



Annual General Meeting

8pm Monday 1st February 2016

Havelock Place Ash

Minutes

Present

Alan Spong(AS), Roger Hill(RH), Ann Gibson(AG), Gareth Friend(GF), Aaron Friend(AF), Matthew Sumner(MS), M West(MW), James Piper(JP), Harry Kenton(HK), Andy Betts(AB), Dave Waring(DW)

Apologies for Absence

Graham Phebey, Peter Piper, Matthew Bradshaw, Hazel Deveson, Chris Adams, Jim Senior, Kevin Deveson, Stewart Thompson, Matthew Deveson

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of last meeting were agreed as a true record

Correspondence

RH informed meeting of the insurance bill of £762. RH spoke of need for metal bar for lawn mower house. **Action RH**

Chairman's Report

Village cricket is facing a challenge. ECB figures show a drop of about ten per cent in the number of recreational cricketers between 2013 and 2014 and about five per cent of league matches are called off because one team cannot field enough players. There are frequent news reports of village clubs closing. Reasons for lack of players are often cited as the time that league cricket takes and the travel associated with league fixture commitments. Our non-league status mitigates these reasons to an extent but I'm sure that our fixture secretary James will agree that getting friendly fixtures is increasingly difficult and a worrying proportion of our matches are called off through lack of numbers, particularly Sundays late in the season. James and our captains do sterling work in, respectively, getting fixtures and assembling eleven of our finest when needed but my plea to all playing members is to make it easy for the captains by being clear about availability and for all

members to never lose an opportunity to bring along new players. In keeping with our club ethos all newcomers will be greeted warmly whatever their age, ability and gender.

I will leave the captains to relate the details of the season on the pitch. It was another impressive year, helped by the surface that we play on. Thank you to Kevin, Gareth and all who help maintain the ground in such a fine condition. Also to those of you, particularly Harry, who have been making improvements to the pavilion and tea hut. We hope you like the tea hut facilities. Our equipment shed is getting a bit crowded and we need to find a solution.

On your behalf I must thank so many people for their contribution to the club; not only the usual stalwarts on the committee but other members such as Richard with the audit, David with the dinner arrangements, Stewart with advice on the pavilion, Peter and Sandra with their barbecues. All members have something to contribute so please do not be shy. Talking of stalwarts, Aaron's organisation of the Amsterdam tour (not to mention the race night) was very impressive. Thank you also to Tilmanstone Ravens for being supportive and such good friends - we are looking forward to our joint presentation dinner. As ever we are grateful to our President, Poppy Montgomery, and her family for their support and allowing us the privilege of playing in such a beautiful setting.

Saturday Captain's Report (Prepared by GP and delivered by MW)

2015 saw another successful season for the Saturday Team.

On the plus side, the younger element of the team are now reaching maturity and performed well throughout the season.

On the negative, it is more than noticeable that with the absence of stalwarts such as Dickie, Kevin and Matt D, I have struggled weekly to get 11 players.

The introduction of new and young players, must be seen as a priority for the club to ensure its future.

Fixtures also appeared to be a problem, and some good and poor emergency games were organised to fill gaps.

We have hopefully rectified this situation for 2016, & I have organised at least 4 new fixtures for us. I hope that by "spreading our wings" a little bit wider we get a better challenge for the team.

All in all, it's still a great club and an honour being captain.

Long may it continue.

Thanks to all for their efforts.

Saturday Capt.

Sunday Captain's Report (Harry Kenton)

Played 9 won 9. HK reported a successful season. There were some cancellations due both to lack of players at Eastry and opposition sides.

HK also stressed the need for new players as sourcing a team for Sunday is sometimes difficult.

HK congratulated his Sunday team and commented on the very successful bowling this season. He also mentioned that it should be a team effort from the club to get players.

Treasurer's Report 2015

Overall Summary

Eastry CC has made a profit of £875 in 2015 (down from £2,095 in 2014). The Club has £3,479 in the current account, £2,503 in the savings account and £17.72 in cash. The Club has outstanding liabilities of £450.49 that consists of a cheque (£350.49) to Poppy Montgomery for the water rates from 2012-2015 and a £100 donation for Cancer Research for a ride-on mower. £14 is still owed to the Club from the Race Night. However, if the liability from 2014 of £127 had been excluded and the liabilities & credits outstanding for 2015 had been included, then the profit would only have been £566.

Items of note

Once again income (£2,280) from matches was down on the previous year. The decrease was £637 from 2014 (£2,917) and £1,104 down from 2013. This is a worrying trend! The difference between 2014 and 2015 is not due to fewer weekend matches being played. 23 were played in 2015 and 24 in 2014 compared to 34 in 2013. The main reason is probably due to less match day money being collected. However, this is difficult to check as the paperwork associated with match fees has not been completed as well as in 2014. Last year the captains did an excellent job of collecting match fees and providing good paperwork of who had paid. Hopefully this will improve in 2016. I would also ask that players bring the necessary money to the game to pay match fees on the day. This saves time and effort on captains and Treasurer having to chase up outstanding payments.

Collection of Annual Subscriptions were down to £700 (a decrease of £150 on last year). Due to the reduced number of "regular" paid up players I would have expected the match fees to have been higher this year.

Eastry CC's finances are still healthy at the moment. This is helped by fund-raising being very successful again. The regular events - quiz, 6-a-side and raffles brought in £967. This was down on 2014 but only 1 quiz was held. Overall fund raising was up by £25 on 2014 due to the running of a Race Night with Tilmanstone Ravens which brought in £588. Many thanks to Aero for helping with the organising (and anyone else who helped). Thanks also to all of those who attended and supported the events.

As always, many thanks in particular to Pete and Sandra Piper for running the BBQ at the 6-a-side and to all those who helped umpire, score and sell raffle tickets.

Cricket equipment income and expenditure have both decreased as no sweaters or shirts were purchased in 2015.

The accounts have been inspected again by Richard Eastman and I would like to thank him for completing this so promptly and diligently. He recommended that the documentation of match fees should be tightened up and that Eastry CC should consider the use of printed envelopes (as

Nonington CC and Ash CC do). Also, the Treasurer should e-mail a receipt of annual subscriptions when these are paid.

Membership Subscriptions & Match Fees:

I believe that the income from Membership Subscriptions and Match Fees should cover the normal annual running costs of the Club. These are mainly insurance and ground maintenance. Fund raising should then supplement any additional requirements (e.g. new ground maintenance equipment, major one off refurbishments). This year we were over £500 off achieving this. Therefore, reluctantly I propose a modest increase to the Match Fees by £1 for both Junior and Senior members. I also propose to reduce the Membership Subscription by £5 to encourage more people. This should help with grant applications if we have more member join. Also note that non-Members are not covered by the Club's insurance. There were 19 paid up members last year (16 Senior, 3 Junior) of which only 13 paid more than 10 game

Proposals:

Annual Subscriptions:

Junior - £15 (was £20)

Senior - £35 (was £40)

Match Fees (Saturday, Sunday and Mid-Week Afternoon Games):

Senior (member) - £7 (was £6)

Senior (non-member) - £10

Junior - £5 (was £4)

Mid-Week Evening Games: £3 for all categories (or enough to cover costs of food after if this is greater)

Tea Money proposed to increase to £45 for 2015 season.

Finally, I have been Treasurer since 2008 and I plan to stand down at the end of 2016 season. So let me know if you are interested in the role. It is not that demanding and does not require any financial expertise.

Roger Hill, Hon. Treasurer

Election of all Officers

Existing officers were prepared to stand again for another year, subject to:

HK standing down as Sunday Captain and taking the Vice Captain's role. GF will be the new Sunday Captain. MD has stepped down from Saturday Vice Captain and GP will appoint a new Vice Captain. KD has resigned from the committee. AS commented on Kevin's long, distinguished and dignified service and contribution to the club.

In the absence of any nominations, the Chairman proposed that all be re-elected and no-one had any objections. Re-election of existing committee was proposed by RH and seconded by AG.

2016/2017 Officers: Chair – AS, Vice Chair – AG, Treasurer – RH, Secretary – HD, Fixtures – JP, Saturday Captain – GP, Saturday Vice Captain – TBA, Sunday Captain - GF, Sunday Vice-Captain – HK.

It was agreed that the Committee consist of elected officers with other club members being invited to attend committee meetings as appropriate.

The election of Richard Eastman as Auditor was proposed by AS and seconded by HK. RH thanked Richard Eastman for all his hard work auditing the accounts.

Fixtures 2016 (James Piper)

Saturdays:

JP thanked Graham Phebey for his work in securing all the gaps in the fixture card from last year. On Saturday we have lost Northdown who are playing league cricket this year. We have gained fixtures with Nuthurst and Billsington. Lots of home games. JP reported two spare Saturday dates. He proposed the 24th July for the annual sixes tournament.

Sundays:

Sunday also looks good with two free dates 24th April and Sept 18th. New fixtures with Wingham, Newington and Virgin Trains. JP suggested we use the 24th April as a get to know the club day encouraging new players.

Annual subscription/Fees

The Treasurer's proposal for Annual Subscriptions and Match Fees was agreed (see Treasurer's report).

Ground (Gareth Friend)

GF needs help on Thurs evenings with grounds. Suggested the 9th and 16th of April for preseason groundworks.

Any Other Business

Pre-Season Dinner

The joint pre-season dinner with TRCC will take place on the 12th March. HD will circulate the details. AS asked for all replies to be made by the 29th Feb.

Nets

Nets are to be held in Canterbury St Lawrence indoor centre, 12TH, 19TH and 24TH April. Details will be circulated.

Dover District T20

RH informed the meeting of the above. Maybe a joint venture with TRCC was suggested. TRCC already play indoor cricket in Folkestone and asked any interested players to contact them. RH to get more details of the Dover District T20.

Meeting ended 9.10pm.

Alan thanked Roger for his hospitality.