

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting at Saxtead Old Mill on Tuesday 25th June 2024 8pm.

<u>Present:</u> Chair – Nick Barlow-Shepherd, Vice chair – Adrian Chilvers, Treasurer – Bev Squirrell, Secretary -Barbara Barker, Fixtures – Phil Coe, Competitions – Nick Gardens, representatives from: Eels Foot, Dennington Queens Head, Fram Railway, Theberton Lion, Darsham Fox, Saxmundham ESMC, Laxfield Bowls Club, Kettleburgh Chequers, Riverside Centre, Leiston Homeguard, Bruisyard VH.

Apologies : Carl Clow

Chairman's welcome opened the meeting.

Minutes of the 2023 AGM had been circulated after the last AGM and were also published on the website. All in agreement that they were a correct representation and a copy was duly signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising from the minutes – None.

Chairman's overview from previous season:

Nick passed on a message of thanks from Rosemary and Mike Worsley (visually impaired gentleman) to all teams for the warm welcome they have been given wherever they have played. They will be continuing to play next season.

Treasurer's report, subs and any other recommendations

Bev presented the meeting with the statement of accounts for the year 2023/24 resulting in a carry forward of £586.42 for next season, just £68 less than we started with last season. We had only one trophy to buy this year which helped finances and teams had agreed last year to do their own engraving. Finals night raffle raised £336, and the buffet cost £500.

The website fees were up for renewal in April this year and after some negotiating with Wix, Nick secured a deal for 3 years with a credit note for £120 for the following year. The domain name costs are £23.16 p.a.

Subs for the forthcoming season remain at £60 per team, and were collected by Bev. The issue of no runners- up trophies (as agreed at the previous AGM) was raised but due to finances this will remain the case for next year.

Bev was thanked by Sheila and seconded by Neil for preparing these accounts.

Election of officers and committee

(Chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, fixture secretary/results co-ordinator, competition secretary, general committee members.)

There being no other volunteers or nominations for any of the positions, and all incumbents were willing to continue it was proposed by John(Laxfield) seconded by Sheila (Darsham) that the officers be re-elected en-bloc. All in agreement. Lorraine requested her name be taken off as assistant secretary.

Upcoming season:

- 1. Possible new team Kettleburgh and Riverside have extra players wishing to play more regularly, Neil and Andrew to liaise with regard to a joint team. The suggestion of "borrowing a player" to make up numbers on an odd occasion was turned down.
- Fixture list some slight alterations in the Thursday competition venues this coming season. Captains please check when you get the fixture list as you may not have the same as before. New competition draw sheets were distributed. (Instructions included on the reverse). Season will commence on 10th September – 5th December, and 7th January – 3rd April.
- 3. Finals night feedback all positive. It was requested that next years not be so close to Easter weekend. (10th April has since been confirmed.) In the absence of runners-up trophies could certificates be presented instead? Yes possibly.
- 4. Knockout cup draw:

Dennington v Laxfield
Saxtead - Bye
Leiston Homeguard v Middleton
Kettleburgh – Bye
Framlingham v Theberton
Sax ESMC - Bye/ or new team
Bruisyard v Eels Foot
Riverside v Darsham

5. Match etiquette, late arrivals – is an amendment to rule 7 needed ? Etiquette – despite this being brought up annually there are still players overlooking/commenting on other players games. Captains please re-iterate at the start of the season.

Late arrivals:

This question arose due to the problems encountered with road closures causing a very late arrival for one match. Whilst there is no provision in the rules for this it is expected that every team would be sympathetic in these cases and make allowances. No rule change felt necessary.

7 If a team fails to turn up for its normal league fixture, the available team shall be awarded the match, awarded two points and a nil-nil score. Any team turning up short will automatically forfeit the number of games that being short of players demands. Any disputes to be decided by the committee.

Any other business

A reminder was made that players should always leave their cards on the table when counting as there have been persistent instances of miscounting/scoring from one particular player (who was not named, nor their team). Also players should not hassle the more novice players when counting. Slowing things down in these instances should not be an issue.

A thank you has been received from the Guide Dogs Association for the donations from finals night.

Nick wished everyone luck for the forthcoming season. Meeting closed at 8.55pm.