

Minutes of Sellindge Sports and Social Club Annual General Meeting

Monday 26th March 2012— 8.00pm

1) Attendance & Apologies

In Attendance

George Oakley	Margaret Birch	Sarah-Jane Sandy	Caroline Crumley
David Crumley	Stephen Pope	jenny Hollingsbee	

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from:

Angela Pumfleet	Nigel Fursden	Christina Sandy
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2) Chairman's Report

George Oakley updated the meeting as follows: the building re-opened on 1st May 2011 following closure for refurbishment. Whilst the project was due for sign off on 14th February, this has not yet happened because there are still some outstanding issues to be resolved. The significant issues we have had include the water drainage from the shower rooms, which will need to be looked at in the future and a major water leak between the clubhouse and the road. A new pipe has been installed by Richard Birch for which we would like to thank him as well as for the work he did clearing up and re-turfing at the front of the building,

The Club has been busier than it was prior to closure, but is still not as busy as we would like. We are not sure how this can be overcome and more interest generated in the village, but we continue to try to address this. Lots of functions have been booked at the club — it is available for hire, so please give us a try! It is only £7 for a Sunday roast and we are getting good numbers in despite there being no advertising as yet.

Little Oaks nursery was here using the clubhouse from June onwards and this did delay our plans to open up the youth centre. We are now actively looking into this and a Youth Club will be a priority going forward.

We would like to express our thanks to Nigel Fursden for all his support, specifically for allowing us to insert promotional flyers for the Club in the Sellindge Village News over the past few months.

We have now obtained and lease the back field (behind the tennis courts) from the E. Sedgwick and Sarah Godfrey Charities and have had a change of use granted to change it into football fields.

We have thriving junior football at the club, with seven teams currently playing and the likelihood that it will grow in future. Unfortunately our cricket team disbanded, but we are open to any new team that might wish to start. Bowls and tennis are both thriving.

Last but not least, a big thank you to the committee for all the work they have done over the last year, which has not been an easy one.

3) Treasurer's Report

Margaret Birch explained that last years accounts are currently being audited. We have sufficient money to pay the builders as and when the project is completed satisfactorily. Additionally, we have approximately £3,500 to £4,000 in reserve to cover any other issues which may arise. The membership fee is still at £1.00 per adult per year and as at today, we have 221 members. Football and tennis will renewing their membership for this year soon which will significantly increase the numbers. The total will then be around 400 or so members.

4) Membership Fee

George Oakley explained that some years ago, the annual membership fee used to be £15 for a family (2 adults), £10 for a single adult and £5 for OAPs per year. As already mentioned, we have carried on with a membership fee of £1.00 for this year. It is now proposed that the membership fee for 2013 be increased to £2 per adult. This was put to the vote and accepted.

5) Fundraising Report

George Oakley explained that "Monster Play" have quoted us in the region of £50k to install a new children's play park. We met with another company, "Kompan" earlier this week and are due to receive a quote from them soon. We also have a meeting planned with "Wicksteed" next week. The aim is to consider three separate quotes and to select the most suitable supplier.

Bonfire night was very successful and raised approximately £2k. Unfortunately, most of the boot fairs were rained off over the past year, but in total we now have around £5,000 in the fundraising account and a promise of £3,000 from the Shepway District Council Community Chest. Currently, we are also raising money for new goalposts as those in place are bent and no longer fit for purpose. We are raising money for the goal posts with a clothing and shoes collection — the collection will be on 19th April. We also have a sponsored swim planned in Folkestone on 29th April, and a number of the junior footballers and other club members will be taking part. The plan is that the if we as a club can raise 50% of the cost then the junior football team will pay the other 50%. The type of "portable" goals they would like to purchase cost approximately £4,000, so it is a significant challenge to raise the necessary funds.

We would like to say a special thank you to Sylvia Tanner and the junior footballers who helped out at the Bonfire Night event. Thank you also to everyone else who helped out and made it such a success. Richard Spokes commented that it would be good to repeat the bonfire night event but that we should look to increase the number of volunteers to make the event easier to manage.

The discussion was opened to the floor for any questions or suggestions. Jenny Hollingsbee advised that we approach the Parish Council each year for funding. Richard Spokes added that other villages in the vicinity get around £2,000 per year to allocate in grants to local organisations.

6) Elections to the Committee

George reported that Margaret Birch has decided to step down and to enjoy a well-earned rest after 13 years on the committee. It has not been an easy job over the years and our thanks go to Margaret for all her hard work. Christina Sandy has suggested that Margaret may wish to step into the role of trustee to the club. This was put to the vote and passed unanimously.

Sarah-Jane Sandy wishes to stay on the committee but to resign from the role of Secretary.

Susie Smith, Nick Hollingsbee and Ian Birch said that they would each like to join the committee as an elected officer.

Angela Pumfleet has said that she does not wish to stand for re-election as an elected officer of the committee, but will continue to attend as the appointed officer of the bingo and whist clubs. George expressed our thanks to Angela for all her hard work over the years.

D id Motley said that he would like to join the committee as membership secretary.

George Oakley, David Crumley and Caroline Crumley said that they would like to stand for re-election to the committee.

A vote took place and Sarah-Jane Sandy, Susie Smith, Nick Hollingsbee, Ian Birch, Dave Motley, George Oakley, David Crumley and Caroline Crumley were duly elected as committee members.

It was explained that we need to find a treasurer and a secretary. Margaret Birch suggested that George would make a great Treasurer. George asked the meeting for approval to leave the decision as to the new Secretary and Treasurer to the first meeting of the new committee and this was duly voted upon and approved.

7) A.O.B

Jenny Hollingsbee stated that she would like to record our thanks to the E.Sedgwick and Sarah Godfrey Charities who paid for the planning application and the environmental survey for the new land (the "back field") being leased by the club. One of the trustees of the Charities is a solicitor and is to draw up a new lease for the whole site.

Jenny also suggested that it might be a good idea to look to review the constitution of the club. We could for example change it to a company limited by guarantee and register as a charity, which may give more flexibility in how we operate the clubhouse, for example it would allow us to close for special events or to run ticket-only events. This is not currently possible as members can come in at any time during normal opening hours. Another consideration is that the change would limit the risk to each member of the board of directors to £0.01 as opposed to the current situation whereby the Trustees are the ones to be sued (or to sue) on behalf of the club. There were no objections to this suggestion. It was explained that an EGM would need to be called to implement such a change.

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