

## Minutes of the A.G.M. of the Chester Seniors League held at Upton British Legion, Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup> 2023.

Present There were 48 members present. (Names on file)

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone saying that it was good to see so many .

Obituaries A minute's silence was observed in memory of those who have passed away during the last year:- Barney Redican, Stan Johnson, Ray Ash, Alan Biddle, Norman Draper and Jack Morris.

Apologies were received from Barry Hipkiss and Rob Seabrook (Tower), Ailsa Clegg (Hoole), Rosemary Hughes, John Burgess and Jo Sugarman (Waverton).

Chairman's Report . The Chairman commented that it had been a good season. He congratulated all the winners of both League and League Competitions where Upton had been outstanding. The League was well played and the weather kind.

The Minutes of the Previous AGM (2022) were previously distributed via email and on the web page. They were approved, proposed by Alan Hickson, seconded by Keith Stewart and adopted.

There were No Matters Arising.

Secretary's Report. Briefly the Secretary mentioned Whitby and St. Werburgh's and hoped they had enjoyed their first year in the League She congratulated the winners of all competitions and thanked the Host clubs for their support. She thanked the Chair, Treasurer and Vice Chair for their continued support, Martin Amesbury for doing the job of webmaster and fixtures and complemented the members on a good season. She then spoke in detail about the issue of falsifying results. She asked for a resolution that any team falsifying results would lose the points and have to play off scratch for the Hermitage Cup and American Plaque. (Full report on separate file)

Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer gave her usual very comprehensive balance sheet and report. (balance sheet on file). She explained that there is a deficit this year because the League paid for computer and printer repairs as a "one off." She thanked the Auditor Martin Amesbury and proposed that the Secretary's allowance should be increased from £70 to £100. This was agreed and the balance sheet was adopted as a true record.

There were no questions for the Treasurer.

Safeguarding Officer's Report. The Safeguarding Policy can be viewed on the website but Brian spoke of some of the more important points – disabilities may not be obvious so if a team has such a member, the opposing captain should be informed with that player's approval. Etiquette of bowling should be followed by all players and all problems including offensive language and petulant behaviour should be reported particularly if it happens in a public park. The full report is on the website under Safeguarding. (This full report is kept separately on file)

Election of Officers. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Auditor all agreed to continue and were elected, proposed *en bloc* by John Griffiths and seconded by Dot Whalley.

The Safeguarding Officer was reappointed; Brian Turner agreed to continue.

Auditor Martin Amesbury agreed to continue this role.

Presentation of Prizes. The Chair and Treasurer presented prizes to the top four teams in the League and the Semi Finalists, Runners-up and Finalists in the Hermitage, American Plaque and Burrows Cup.

Confirmation for the Formation of the League 2024. At the moment it is status quo.

Proposals:- There were two proposals, both from Waverton B. The first “That in each match 2 points to be awarded to the team that scores the most points. If it is a drawn game, 1 point to be awarded to each team. This proposal would give added incentive and interest to closely fought matches.” Keith Stewart from Waverton B spoke to the meeting about the reasons behind this proposal but, after a couple of opposing viewpoints were expressed by Terry Milner and Martin Amesbury, a card vote overwhelmingly defeated it.

Proposal 2 “That the fixture list is comprised of as many home games for each team to be played equally on either a Tuesday or a Friday. This proposal would ensure that someone who plays only on a Tuesday would not play all their matches away from home for instance.” Keith spoke again but realised that the size of the League and other anomalies would make this proposal impossible for the computerised system to facilitate. This proposal was defeated unanimously.

Constitution and Match Rules. Both of these documents have been on the website so a simple vote of hands adopted both with Martin Amesbury and John Griffiths proposing and seconding the Constitution and Chris Allen and Pat Evans proposing and seconding the Match Rules. Both new sets of documents will be displayed on the website.

The Venue for the Burrows Cup. Groves SL B.C. offered to host this event in 2024 and St. Werburgh’s in 2025

Close. There being no further business the Chairman concluded the meeting by again thanking everyone for attending and The Meeting Closed at 3.45 p.m.