

## STAGE CRICKET CLUB

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Held at

The Victory Services Club

63-79 Seymour Street

London W2 2HF

Present: Messrs Collingwood, Jackson, Howarth, Davis, Gallagher, Sadler, Barrett, Oldroyd, Hills, Padhani, Kydd, Buller, Manthorpe & Clayton.

- 1) **The Meeting was declared open** by Chairman, Brian Jackson, at 7.05p.m.
- 2) **Apologies for absence:** Messrs Thomson, Blumire, Lawrence, Fletcher, Sargant, Stanley, Wilkinson, Rogerson, Eves, Oliver-Watts, Gostelow, Durden, Gibbs, Chitty, Jenner, Barrie, Godfrey & Barclay.
- 3) **The Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting** were read out by Mike Sadler on behalf of Club Secretary, Matt Gallagher who was delayed by work commitments.
- 4) **Matters arising.** There were no matters arising and the Meeting approved the 2016 Minutes.

#### 5) **Match Managers' Reports.**

Owen Oldroyd said he had had a fairly easy time raising sides. Both Roger Barrett and Dave Hills said it was always a tricky job getting a side out, but 2016 had proved no worse than they had expected. Will Chitty was not present, but had had some problems, due mainly to his working commitments. The same applied to Roger McCann, also not present, as he was hired by Welsh National Opera right at the start of his tenure as a match manager in September. However, club members had rallied round and only two matches were cancelled by Stage C.C., due to the club being unable to raise a full side.

#### 6) **Captain's Report.**

Club Captain, Owen Oldroyd, said that on the pitch the club was reasonably competitive. It was great to have beaten Cross Arrows again. (The skipper was modest about his own contribution, which was a century in that match.) A number of players were singled out for their endeavours: J. Davis for his efforts with bat, ball and behind the stumps; similarly Roger Barrett with bat and ball; J.P. Aubin-Parvu gave a consistent bowling performance; Paul Geary with the bat; Mike Sadler who topped the bowling averages. Sam Sargant was a great find as a genuinely quick and accurate bowler. All players were exhorted by the skipper to recruit new blood into the club, especially young players.

### **7) Fixtures Secretary's Report from J. Davis.**

Most fixtures remain from the 2016 season, but the following have been dropped:

Datchet, Kew, Chadwick and St. Lawrence & Highland Court.

Nomads, Southgate Compton and Morden are new additions to the card.

Morden was first on the 2016 card, but that match was cancelled. There were four dates to fill right at the beginning of the season and a couple more during it.

However, J. Davis was confident that opponents would be found between now and the start of the season, either through his own efforts or via the Club Cricket Conference.

Club President, Charles Collingwood, suggested reviving old matches between staff and pupils at three schools: Wellington, Pangbourne and Highgate.

The fixtures secretary undertook to explore these as options.

### **8) Treasurer's Report.**

Retiring Club Treasurer, Richard Godfrey, was unable to be present due to prior commitments. However, he had sent a clear, concise e-mail outlining the club's financial position as 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

The Current Account: opening balance on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016 was £2,060-06p.

closing balance on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 was £1,677-07p.

This meant that the club made another operating **loss** of £382-99p.

While this was not serious for this year, of course it is not sustainable in the medium term. Within four years the club could be in trouble if losses continued at this rate. R. Godfrey asked that scrutiny be applied to who has paid or not paid their annual subscription and that non club members be asked for a match fee, even if they are making up an eleven at short notice.

On a positive note, fewer people were turning up to play and then not paying a match fee and having to be chased for it subsequently. It made life hard for the Treasurer to keep track of a particular fixture's total match receipts.

The Deposit Account: opening balance on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016 was £990-40p.

closing balance on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 was £990-81p.

interest was £0-41p.

The Meeting decided not to transfer the monies from the Deposit Account into the Current Account for the time being.

It was agreed to exempt players who were under 27 years of age from paying an annual subscription.

It was also agreed that the current tariffs for annual subscriptions, match fee and net practice fees should remain at £40, £10 and £5 respectively.

There was some discussion as to how many matches someone should play before becoming liable for the annual subscription. A definite conclusion was not arrived at.

8b) There was a highly entertaining interlude led by Mike Howarth to celebrate Burns Night as the the famous bard's poetry was recited by the company over a dram of scotch and a smuggled-in haggis. This was appreciated by all.

### **9) Election of Officers.**

The following were elected to these posts:-

President: Charles Collingwood

Chairman: Brian Jackson

Vice Chairman: Michael Howarth

Club Captain: Owen Oldroyd

Secretary: Matthew Gallagher

Treasurer: Mike Sadler

Fixtures Secretary: Jeff Davis

### **10) Vice Captains.**

The following were appointed:-

Gabe Manthorpe, Tom Stanley, Jonathan Kydd, Dan Williams, Matthew Gallagher and James Lawrence.

### **11) Match Managers.**

1<sup>st</sup> Owen Oldroyd; 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Hills; 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> match managers for July and August respectively are yet to be appointed; 5<sup>th</sup> Roger Barrett

Nets Manager: Mike Sadler

**12) Simon Clayton resigned as Social Secretary.** The Meeting did not appoint a replacement, as it had proved difficult to co-ordinate club members' schedules to fix a definite date for a social event. The Cross Arrows Dinner at Lords was deemed sufficient.

### **13) Club Awards.**

Batting: Owen Oldroyd for most runs and top of the averages

Bowling: Mike Sadler – top of the averages. Ed Hedley – most wickets

Fielding: Ed Hedley

Captain's Prize: Gabe Manthorpe

Champagne moment: Owen Oldroyd's century at Lords versus Cross Arrows.

Roger Barrett, on behalf of the club, presented Owen Oldroyd with an inscribed Tankard to commemorate Owen's "Bradman like average and total of runs" achieved during the 2016. The Meeting happily endorsed this recognition of Owen's prowess.

### **14) Net Practice**

Mike Sadler advised that Net Practice dates at Lords Indoor School were as follows:-

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March; Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March; Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March;

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April; Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April; Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April. All at 7p.m.

### **15) Any Other Business.**

It was decided to remove the club's bank account details from the 2017 fixture card.

Whilst there had been problems with the club's bankers, Nat West, it was thought most banks nowadays were similar and after some discussion the meeting decided to keep the club account at the same Nat West branch.

**B. Jackson said he had made progress with Medical Insurance Cover for Members and Member's immediate families. Medical Cover was being discussed with the underwriters on several points, details of which will be sent to Members in due course.**

Qualification for the Cross Arrows match was discussed and the Meeting ultimately agreed that the Club Captain should have the final selection decision, having due regard to the confidential opinions of the Vice Captains. Some concern was expressed that ringers were sometimes co-opted into the side for this match, but all saw the need to maintain a high standard in order to keep the fixture and be offered a table at the Cross Arrows Annual Dinner at Lords.

It was agreed that Tom Stanley should be approached in order to explore exploiting Stage C.C.'s presence on social media and other forms of communication.

**Club Kit: Roger Barrett said that most people who wanted club kit had now got it and the stock was in a healthy state. Club Caps appeared to be the most popular item. We had enough cricket balls to take the club through a substantial period of the 2017 season. The current deal on balls meant that cost per ball worked out at about £13.**

Discipline: the previous Special Meeting of Club Officers in October 2016 had decided to expel two club members. One of those expelled had been contacting various club members to determine the precise reasons for his dismissal.

A lengthy discussion ensued on this point and the AGM endorsed last Autumn's decision of the Special Meeting of Club Officers and the subsequent Committee meeting. The AGM decided that Club Chairman, Brian Jackson, should write to the gentleman concerned pointing out his rights under Paragraph 15 of the Club Rules. The Chairman would also inform him that his behaviour on a number of occasions had brought the reputation of Stage C.C., into disrepute.

**The possibility of a Club Rules Card being produced the same size as the fixture card was discussed, but the Meeting felt it was the responsibility of members to acquaint themselves with the Rules via the club's website. New members can always be advised of this.**

Entrecasteaux: only two club Members had been able to make the trip to France in late September 2016. Some present wondered whether this well organized event by Mike Howarth had had its day. The problem, as always, was players being unable to commit to it far enough in advance to make the purchase of Eurostar/TGV rail tickets as cheap as possible. The long weekend remains on the fixture list, but a Club match will be scheduled in the U.K., on the same Sunday for players unable to make the French trip. Mike Howarth wondered whether the club could pay for 5 rail tickets up front at the earliest and cheapest opportunity and then see who wanted to participate nearer the time. The Chairman and the Treasurer were reluctant to release funds of between £600 and £700 when the club had made an operating loss in the current and previous accounting periods; it would also diminish club funds by almost half. Mike Howarth said that he would undertake to repay the club the value of any tickets not taken up, but the majority present agreed with the Treasurer and Chairman not to underwrite the event. The matter was not put to a formal vote.

16) There being no further business to transact Club Chairman, Brian Jackson, declared the Meeting closed at 10.36 p.m.

M. Gallagher Hon. Secretary                      Stage C.C.  
27<sup>th</sup> January 2016