

**Odiham and Greywell Cricket Club.**  
**Annual General Meeting – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

<b><u>MINUTES</u></b>	
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies for Absence:</b>  E. Hellings welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that we were quorate.  Apologies were received from:  S. Cox, P. Thomas, D. Hiscock and S. Spreadborough</p>
2.	<p><b>Approval of Minutes:</b>  A copy of the minutes of 2018 AGM were distributed to all those at the AGM. These were approved.</p> <p><b>Proposed: B. Read Seconded: L Mosesson</b></p>
3.	<p><b>Financial Report and Approval of the Accounts for the year to 30/9/18:</b>  David Smith explained the accounts for 2018-19, which were made available to the meeting.</p> <p>He highlighted several key points.</p> <p>Financially, it was a fairly disappointing year compared with previous. The club just about broken even on the year, meaning the loan repayments of about £8,000 needed to be paid out of reserves. The club is about £10,000 below last year. This was explained by the fact that there were no big events like Lashings and we had an overseas player, costing approximately £3,000.</p> <p>Total expenditure was very similar to last year, which demonstrated better controls were in place, especially since we have had a couple of unusual costs.</p> <p>The cost of <b>ground hire</b> was lower because we did not hire Crondall. This did result in extra ground costs for Long Sutton, but we showed a reduction in total costs for Odiham, which means that overall Ground Expenditure did not go up by much.</p> <p>There was a rise in <b>Water</b> charges. This is due to the leak we had earlier in the year. We received a bill for about £4,500 for this from the Water Company, which the club has appealed.</p> <p>We had an <b>overseas player</b> this year, which cost about £3,000, exactly as forecast, and David congratulated the Cricket Committee on this.</p> <p>It is the income which has fallen short of last year. The biggest element of this is the bar, where the contribution is down by about £7,000. The club needed to be aware that last year it had a one-off contribution from the Lashings day of about £4,000, so the true difference is about £3,000. Even taking out the Lashings figures sales for the year were down about £7,000, and wage costs have risen, due to the increase in minimum wage. The overall figure is helped by a £3,000 support package negotiated with Kingfisher, which David congratulated Bruce for.</p> <p>The income from <b>Subscriptions and Coaching</b> has remained about the same level, although subs are down and coaching is up.</p> <p><b>Match fees</b> have risen slightly on the year, so despite using a lot of juniors in matches this year this is a good figure. It reflects better administration and collection of the fees (although there are still some occasions where the correct records are not being kept).</p>

	<p>The most disappointing area is <b>Fund Raising</b>, which is down on last year, even though it was stressed at the start of the year that without a Lashings event or something similar the club needed to raise funds in other ways. This is an area that the club needs to focus on. It may seem very well to run at “break-even” the club must still build up reserves, otherwise it will not cover large unexpected expenses. David concluded that the club is still in a healthy position. Although note that the bank balance though showing about £59,000 the club’s short term liabilities are about £19,000, and there is still £16,000 outstanding on the loan ( which ought to keep in reserve bearing in mind this year’s performance). Thus leaving actual cash reserves of about £24,000. If we have any major expenses, such as repairs to the car park, this will soon go.</p> <p>The club especially needs to look at fund Raising and Sponsorship/ Advertising as potentially the easiest ways to increase revenue.</p> <p>The following points arose in the discussion that followed:</p> <p>Should social membership be increased to say £50, including perhaps £15 to be spent over the bar but only during the winter months? The Treasurer was doubtful that this would work as a way of getting more people in during the winter.</p> <p>Players have to be members of the Club (Constitution section 3 (d)) and why are there only 20 to 25 Full Members. This will need looking into by the new Committee.</p> <p>What is the position with non-members paying match fees? The Treasurer explained that as long as they pay a match fee they are covered by the Club’s insurance policy. It was agreed that there is a balance to be struck – if someone helps us out as a genuine one off it doesn’t seem right to punish them by making them pay a subscription, but it might need regularising by the new Committee.</p> <p>Why are membership fees down? The Treasurer explained that this was mainly down to Junior Members’ parents not joining as in previous years</p> <p>Should we have a Fundraising Officer/Secretary? EH replied this was implied in the role of Chair of the Development Committee which was not a Management Committee post, but it was a good thought and he was sure the incoming Committee would consider it.</p> <p>There were points raised by the attendees regarding collection of membership fees such as requests to automate this process along similar lines to typical insurance bills where payments are taken annually automatically unless you opt out.</p> <p>No points were raised by the auditors:</p> <p>The accounts for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were approved.</p> <p>Proposed: J. Cross Seconded: D. Mills</p>	
4.	<p><b>Election of Auditor:</b></p> <p>Brendan Merriman was elected as Auditor.</p> <p><b>Proposed by D. Smith    Seconded: L. Mosesson</b></p>	

5.	<p><b><u>Management Committee Reports</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Cricket:</u></b></p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> team had not been promoted, after achieving promotion for the last 4 years. Finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in County 2.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> teams were close to promotion but did not achieve it. One key factor that hindered both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams was the lack of consistent availability. It was impossible to build continuity when so many of the teams were unavailable from one week to another.</p> <p>It was noted that Phil Thomas had stood down as captain after a long and successful period.</p> <p>The Ladies XI also had a good year. Not only did they manage to fulfil their fixtures, which in itself is an incredibly positive achievement for which thanks must go to Becky Hartnett, they were also successful. Depending on how the Hampshire league is restructured then the ladies team may gain promotion back to division 1. It is important for the club that the ladies and girls sections remain strong.</p> <p>The Sunday XI fulfilled all their fixtures, enabling us to continue to provide Social, friendly cricket, which is an important aspect of the club. This year the Sunday matches were run on a match manager basis with different players volunteering to run certain games. This was hugely successful and should be repeated next year.</p> <p>Colts – we have a thriving Colts section with more people on our books than we can effectively accommodate.</p> <p><b><u>Looking forward:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playing and Social aspects – Although the function of the club is to play cricket the social aspect of the club is important as well and the two areas need to work in combination. One cannot survive without the other. The relationship between the cricketers and bar can and needs to improve.</li> <li>• Team selection – this is going to continue to be difficult. We need to develop young cricketers into adult cricketers but including them in Senior teams where possible. We are looking at other ways to improve this by inviting our overseas player back next year.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Colts Cricket:</u></b></p> <p>It was a good season for Colts cricket, but the increasing numbers is a bit of a challenge, with over 200 registered.</p> <p>This year we started “All Stars” cricket, and this was a huge success with 40 children between 5 and 6 taking part. This success was entirely due to Duncan Mills, to whom we owe a big vote of thanks.</p> <p>We currently have 12 sides in the league, with the U15A Boys and U9A Girls winning their leagues. WE are also well represented in County sides, and this is due to the hard work of all the coaches who made it possible. I’d like to add a plea for more coaches to come forward for next year.</p> <p><b><u>Womens Cricket</u></b></p> <p>As covered above , a successful year both in terms of results and numbers of players. However, if this is to be sustained next season and beyond then the club needs more coaches. Players an social members are welcome to volunteer and they don’t even necessarily have to have played cricket before.</p> <p><b><u>Bar and events</u></b></p>
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	<p>Bruce outlined the positive performance of the bar and events team. Bar and events contributed £21,000 approx to club finances showing steady growth. Bruce expressed his thanks and gratitude for hard work and support to : David, Donna, Deb, Anne, Andy Hill, David Collins. Also, the Social Committee Jane and John Lodder, Duncan and Jane.</p> <p>Satisfaction surveys carried out by the team had demonstrated a positive response to the service received by club members and hirers.</p> <p>The clubhouse is proving to be a very popular choice for private hirers for various functions and events.37 events took place. The pavilion is also raising income from rental to some business users.</p> <p>In response to feedback on certain issues Bruce set out some improvements that had been made such as to the smoking area; the use of better quality plastic glasses to be used outside. Also noted the £600 contribution made from the Odiham extravaganza.</p> <p>The next Lashings XI day is planned for 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020.</p> <p>Brian Knapp asked about the ability of members to come to the Club on event nights – would they be refused service? Bruce responded that a very few all ticket events were held at the Club, and only if there was a substantial cost, like a band, that needed to be recovered. BK thought this was a significant departure from previous history. EH said that it was a Management Committee decision taken some time ago, and the number of such events was deliberately limited when that decision was taken. However, members clearly felt strongly about this and so that feeling would need to be taken into account going forward.</p> <p><b><u>Development Committee:</u></b></p> <p>We had a successful year at Long Sutton. Future use of Long Sutton is threatened by a planning application for the site by Lord Wandsworth College, which Odiham members have objected to.</p>	
6	<p><b><u>Election of Officers of the Club:</u></b></p> <p>There was no nomination for the role of Secretary or Treasurer and the Management Committee will need to fill this role.</p> <p>There was only one nomination for each of the posts except Chair of Grounds, which was contested by David Holden and Kyran Munt.</p> <p>Kyran gave a short presentation setting out his intentions for this role. David was absent from the meeting and did not present. After a vote, Kyran Munt was elected.</p> <p>The unopposed nominations would be accepted as a whole, as follows:  Chairman: Alistair Smee  Chair of Cricket: Andrew Stenning  Chair of Ladies: Liam Schooling  Chair of Youth Cricket: Charles Terry  Captain of Cricket: Adam Scher*  Chair of Grounds: Kyran Munt</p> <p><i>* Important to include the point that the Captain of Cricket is NOT the 1<sup>st</sup> XI captain – he is a figurehead to help the Chair of Cricket in his job of maintaining discipline, promoting cricket etc</i></p>	

	<p>The group of nominations above were elected:</p> <p><b>Proposed: B. Cross      Seconded; L. Mosesson</b></p>	
7.	<p><b><u>Team Captains</u></b></p> <p>The team Captains would be elected as a meeting of the Players, under the auspices of the Cricket Committee, and the names submitted to the Management Committee for approval.</p> <p>AS outlined his intention for the captains election to be completed before Xmas, earlier than usual, so the captains would be in place before winter training.</p>	
8.	<p><b><u>Subscription Rates</u></b></p> <p>The treasurer proposed that given the fact that the club had showed a small surplus on the year, and the current financial position of the club, that subscription levels should remain unchanged for 2019.</p>	
9.	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p> <p>Life Member – Ed Hellings proposed that the following should be granted life membership. The contributions to the club made by the nominees is in each case overwhelming and summarised very succinctly below. Each nomination was enthusiastically welcomed by the meeting.:</p> <p><b>David Smith</b> His hard work and expert stewardship of the clubs finances has been fundamental to the clubs success. Proposed: D. Mills    Seconded: L. Schooling</p> <p><b>Chris Commons</b> In particular it was noted the huge work and commitment that Chris gave to the club before moving away. He worked tirelessly and doggedly to bring about the clubs new pavilion. Proposed: A. Smee    Seconded: B. Applin</p> <p><b>George Lehman</b> A familiar face to anyone that's been involved in the club. George has been a friendly and loyal member of the club for many years and often give s up his time to help in the club's maintenance. Proposed: L. Schooling    Seconded; S. Thomas</p> <p>This was carried unopposed.</p> <p>AOB</p> <p>The following questions were received prior to the AGM</p> <p>It was recently announced the pavilion will be redecorated. Is an external company being paid for this activity? Last year the players offered to paint the changing rooms for free but contractors were brought in. Allowing the players and members to do this would save OGCC money and help build a club atmosphere. It is similar with Mark Humphreys who offered to provide the skip service for free?</p>	

	<p>Bruce's advised that decorating the bar area of the pavilion is a job which needs to be done professionally rather than by a bunch of enthusiastic amateurs. We can consider other approaches in future to other parts of the pavilion</p> <p>John Lodder brought up the point that in the darker months it is potentially dangerous to leave the pothole as it is. Could lighting also be installed to help?</p> <p>The pothole has been added to the list of items for the Head of Grounds to address.</p> <p>Car parking on Junior Training Fridays is increasingly dangerous with cars parked along the main road reducing it to a single lane. People attending the cricket club and the public drive through at great speeds so what is the club doing to prevent bad parking and provide alternatives? Car parking actions –</p> <p>Communications will be sent out to members to ask them not to park in the road; rope off affected areas with stakes; place flyers on windscreens.</p> <p>Having recently attended another Social Club where till receipts are given when purchasing drinks and snacks, I was wondering if that could be possible at our club?</p> <p>Bruce advised Till receipts available if asked for</p> <p>It would also be useful to have a tariff board detailing the prices for members and non members?</p> <p>Tariff board – now produced, needs putting up</p> <p>When is the boardroom furniture being replaced, I understood it was only to be there for a temporary measure?</p> <p>This is on the list to be replaced but is dependent on finances</p> <p>Would it be possible to request balance statements on receipt after a transaction so members can track their spend? I advised this may already be available but would be great to confirm.</p> <p>Bruce advised these are available if asked for</p> <p>The member survey highlighted a number of issues. One being the website needed to be improved so steps have been taken to do so. I was running it as more of an intranet and am happy to take the feedback onboard to pass on responsibility to an expert. The feedback on the bar was due to lead to an action plan for improvement. Since then it has been confirmed the bar is £6,000 down on last year but we have seen little desire to change and attract more people drink there regularly?</p> <p>AS agreed the management committee had been slower than expected to respond to the club survey but never the less it had been a valuable exercise. The club had been required to carry out a survey as part of the ECB Clubmark scheme but it was decided to also use it to gain other feedback about how the club is run. AS explained that key to this is the need for better club communications, which he will take forward immediately. A new website would be the fulcrum for this and a website engineer/designer had already been instructed to start the work.</p> <p>Ed Hellings concluded the meeting with a statement to the members, as follows</p>	
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<p>'This is a Club with a long and proud history. We have reached a point (as Ali reported earlier on behalf of St John) where the Cricket Committee need to make a decision about the future of cricket – what level the 1<sup>st</sup> XI should aim to be playing at; what is needed to make that happen; what changes we need to make for it to happen – and they will follow that through over the next few weeks and months. We also have, as Liam noted, a chance to become the big name in the area for womens' cricket. I think the plans are very exciting. I think they are achievable too, but they will not be easy. A lot of hard work and dedication will need to go into the cricketing side if the plans are to succeed.</p> <p>On the social side, we have heard that the bar has not had as good a year as last year financially, but it is still a very significant enterprise to run, and it generates the majority of the cash needed by the Club to run its activities. We need a successful bar if we are to have a truly successful Club, not just as a cash generator but as a focus for coming together. It is somewhere that needs to be, and must be, at the heart of the Club if we are to thrive.</p> <p>I want to thank an army of people who have contributed their time and talent during the last year. If I forget anyone, I ask for apologies in advance.</p> <p>I want to thank the Management Committee for their hard, sometimes thankless, work. It is easy to forget that they are volunteers, but they have done a great job.</p> <p>The captains and coaches – at all levels, cricket teams do not just happen by accident. It takes a huge amount of time and commitment whether you are skippering a senior XI or coaching the under 9's. They are the mainstay of the cricket and deserve our huge appreciation.</p> <p>The Bar staff – Bruce, Donna, Des and all the others. Again, a lot of work goes in behind the scenes that people don't see. It's often the less glamorous stuff, too – ordering, stocktaking, moving barrels around, clearing up after events long into the night. Thank you for all that you do.</p> <p>Andy Green and Steve Spreadborough, without whom we would not have the wickets and grounds to play on. Andy's results have been as consistent as ever this year here at King Street, and Spreadie has performed minor miracles at Long Sutton in first getting the ground up to scratch and then getting it to recover after an awful incident half way through the season. To both of you – many thanks.</p> <p>Tea providers – these are the unsung heroes of match days. Betty Read for looking after the rota, Betts and Jason Cross, Maria Bryant and Tina Smee at Long Sutton and all the others who have done teas during the year. It makes a huge difference, especially to my running between the wickets if batting second.</p> <p>Those who turn up for the working parties and those who sundry grounds duties through the season – thank you for the myriad jobs you have done. Many of them are not obvious, but they are all important. I would make a special plea for more members to turn up for working party duties – it's fun as well.</p> <p>I also want to thank Phil Thomas who has completed 6 years as 1<sup>st</sup> XI Captain. He was thanked at the Players Awards night, but I wanted to thank him here as well. He cannot be here tonight, but he has lead the side to 4 promotions which is no mean feat and he clearly puts everything he has into the job. Phil – thank you for all the time and effort you have put in.</p> <p>This year has been an enjoyable one, but it has also been a sad one. We lost Rob Froome in September and it will take us a long time to get over that fully. A 26 year old should not come back from holiday to be buried. But we will move on as a Club in time, both because Rob would not have wanted us to wallow in our grief and because as a Club we have to look to the future.</p>
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	<p>Talking of the future, I want to wish Ali the very best of luck in his role of Chairman. I have no doubt at all that he is an excellent candidate for the job. He also has a talented and committed Committee behind him. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as Chairman, and I am sure he will feel the same way during his tenure.</p> <p>He needs, and deserves, the Club's support. I am afraid that too many times in the recent past – and I am not just referring to the last 12 months here – individual rivalries and agendas have been put before the good of the Club. <b><u>It just needs to stop.</u></b> We need to keep a clear head and keep the good of the Club in our sights – always. And for those that think that compromise is a dirty word, or losing sight of the overall good of the Club doesn't matter – just look at the House of Commons to see what happens when that happens. It's time to draw a line under all of that now – the Club needs to move forward together, with players, social members and supporters working for the good of the Club.</p> <p>Enough, however, of navel gazing. We are members of a Club that has an awful lot going for it. We have fantastic facilities, great grounds, a good playing membership, a strong social membership and every reason to believe that we will be even more successful in the future if we pull together. Let's go for it!</p> <p><b>Clubman of the year</b></p> <p>For his huge efforts, commitment, enthusiasm and success in setting up and growing the club's Cricket All Stars youth section <b>Duncan Mills</b> was awarded clubman of the year.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.30 pm</p>	
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