

North Walsham Rifle and Pistol Club

87th Annual General Meeting

Held via Zoom on 29th April 7:30pm

Apologies

Elected Committee members Present:

Hon Sec – Richard Drake Rifle Captain – Geoff Snell, Airgun Captain – Jeff Saville, Police Liaison – Tony Barnard, Safety Officer- Terry Thacker, Development Officer – Mike Kirkham, Membership Secretary - Colin Ross, Treasurer - Fabian Halstead

Welcome

Richard Drake opened the meeting, and welcomed everyone who had decided to attend the virtual AGM and thanked them for their attendance. He stated that the AGM would be recorded unless anyone had objections to this, no objections were raised. He said that the Chairman had submitted an address for the meeting, and this had been circulated previously but would be included within the written minutes. The first order of business was to elect a Chairman for the meeting, as the outgoing Chairman was not currently in the meeting. RD suggested that as the host for the Zoom meeting he proposed that it would be appropriate for him to chair the meeting, this was proposed by Jeff Saville and seconded by Tony Barnard, the vote for was unanimous.

(Olly Crysell joined the meeting)

Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM had been circulated to all members together with the invite to this meeting, no matters had raised and no amendments to the minutes been proposed. Richard asked the meeting if any one attending had any matters to be raised or amendments. None were raised, Fabian Halstead proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Charles Cain, and the minutes were agreed unanimously by the meeting.

Chairman's Address

My thanks for your patience and loyal support over the passed year, continuance of this through out 2021/22 is vital to the club and will be very much appreciated. On your behalf I thank the club committee, especially those that wished to stand down in 2020 but have continued in post through out these difficult times, including the opted on members. Were many clubs have remained closed as an easy option, this team has worked tirelessly to ensure the club was safe and remained open when permitted. This is due to their dedication to you the membership and the club for which they should be applauded. You can be assured that what ever happens the club will remain open in one way or another if it is possible . Due to COVID19 restrictions and the absence of an AGM in April 2020 the committee elected to act as a caretaker committee with the three club officers taking control and acting on behalf of the membership, running the clubs essential business, this was envisage at the time to be short term and this could not continue. The current situation indicates that the club is unlikely to be able to hold an attended meeting at the earliest until July/August 2021.

Therefore the caretaker committee has decided to implement a Ballot, the purpose of this is to ensure that the 2021/22 committee is elected by the membership and is in place when the club fully reopens and to set and approve the clubs annual subscription. The caretaker committee considered this could not be achieved within the frame of the constitution without membership approval, hence the reason for the online ballot and Zoom AGM meeting. Finally as you are aware I stood for election this year and would very much like to thank you for your support throughout my period of chairmanship, I ask that you offer this same support to the new Chairman and your committee.

Hon. Secretary's Report

Richard echoed the chairman's comments, thanked Olly, Fabian, and Colin Ross for their work on the committee over the previous years. He also thanked the membership for their support and forbearance, over what has been a most extraordinary year.

However, it was felt that through the hard work of the committee over the lockdowns especially David and Viv for their work on the booking system, Tony Barnard for looking after the club the lockdowns, and Terry for preparing the risk assessments. The club is in a good position to move forward out of the pandemic, and it was hoped that over the next few months as restrictions eased, the normal life of the club could resume in some semblance of normality, although it seemed likely that some restrictions would remain for a considerable period.

Hon. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's End of Year report had been previously circulated, these were still subject to audit due to difficulties related to the pandemic. Fabian gave a short summary of the state of the club finances, that the club was in a stable position, and had successfully weathered the pandemic. The field purchase was ongoing, with matters still with the solicitors, it is hoped that this would be finalised in the next couple of months. Fabian said he would be providing support to the new treasurer during a handover period. It was proposed that the meeting accept the EoY Report, Proposed by Richard Drake, seconded by Olly Crysell, the vote for was unanimous.

Richard stated that no other officers of the club wished to make any report to the meeting, due to the pandemic unfortunately there was not much to report from each discipline, as all competitions had been cancelled, and the club closed for the lockdowns.

Proposal for subscriptions 2021/22

The proposal by the committee for the subscriptions for 2021/22 had been published previously as part of an interactive member vote. The proposal was that:

The committee's proposal regarding fees, is that in recognition of the members who paid their full membership fee for 2020/21 despite the limited shooting available: a rebate on renewal will be made for 2021/22 of £30 to all paid up adult full members, and £15 for all paid up junior full members, as a gesture of appreciation. Therefore, members who paid their 2020 fees, would need to pay 2021/22 fees of £75 for adult full members, and £20 for junior full members. Fees would remain the same for all other membership classes.

The results of the interactive vote were that of 46 votes cast, 44 votes were for the proposal, 2 votes cast were void. The proposal for fees was carried.

Proposal for Trustees

The proposal by the committee to update the constitution regarding the role of the Trustees had been published previously as part of an interactive member vote. The proposal was that:

The club assets and land are held in trust on behalf of the club membership.

The recent acquisition of land by the club highlighted that the current constitution made no mention of trustee's responsibility or appointments.

Your committee consider that this anomaly should be corrected and are proposing the following paragraph to be inserted into the club's constitution. The contents have been reviewed for legality.

The proposal

That a new section headed Trustees and its content as presented below is inserted into the current constitution.

Trustees

1. There shall be at least three(3) Trustees (maximum 4) who shall be appointed from time to time as necessary by the Management Committee from the full or honorary members of the club being 21 years of age or over.

2. The Trustees shall hold office until death or until they resign by notice in writing to the Management Committee or until a resolution removing them from office be passed at a committee meeting by a majority comprising of two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote.

The Management Committee has the authority to remove any trustee that is in breach of their duties.

3. All property of the club including land and investments (other than cash which shall be under the control of the Honorary Treasurer) shall be vested in them on trust for the use and benefit of the Club.

4. The Trustees shall in all respects act, in regard to any property of the club held by them, in accordance with the directions of the Management Committee; which will duly be recorded in the proceedings minutes. In the event of any split decision by the trustee's the Chairman will hold the casting vote.

5. In the event of the club winding up the trustees will in conjunction with the club's appointed officers (Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer) dispose of club's property and effects, any assets remaining after settlement of debts and liabilities shall be transferred to the club's governing body or an organisation with same interest or a charity with the same interest for use in a related community sport.

6. The trustees shall be effectually indemnified against any liability that relates directly or indirectly to performance of the functions of a trustee of the club.

Your committee is strongly recommending that you accept this proposal

The results of the interactive vote were that of 46 votes cast, 43 votes were for the proposal, 1 abstention and 2 votes cast were void. The proposal for the amendment was carried.

Election of the committee of the club

The election of the committee had been published as part of the interactive members vote. The results are as follows.

The post of Chairman: standing for election Mr Colin Abbs and Mr John Sharman

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Colin Abbs - 36

Votes for Mr John Sharman – 4

Abstentions - 6

Mr Colin Abbs is duly elected to the post of Chairman

The post of Treasurer: standing for election Ms Isabell Snell

Total votes - 46

Votes for Ms Isabell Snell - 42

Abstentions - 3

Void vote - 1

Ms Isabell Snell is duly elected to the post of Treasurer

The post of Secretary: standing for election Mr Richard Drake

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Richard Drake - 42

Abstentions - 3

Void vote - 1

Mr Richard Drake is duly elected to the post of Secretary

The post of Assistant Secretary: standing for election Ms Freya Giles

Total votes - 46

Votes for Ms Freya Giles - 43

Abstentions - 2

Void vote - 1

Ms Freya Giles is duly elected to the post of Assistant Secretary

The post of Membership Secretary: standing for election Mr Patrick O'Brien

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Patrick O'Brien - 37

Abstentions - 8

Void vote - 1

Mr Patrick O'Brien is duly elected to the post of Membership Secretary

The post of Safety Officer: standing for election Mr Terry Thacker

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Terry Thacker - 38

Abstentions - 7

Void vote - 1

Mr Terry Thacker is duly elected to the post of Safety Officer

The post of Rifle Captain: standing for election Mr Geoff Snell

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Geoff Snell - 43

Abstentions - 2

Void vote - 1

Mr Geoff Snell is duly elected to the post of Rifle Captain

The post of Pistol Captain: standing for election Mr Robert Lawless and Mr Simon Wilson

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Colin Abbs - 14

Votes for Mr John Sharman – 6

Abstentions – 25

Void vote - 1

Mr Robert Lawless is duly elected to the post of Pistol Captain

The post of Airgun Captain: standing for election Mr Jeff Saville

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Jeff Saville - 39

Abstentions - 6

Void vote - 1

Mr Jeff Saville is duly elected to the post of Airgun Captain

The post of Liaison Officer: standing for election Mr Tony Barnard

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Tony Barnard - 41

Abstentions - 4

Void vote - 1

Mr Tony Barnard is duly elected to the post of Liaison Officer

The post of Development Officer: standing for election Mr Mike Kirkham

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Mike Kirkham - 41

Abstentions - 4

Void vote - 1

Mr Mike Kirkham is duly elected to the post of Development Officer

The post of Webmaster: standing for election Mr David Sherwood

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr David Sherwood - 40

Absentions - 6

Mr David Sherwood is duly elected to the post of Webmaster

The post of Marketing and PR Officer: standing for election Ms Vivien Minett

Total votes - 46

Votes for Ms Vivien Minett - 40

Absentions - 5

Void vote - 1

Ms Vivien Minett is duly elected to the post of Marketing and PR Officer

The post of Rifle Competition Secretary: standing for election Mr Colin Abbs

Total votes - 46

Votes for Mr Colin Abbs - 41

Absentions - 4

Void vote - 1

Mr Colin Abbs is duly elected to the post of Rifle Competition Secretary

AOB

Olly Crysell said that while hardly any competitions had been staged this year, one that had was the Chairman's Cup. This had been won by Mr Tony Barnard. The meeting thanked Olly and congratulated Tony.

Charles Cain said that there had been a new cup inaugurated this year in memory of Freya Gile's mum. This was for the 50m competition and had been won by Ms Vivien Minett. The meeting thanked Charles and Freya for the cup, and it was considered a very fitting memorial to Freya's mum, who had done much to help the club. Congratulations went to Vivien.

Olly Crysell said that on the subject of new cups, a new cup had been inaugurated in memory of Mr John Mills. This would for a muzzleloading rifle competition which would be held over a 12 month period; Mr Tony Barnard will organising this competition. Once again the meeting thanked Olly and Tony, and considered it a very fitting memorial to a long standing member of the club.

Richard thanked everyone who had attended the meeting, and there being no other business closed the meeting at 8:15pm