



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

Founded 2000

2016 - 17th Annual General Meeting

Minutes

1. Welcome by Chairman

Malcolm Kirby, our Chairman, opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed the 26 members present. He especially welcomed our guests and in particular the Leighton Linslade Deputy Mayor Cllr Rahman; also saying that he was pleased to see such a good turnout and asked members to please sign the attendance sheet.

Malcolm added that our club had recently had a meeting with Leighton Linslade Town Council (LLTC) regarding our new licence which will operate from April 2017. Firstly he said that our new licence will have a discount on the 2016 rate. In addition the length of the new licence will be longer than the current licence, giving us the opportunity to discuss a grant from the Croquet Association. Malcolm also said that the 'Indemnity Clause' will not be included within our new licence. *(This clause which is in our current licence, has meant meant that in the event of our club folding up, we would still have been liable for the annual fee for the remaining years of the licence.)*

Malcolm added that the agreed wording of the new licence is subject to a LLTC Grounds and Environmental Services committee meeting on 5th December, to which we are invited.

2. Receive apologies for absence

Roger had received 4 apologies for absence: -

Diana Phelps, Pamela Richardson and Irene & Peter Davis.

3. Approve minutes of the 16th AGM

Malcolm asked if he could take the minutes of the last AGM (which was on 13th November 2015) as an accurate record of the meeting.

Ross Bagni pointed out that there is an error in Section 7, Presentation of Awards. The Club Singles Handicap runner-up should be Judith Pengelly (not Roger Stroud as stated). Roger apologised and said that this will be changed.

There were no other matters arising and acceptance of the minutes of the 2015 AGM were proposed by David Ball and seconded by Tom Miller.

4. Adopt reports of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer (inc. Annual Accounts)

The Officer's Reports had been previously circulated to members with the AGM Information Pack therefore the reports were not repeated.

4.1 Chairman's Report

Malcolm had nothing further to add.

4.2 Secretary's Report

Roger said that our club web site can now be directly accessed from the Council web site using the designated links and also re-iterated that the web site can now be easily accessed by a mobile device Android or iOS.

Roger also pointed out that, further to Malcolm's remarks about our meetings with the Town Council, we do have a good relationship with the Town Council and have had so for many years. In addition, Roger said that as a club we are proud that we did so well in competitions this year and the Town Council has published details of us winning the Murphy Shield in their 'About Town' publication, Nov/December 2016.

4.3 Treasurer's Report

Len announced that he was retiring as Treasurer after doing the job for 16 years. He added that our expenses have been significant this year which included our contribution to the new fence of nearly £3,000; he also said that Mary Kemp has offered to take the place of Len as Treasurer.

At this point in the meeting, David Ball said that we should record our thanks to Len for the service he has done for our club.

4.4 Officers' Reports Acceptance

Malcolm then asked if someone would like to propose acceptance of the three Officers' reports. Sally Clay proposed acceptance of the three reports which was seconded by John Thorp and duly voted and accepted by the meeting.

5 Club Subscription 2017

Len said that the annual subscription for 2017 will remain the same as 2016 and added that he felt that it would be sensible to increase the subscription each year by the same percentage increase of our rent to the Council.

6. Appoint an auditor

Len said that our present auditor was unable to continue so we will have to find another auditor for the future.

7. Elect the Officers – Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer

The Chairman then stepped down and handed over to Secretary Roger Stroud who explained that we have had the following nominations: -

Chairman - Malcolm Kirby, proposed by Sally Clay and seconded by Mary Kemp

Secretary - Roger Stroud, proposed by Sally Clay and seconded by John Thorp

Treasurer - Mary Kemp, proposed by Sally Clay and seconded by John Thorp

Roger then said that based upon the nominations received Malcolm will continue as Chairman, himself as Secretary and Mary as Treasurer.

Richard Keighley proposed the motion for the three Officer Posts and was seconded by Jean Ball.

8. Elect the general committee members

Malcolm read out the names of the 2016 committee, excluding Mary who is now the Treasurer, and made the point that Sheila Guest had said that she no longer wished to be a committee member. He then thanked Sheila for the time she had spent as a committee member.

This gave us the following committee members: -

John Cundell

John Thorp

Val Jeffers

Ross Bagni

Sally Clay

Len Buckingham offered to become a committee member, being proposed by Malcolm and seconded by Roger.

Sheila Beal was also willing to become a committee member, being proposed by John Cundell and seconded by Tom.

Malcolm invited a proposal for all committee members to be elected 'en bloc' - this was proposed by David and seconded by Sheila Guest.

Malcolm then made some further comments. He said that during 2016, a first class fence has been installed around all our three lawns and it has made such a difference. We have had no footballers and, after some discussion with the Town Council, anti-climb paint has been put on top of the gates which seems to have worked.

In addition, he mentioned the benches given to us by the Council and also looked forward to the making of the steps between our lawns two & three.

9. Presentation of awards

John Cundell called forward Cllr Rahman, the Town Deputy Mayor to present each of the prizes and then spoke to the meeting prior to him calling out the names of the winners / runners up, saying that for each trophy he will call out the name(s) of the runners-up first, then the winners.

Leighton-Linslade Croquet Club Winners 2016

Mix 'n Match Handicap Doubles

Runners Up

LEN BUCKINGHAM and SHEILA BEAL

Winners

JUDITH PENGELLY and VAL JEFFERS

Mix 'n Match Ladies Doubles

Runners Up

SHEILA BEAL and SHEILA GUEST

Winners

JEAN BALL and UNA PENGELLY

Handicap Singles

Runner Up

SHEILA GUEST

Winner

JEAN BALL

Doubles

Runners Up

DAVID BALL and JEAN BALL

Winners

JOHN CUNDELL and JUDITH PENGELLY

Singles
Runner Up **ROSS BAGNI**
Winner **DAVID BALL**

B-Level Leighton-Linslade ROGER STROUD

B-Level Hunstanton ROSS BAGNI

B-Level Nottingham ROSS BAGNI

**EACF Champion of Champions Handicap Trophy
 JUDITH PENGELLY**

**EACF Counties Wheeler Shield JOHN CUNDELL; JUDITH
PENGELLY; ROGER STROUD; JOHN THORP**

Croquet Association Golf Croquet Inter-Club (Murphy Shield)

A Knockout Competition between 19 teams from all over England – we beat last year’s winners Nottingham at Nottingham, then Hunstanton at home, then Ripon Spa at Nottingham and in the final held at Surbiton we beat Guildford & Godalming. The team members were:

JOHN CUNDELL, DAVID BALL, JEAN BALL, ROSS BAGNI, JUDITH PENGELLY AND ROGER STROUD.

John mentioned that in the final, in addition to our team, we had a further six members who went to support our team; and that the final went to the seventh deciding game with John Cundell beating his opponent at the 13th hoop.

10 Annual Dinner

Malcolm said that he wished to organize a vote now in the meeting, asking members if they would prefer our annual dinner to continue to be in the evening or to be at lunchtime instead.

A hand vote was taken with 10 members preferring lunchtime and 9 members preferring an evening.

There was a discussion during which Malcolm said that a lunchtime could be arranged for a Saturday and that since the caterers at the Golf Club have changed it we could consider other venues such as 'The Ship' which compares on price and has a more extensive menu.

Malcolm will further investigate our options and let members know of the options in due course.

11. Any other Business

John Thorp raised the issue of 'more help' to set up on matchdays as it is always the same small number of individuals who carry this out on every occasion.

John Thorp asked if we were progressing with design of shelters beside each lawn. David Ball responded that he was investigating possible ready-made sheds before embarking on a shelter design. Malcolm Kirby said that committee had agreed that the installation of such shelters would be an excellent addition to our facilities.

12 Closing Remarks

Malcolm said that he would like to thank everyone for attending and contributing to the meeting; also, all who brought food for the party. In addition, thanks to Tony Stammers for organising the raffle.

John Cundell said that our club should be extremely grateful to John Thorp for the role he carries out in liaising and booking all our League, Friendly and Club matches. It is not an easy job and John handles it very well indeed.

Malcolm finally added a vote of thanks to Clr Rahman for attending our meeting and presenting the prizes to our club members.

The meeting was closed by Malcolm at 8.20pm who wished all present a Merry Christmas and a Happy Croquet New Year.