our Building Insurance costs doubled and a lack of any maintenance schedule over several years led to unexpected costs above and beyond what was planned or expected with a significant £6k electrical bill that included £1.7k on Pat Testing and fridge repair. Despite all our endeavours to raise money and keep above water financially, this had a huge impact on the finances which meant any additional costs had to be put on hold e.g. shutters for the bar.

In May I wrote to the Trustees, explaining that over the last 5 months the Committee had focused their attention on a) identifying ways to increase income to at least match forecast

expenditure, b) raise the levels of general maintenance and c) increase the involvement of volunteers to sustain the Sports Club. Thankfully I feel that we have now turned a corner.

Long standing member, George Giles retired in 2022. This left a huge knowledge gap to fill. Thankfully Brian Draper, ably supported by Cyril Wait, became our new maintenance dream team which has had a big impact on the rest of the Committee. Putting our minds at rest that work would be undertaken cost effectively, particularly as, this time last year, we were given a rather large list of tasks to satisfy the Insurance company.

At the last AGM a change to the Constitution was made to ensure clarity regarding the 'not for profit' focus of the Club and provide potential funding opportunities for the Sports Club. It was hoped that with this, and expertise in the Football Section, more could be made from the tennis court area to introduce an artificial surface that could bring in more sporting activities such as junior five-a-side, walking football and walking netball plus a unique venue for a new Hockey section. As change comes about, the future of the Club looks more secure.

Claire Coleman has taken up the mantle to raise awareness in the community and seek additional funding for long term projects. Our social media presence has increased tenfold. Marian Wheatley is very ably managing the Function bookings and the Bar Staff. I am pleased to say that we had a good response to the bar recruitment drive and this should make life easier for Marian in the future.

As promised by Mark Benbow, Tenbury Football proved to have a great first winter season here, bringing in much needed income via the Winter Café and additional bookings. I am glad to say this is continuing this winter too with 5/6 teams playing here regularly each weekend.

The Christmas Craft Fair continues, following on from a second autumn of Winter Wednesday Craft Days. Sandra Allen is working her magic with Bingo nights and Quiz evenings, proving very popular and all helping enormously to reduce the impact on the deficit.

Wes Coleman, one of the football coaches, stepped in to help support the Club when needed and Wes took over from Craig, as Treasurer and Bar Manager, back in July. Wes has made a huge difference to the future financial security of the Club since joining the Committee and the financial forecast is significantly improved compared with a year ago. For the first time we have had a month with more income than expenditure!

I must take this opportunity to give my own personal thanks to Susan Northwood, who is a wonderful, incredibly efficient Secretary. Susan does what is needed, whenever, quickly and effectively.

My thanks go to everyone on the Committee for all their efforts and commitment this year plus volunteers from the different sections who have happily assisted when need. The Committee is strong and very able and I am glad to say that most of the Committee are continuing in post which gives the Club the stability it needs for the moment.

I have every confidence in your new Chair and I am sure the Committee will give Peter the same wonderful support that you have all given me during the past two year.

Jennie Cole

3. 3a. Receive the Annual Financial Report:

Statement of accounts for 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023

<i>Money at Bank 1st October 2022</i>	<i>£ 35,148.12</i>
<i>Cash float value 1st October 2022</i>	<i>£ 1,560.00</i>
<i>Bar Stock Value 1st October 2022</i>	<i>£ 2,400</i>
<i>Total Value</i>	<i>£ 39,108.12</i>
<i>Money at Bank 30th September 2023</i>	<i>£ 32,635.10</i>
<i>Cash float value 30th September 2023</i>	<i>£ 75.00</i>
<i>Bar Stock Value 30th September 2023</i>	<i>£ 2,300</i>
<i>Total Value</i>	<i>£ 35,010.10</i>
<i>Total Loses</i>	<i>-£ 4,098.02</i>

Accounts managed by Craig Webb 1st October 2022 – 10th August 2023

Accounts managed by Wes Coleman 10th August – 30th September 2023

Wes Coleman

3b. Endorse the Annual Accounts:

In summary the club made a loss of £4,098.02. These losses can be attributed to the following. Last year the club spent £4,115.87 on electrical work recommended by the insurance company. The fixed rate contract for the supply of electricity ended in October 2022 and we were put onto a default tariff. This tariff took our monthly spend from £103 to £521 by June 2023. This wasn't identified until August 2023. We now have a more favourable rate secured for 12 months with the monthly cost around £300 (dependant on usage).

With the number of fundraising events in the pipeline, hiring out the function room and all the clubs generating revenue from events, cafes, bar sales, car boots & craft fairs etc & reducing our costs on better tariffs for our utility bills, I believe that we will get ourselves out of the red this next financial year.

There are plans to install bar grills very soon which will cost around £3,000 but this will allow us more opportunity to hire out the hall without having club members on site to manage the facility / bar area.

Wes Coleman

John Stone, President, addressed the meeting : *Thanks to Jennie Cole for all her hard work. It was a big responsibility to take on the running of the Club after Covid when lots of Clubs were closing down. Jennie has steered us forward and I agree that "we have turned the corner". This is due to everyone on the Committee and all volunteers under Jennie's leadership. It is down to everyone working together. I am sorry that Jennie is stepping down but I would like to wish her well in her new role as Secretary for the County Bowls.*

Congratulations to everyone who has been elected onto the Committee and thanks to Brian Draper for looking after Maintenance; Wes Coleman for taking over the Accounts and the Bar and Sandra Allen for all her work organising the quizzes and bingo nights which are all great evenings with a lovely atmosphere.

There have been some extra football matches from visiting teams with families and spectators bringing in several hundred pounds for the Club. The Tenbury Colts are having a successful season.

All in all it has been a very successful year. Push on and keep going. Everyone needs to pull together and we will go from strength to strength.

Peter Bloomer, incoming Chairman, addressed the meeting: *I have felt for a long time that there has been a desire to inject energy into getting the Club to move forward. You can feel the energy rising and the positivity. We need to raise money from funding so that we can improve the facilities and attract more people to come and play sport. That is what I am looking forward to doing.*

The meeting closed at 7.07pm.