

## Horsmonden Social Club

### MINUTES OF THE AGM: 7.30 p.m. Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup>. February, 2018

Present: Lindsey Chave(Chair), Alan Couchman, Ewen Kellas, Nick Belton, Anthony Hacker, Richard Edmed, Chris Reed, Richard Norman, Ann-Marie Coyne, Pete and Jan Botten, Carry Smyth (minute-taker), David and Pauline Bell, Pat Kellas, Ken Mills, Geoff Mills, C.J. Couchman, Robert Dicketts, Anthony Cooper, Diane Bayliss, Thelma and Michael Skinner, Christine and Dave Turnbull, Paul Fleury, Pam and Bill Payne, Tim Coyne, Patrick Smyth, Heidi Chadwick, Venie Fenny, Caroline and Stuart Davis, Charlie Baron, Ray Moon, John Fegan, Henry Lovell, Rupert Lovell, Neil Rigby, Michael Symes, John Freeman, John Shekyls, Gill and Mike Hollman, Terry White, Alison Scott, David Watson, Warwick and Juliet Lowe, Simon Jupp, Martin Moody, Charlie Baron, Heidi Chadwick, Denis Keenlyside.

Apologies: Sheila and Ken Vizard, June Fleury, Priscilla Dicketts

**1. Minutes of the Last Meeting:** read and agreed.

Proposed by Pete Botten, seconded by Warwick Lowe.

**2. Chairman's Report:** Lindsey asked if we would observe a minutes silence to remember people of Horsmonden who had died during the year.

2017 was another busy year for the Social Club. It is in use most of days of the year providing the venue for a number of local groups, open for sports and social events provided by the Club, and booked by members for private parties and fundraising events. The high use of the Club means a good deal of work for a team of bar volunteers, led by Paul Fleury, and for members of the Committee and other volunteers. Lindsey thanked them all and made special mention of the people who work behind the scene. These include Pete and Jan Botten, Simon Jupp, John Couchman, and those who buy the stock, get rid of empties, look after the garden and property and help in many ways to keep the Club well maintained and running smoothly.

There were nearly five hundred members in 2017. Although we still hope to attract younger members, we are pleased that the Club is quite often used for fundraising events by FOHPS and the Kindergarten. For the first time we have screened the Six Nations. This has proved popular and brought new people to the Club. We provide a range of entertainment for members and play our part in events organised by other local organisations.

Depending as it does on volunteers, the Club continues to do well financially and this year we were again able to make a number of donations to local organisations including the football Club, St. Margaret's Church, the School and the Kindergarten. Other donations have been agreed. We have installed heating and a new dishwasher. We are in the process of putting in a new door and considering refurbishment of the stage area and recess. Suggestions from members for improvements we can make to the Club and ideas for events, trips and entertainment are welcomed.

The Club's success is due to the continued support of its Members and the Chairman and Committee give thanks for this.

**3. Secretary's Report:** Chris Reed reported that:

Licences, insurances and security assessments have been maintained. The cost of licences has risen a little, but CR now has a contract with the licensing department which means that he does not have to apply every year for the sale of alcohol. An exception is the extra licence he has applied for to allow us to sell alcohol to the Morris Men on May Day morning.

The development of our own website and use of Facebook has proved very important to communication with members. We now receive, via the website, up to three requests a week to book the Club for events. The Newsletter is available on the website and the calendar of events keeps members well informed.

Report proposed by Paul Fleury, seconded by Ewen Kellas

#### **4. Elections for Members of the Committee:**

1. Existing members of the Committee stepping down: Billie Edmonds-Bell; Dave Bell, Carry Smyth. Members of the Committee willing to stand again: Lindsey Chave, Chris Reed, Ann-Marie Coyne, Paul Fleury, Richard Norman, Nick Belton, Richard Edmed, Denis Keenlyside, Bill Payne. There were no objections to all being voted onto the Committee again.
2. Proposed new members of the Committee: Alison Scott, John Edmonds-Bell, David Watson. There were no objections to the election of these members and they were all thus welcomed onto the new Committee.
3. Officers proposed: Chair: Lindsey Chave; Secretary: Chris Reed; Treasurer: Ann-Marie Coyne. The members agreed to their election.

Report proposed by Ray Moon and seconded by Caroline Davis.

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Lindsey Chave thanked Ann-Marie Coyne, Ewen Kellas and auditor Catherine Catchpole very much for their work in keeping the Club finances in good order and presenting the accounts to Club members. LC explained that the reduced bar profit was due to not selling wine at the Summer Festival and lower attendance on Friday evenings. Money made on Club events may be down on last year because we are able to offer free entertainment to members from time to time. Cleaning costs and bills for heating, light and water rose in line with inflation and increased use of the Club. There were no questions from the floor.

Report was proposed by Heidi Chadwick and seconded by Michael Skinner

**6. Subscriptions:** There will be no change in the annual subscription. The joining fee for lapsed members renewing their membership is now being applied.

#### **8. Any Other Business:**

Ewen Kellas asked if members had any ideas on how the Club could be improved. There was no immediate response but Lindsey Cave followed this up by inviting Members to come forward at any time with ideas and suggestions.

Caroline Davis commended the work that had been done over the years to refurbish the Club and improve facilities.

Another member asked if it would be possible to remove the central pillars. The Committee understands not, but this matter could be looked into again.

**There being no other business LC closed the meeting at 7.50 p.m.**



