

Minutes of the A.G.M. of the Chester Seniors League held at Upton British Legion, Tuesday October 21st 2025.

Present There were 38 members present. (Names on file)

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

Obituaries A minute's silence was observed in memory of those who have passed away during the last year:- Selwyn Callister, David Clegg, Alan Wise, Andrew Bright, Peter Hickson, Wilf Holroyd and John Bailiff.

Apologies were received from Dickie Powell and Pat Evans (Tower) Jamilah Ball (Whitby), Terry Milner (St. Werburgh's), Jan Jones and Jean Crossley (Cherry A), and Ian Belton (Hoole).

Chairman's Report . The Chairman commented that it had been a good season, the League having been won this year by his own team Cherry A and both cups won by Westminster Park. He congratulated all the prizewinners this year. (Prizes to be given out later)

The Minutes of the Previous AGM (2024) which had been previously distributed via email and on the web page, were proposed as a true record by Lol Jarvis, seconded by Chris Allen and adopted unanimously.

There were No Matters Arising.

Secretary's Report. Briefly the Secretary highlighted the following:- It was a season of two teams – Westminster Park who won both Cups; and Cherry A who won the League for the first time in their history and for having the winner of the Burrows Cup too, the third successive Cherry A player to do so.

She thanked all the members of the host clubs for providing venues and refreshments and volunteers who gave up their time. She thanked the Chair, Treasurer/Safeguarding Officer for their continued support and Martin Amesbury for doing the job of webmaster and fixtures. She complemented the members on being friendly, courteous and having the right mix of sportsmanship and camaradie, making it another good season. (Full report on separate file)

Treasurer's Report. The new Treasurer gave his first very comprehensive balance sheet and report. He explained the difficulties incurred by the banks making charges for transactions, he explained the extra Honoraria but felt that there was no need to increase the league fees for 2026 although this will need to happen in future. He thanked the Auditor Martin Amesbury and said that he will continue for one more year while a (younger) Treasurer is found. The Accounts were accepted and there were no questions.

Safeguarding Officer's Report. The Safeguarding Policy can be viewed on the website but Brian reminded the meeting of some of the more important points – very briefly - all inappropriate actions or words should be reported, disabilities may not be obvious so if a team has such a member, the opposing captain should be informed with that player's approval.

Election of Officers. There being no one willing to come forward, the Chairman reluctantly agreed to continue for one more year ONLY. The Secretary and Vice Chair agreed to continue. The Treasurer will also continue for one more year, as stated previously.

Auditor 2026 - Martin Amesbury agreed to carry on.

Honoraria The Secretary, Treasurer and Webmaster will be paid £100 each per annum, not much compared to other leagues.

New Rule -re Playing During Very Hot Weather The Secretary outlined her suggestions for a rule to be adopted and included in the Constitution :-

1. Should the Met Office issue a RED WARNING for HEAT, no games will be played on that day and will be rescheduled to the next available Catch Up date.

2. For YELLOW WARNINGS (or expected heat of 25 degrees or over locally) the following should happen

a) the match could be rescheduled to either a 10 a.m. start or an evening start on the same day if this is possible OR

b) the game be rescheduled to the next Catch- up Date or

c) the game be rescheduled between the two teams on a mutually agreed date and time to be completed within the 21 days of the original date.

Following a brief discussion, it was suggested and agreed unanimously that this be adopted and it will be incorporated into the Constitution ready for the 2026 season.

Presentation of Prizes. All Trophies and cash prizes were presented by the Chairman, the recipients signing for the cash from the Treasurer.

Confirmation of the League for 2026 The Secretary informed the meeting that a new team – Upton Ultras will be joining the League.

She also told the meeting about a request to join the league which she had received from Northop Hall. However, the Meeting agreed that, as it was not a formal application, it was too late and as Northop Hall is well outside the boundary, any application from them in future would be rejected.

Waverton A proposed that the League for 2026 be sub-divided into two smaller divisions of 8 teams in each. Each team would then play each other twice home and twice away, making 24 games. There could be promotions and relegations and possibly a reformation of the Hermitage Cup. (full proposal kept on file.)

After a full discussion the meeting voted, by a very large margin, to reject this proposal, so the League will remain as one large one of 16 teams for the 2026 season.

Changes to the Constitution and Match Rules The new rule about HEAT will be incorporated.

Venue for the Burrows Cup – In 2026 this will be held at Whitby Park, the home of Stanney Lane team and in 2027 it will be held at Waverton.

Closing Remarks by Chairman

The Chair reminded everyone to try to find a replacement for the position of Chair and Treasurer by next year and wished everyone a good Winter.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3 42 p.m.