



**MINUTES OF TTCC AGM  
HELD ON FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019  
Start: 7:35pm**

**PRESENT:** Eddie Wylie, Ian Redmond, Paul Hemming, Kieran Lynch, Vic Pye, Tim Mahoney, Andy Stephenson, Dominic Melville, Simon Lewis, Nick Bishop, Iain Cottingham, Jack Young, Colin Young, Frank Bird, Ben Denton-Powell, Matt Taylor, Micky Stone, Jamie Young, Perry More, Chris Bird, Chris Rochfort, Matt Denness, Mike Green

**APOLOGIES:** Tom Mahoney, Dave Hogg, Nathan Redmond

• **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the previous AGM, held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

• **Matters arising from the last meeting**

No matters arising.

• **Chairman's report**

- The Chairman expressed his thanks to all members of the Management Committee for their commitment and hard work over the past 12 months. Special thanks to Matt Denness who has tendered his resignation from the Committee with immediate effect.
- Additional thanks were given to Chris Bird for running the club bar, Vic & Lyn Pye (social functions), the Colts coaches and managers and the Grounds & Buildings team for their year round work. Caroline & John Slevin were thanked for organising the Friday night colts' barbeques which proved a huge success, to Chris Brown for his work on the wicket and to all the volunteers whose help throughout the year and are vital to the success of the club.
- The club structure remains unchanged (trustees – management committee – sub committees). Full organisation charts are available on the website.
- Forterra remained the Club sponsor for the 2019 season. We also welcomed sponsorship from Bella Luna and MJP Therapy. We hope to retain all for the 2020 season, with other local companies also to be approached.
- Club finances remain a challenge but after two consecutive years of loss, the club returned a small and welcome profit. Full details will be given in the treasurer's report.
- A review of all income and costs has taken place covering sponsorship, match fees & subscriptions, bar prices etc. With the bar still our major source of income, the membership was reminded that the club remains open throughout the Winter and encouraged to use the facilities.
- The committee felt that the clubhouse / bar had considerable scope for additional outside use but it was unreasonable to expect this to happen without further help. We are therefore looking for an Events Manager.
- Members were reminded that membership is due on January 1<sup>st</sup> and are asked to pay as soon as possible. The months leading up to the season are the most expensive and this income is vital.
- After consecutive years of storm damage, a quiet year on the buildings front was welcome. The grounds team, under the guidance of Andy Stephenson continued with their highly valued work which was recognised in the league grades for wicket and outfield. The club also ranked in the top 15 for umpire facilities and hospitality. Thanks to Frank Bird and the captains for their work.
- The committee is evaluating the possibility of running electricity to the scoreboard and the installation of an electronic scoreboard. If feasible, an application will be made for matched funding via The Good Exchange.

- On the playing side, a highlight from the U9's who went unbeaten through the season and were awarded the Robb Fraser Special Achievement Award in recognition. The Senior sides performed well and all remained in their current divisions with some exceptional individual performances. Full reports from the respective managers to follow.
- Winter nets (seniors) will take place at Newbury College from Feb 16<sup>th</sup> – April 5<sup>th</sup> (inclusive). Aftab Habib will continue his work as the club coach with the colts section.

## • Treasurer's Report

- As previously reported, the club tends to live hand to mouth, with expenditure generally greater than income. Whilst we are a sizeable club with a relatively high level of income, our expenditure is also considerable and we have only made a profit in two of the last six years. We are pleased to report that this was one of those years.
- Efforts to gain more sponsorship and the decision to raise subs, match fees and bar prices have contributed to a net profit of £3000 for the season.
- The accounts have been presented on a straightforward cash basis, simply taking into account income and expenditure.
- The introduction of card payments over the bar has proved a huge benefit and whilst difficult to directly quantify, it is felt to have contributed to the increase in profit. The convenience is a major factor, with additional benefits such as a reduction in cash handling and the speed at which money reaches the club account. The card fees for 2019 totalled £199.12 and some work is required to reduce reporting issues but overall a major improvement. Thanks to Chris Bird for organising.
- The increase in subs raised an additional £600 but we continue to have an issue with some not willing to pay. The issue rests with the senior sides and gets progressively worse from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> XI. It is in some way understandable with those at the lower levels less likely to play week in, week out but the club has always made it clear that all circumstances can be taken into consideration. All players are reminded of their obligation to pay.
- Colts membership (x64) = £2690
- Senior membership (x33) = £2168
- Social membership (x31) = £500
- Match fees increased by £1250 from 2018.
- Thanks to the club sponsors Forterra, Bella Luna and MJP Therapy and to Dominic Melville and Jamie Young for their work in securing these deals. The club is always looking for further sponsorship opportunities.
- The bar remains our lifeblood and this is highlighted when comparing the shortfall between match fees and playing expenses and subscriptions and running costs. Despite a good year on the bar and an increase in subs / match fees, this situation continues.
  - i. The cost of cricket 2019 (fees, balls, wicket prep, machinery, umpire fees etc.) was £18,600 but with match fees of £6300, the produces a shortfall of £12,300.
  - ii. Running costs (utilities, rent, Insurance, Sky TV etc.) totalled £14,800, with income from subscriptions at £5,400. A deficit of £,9,400
- A good year on the bar (including BBQ) saw a profit of £20,500 but this still falls short of the total playing and running costs deficit of £21,700.
- This is not a new position but it is important to make it clear to the members just how important the bar income is. The club must look to find a way to take pressure off the current bar manager to ensure we get the maximum use out of the facilities we have. As always, it would be great if this could come from new volunteers and not the usual suspects who are already doing their bit.
- A couple of 'expenses' presented in the accounts may need explanation as they have increased from last year.
  - i. Ground maintenance – generally small sums spent by the grounds team for items such as fuel, seed, paint etc. This year has included some large costs such as hedge cutting (£480), weed/feed of outfield (£745) and fencing materials (£370).
  - ii. Benches – relates to work carried out by S & C Bartholomew to replace the broken benches around the ground. The costs were covered by the generous donation of £500 from Ian Martin. Thanks to Ian for his support. His donation can also be gift aided.
- In conclusion, an encouraging year in turning the regular losses into profit. Hopefully we can build going forward. Vigilance and hard work is required however if we are to maintain progress. The ongoing success of the bar is vital and we need to maintain (and hopefully increase) our sponsorship. As of 31<sup>st</sup> October, we had £10,500 in the bank, all of which is available for general club expenses. The cost of running the club over the winter is approximately £10,000 which last year was more or less covered by the income over that period. We therefore need to ensure that winter events and income are maintained.

- **Senior Cricket Report**

- An inconsistent season but the aim to keep all three senior sides at their current level was achieved.
- With the loss of the 4<sup>th</sup> XI, competition for 3<sup>rd</sup> XI places was stronger. Colts however continued to play a major role under the mentorship of the senior players (special mention to Perry Moore). Thanks to Mick Stone who is standing down as captain. Overall a successful season, finishing 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Nathan Redmond enjoyed a successful season as captain of the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI, who finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the league with seven victories. Scoring 250+ on five occasions, there was real strength in the batting side and an improvement on the bowling should see a challenge for promotion in 2020.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> XI struggled, finishing 8<sup>th</sup> with five wins in the season. A difficult year for the skipper whose off field commitments made it hard to give as much focus as he would have hoped. However, with an emphasis on more structured training for 2020, we can be confident that the undoubted talent within the club will come through.
- The midweek XI finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Downs League Division 1, with a W6 L6 record.
- In summary, a mixed but promising season where a great club spirit shone through.

- **Colts Chairman's Report**

- A reasonable season with the undoubted highlight being the unbeaten season for the U9's. Progression from colts to senior cricket continued with the benefits clear to all. Representation at county level continues to be strong and it's important to have our talented potential exposed to the coaching and development that Berks (and potentially Middx.) have to offer.
- Overall the colts' record was P28 W11 L16 Cancelled 1. A lot of clubs continued to hold teams back from Div. 1 (something we did not do) resulting in a concentration of the strongest clubs and a stern test. This has also resulted in a lower number of fixtures making it difficult to develop players for match situations.
- Some good growth in the girls section, thanks to Simon Hannam for his hard work and enthusiasm, something we must build on.
- U15 P5 W0 L4 . The team underperformed given the talent in the side.
- U13 P6 W0 L6. Numbers were stretched and sometimes needed U11's to step in. Matt Taylor did an exceptional job as coach, always prepared to deliver quality and fun sessions.
- U11 P7 W1 L6. Coached by Aftab with matches run by Simon Lewis. A young team, mostly U10's in their first year of hardball cricket with the two county representatives at this age group playing at U13's. Great improvement over the season in a tough division (Div. 1). A fantastic attitude, never getting down about results and always keen to play and improve.
- U9 P10 W10 L0. A truly outstanding season. Thanks to coach Alistair Howell, ably assisted by Eddie Wylie and Liam Redmond. With only one division, and many other clubs benefitting from All Stars cricket, going unbeaten was a truly remarkable achievement.
- Eight players under 16 regularly played senior cricket. Three of these (Alec Davidson Soler, Matt Cox and Rhys Lewis scored senior 50's. Rhys recorded over 500 league runs for the 1's and 2's.
- Two juniors (Rhys Lewis and Odhinn Moore) received Player of the Year trophies for their respective senior sides.
- Five players represented Berks at either age group or development level, with Rhys Lewis named Player of the Year at Berks. U14.
- Former player Rhodri Lewis made his minor counties debut for Berkshire and was awarded the Berkshire young Player of the Year award. Also represented Middlesex at U19 and U17 and was awarded a Middlesex Academy contract for 2020.
- Thanks to all the coaches and their support teams for all their hard work and enthusiasm. Thanks to the team managers (Rachel Moore and Ros Lewis) and to Carline Slevin for her work at Club Welfare Officer.
- Additional thanks to the grounds team for providing such great facilities, to the bar and BBQ teams for making Friday nights such a great social occasion and to all the parents for their support.
- It is recognised how important the colts section is to the club, both in developing players for senior cricket and in their contribution to club finances. We need more people to join the coaching team or to help as age group managers. Anyone wishing to get involved should contact Simon Lewis.
- Jack Young raised the issue of how little cricket was available to the colts, including the lack of winter nets. In reply, the lack of volunteers training as club coaches was cited as a major

factor. The Treasurer confirmed that ECB courses are readily available if anyone was interested. It was suggested from the floor that the colts join the senior winter net sessions to benefit from the additional cricket.

- Simon Lewis also expressed his desire to set up All Stars cricket at the club to attract more young players.

#### • **Subs & Match Fees**

- A proposal from the committee to maintain the current subscription and match fee structure was tabled.
  - Senior £15 subscription + £80 voluntary donation
  - Colts £15 subscription + £30 voluntary donation
  - Additional colt in same family £10 subscription + £25 voluntary donation
  - Social £10 subscription + £5 voluntary donation
  - Senior match fees £12
  - Colts / concessions match fees £5

Proposed by N. Bishop, seconded by P. Hemming. PASSED.

#### **Election of Officers**

- President – F. Bird, 2 years into 3 year term, to continue.
- Chairman – D. Melville stepping down after 6 years. Proposal from S. Lewis, seconded Tim Mahoney for Iain Cottingham to take over the role. Elected unanimously.
- Vice Chairman – position vacant at previous AGM, filled subsequently by Jamie Young. Nominated by M. Denness, seconded by C. Rochfort, elected unanimously.
- Secretary – C. Bird, nominated by C. Young, seconded by K. Lynch, re-elected unanimously.
- Treasurer – I. Redmond, nominated by B. Denton-Powell, seconded by A. Stephenson, re-elected unanimously.
- Colts Chairman – S. Lewis, nominated by M. Taylor, seconded by N. Bishop, re-elected unanimously.
- Welfare Officer – C. Slevin, nominated by C. Rochfort, seconded by S. Lewis, re-elected unanimously.
- 1<sup>st</sup> XI Captain – J. O’Flynn has stood down. Jack Young nominated by D. Melville, seconded by E. Wylie, elected unanimously.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Captain – N. Redmond, nominated by S. Lewis, seconded by Tim Mahoney, re-elected unanimously.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> XI Captain – POSITION VACANT – Nick Bishop highlighted the importance of this role, particularly in developing young players and the need to avoid simply filling the position without careful consideration. Perry Moore stated that whilst it was important that the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI had support and direction from the club, we should be careful not to discourage people who volunteer to be captains. Joe Harwood and Jack Streadman were suggested as possible candidates but with neither present it was agreed that the cricket committee should be tasked with speaking to both to determine their intentions for the coming season.
- Academy XI. C Rochfort, nominated by C. Young, seconded by Jack Young, re-elected unanimously.

#### • **Any Other Business**

- Matt Taylor asked for the club’s views on the return of Sunday cricket. It was stated that whilst it had proven difficult to get sides together in recent years, it was important to try again to offer further cricket opportunities, especially given the loss of the Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> XI.
- It was suggested to arrange fixtures on an informal basis, looking to arrange when availability was strong. The format could remain flexible, from T20 to 50 overs, depending upon needs. Nick Bishop offered help in preparing the ground for match days.
- Iain Cottingham proposed that Matt Taylor take on the role as Sunday skipper (Agreed). Match fees would be decided by the committee once costs had been assessed.
- Vic & Lyn Pye reported that the Christmas Bingo was confirmed and asked for prize donations. The new Chairman was reminded of his responsibility to provide a turkey! With no quizmaster available, the new year quiz is currently not going ahead.
- Colin Young suggested that each Captain provide a prize for the bingo.

- It was suggested that the club's media profile needed improving, particularly given the importance of social media in attracting new players. The committee agreed to review and make plans.

Meeting closed at 9:00pm