



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 Tuesday 19 January 2021
 @ 7.00 pm
 Via Zoom

Attendees: Nige Roberts (Chair), Gareth Roberts, Sarah Monk, Dan Parry, Robbie Blackwell, Wayne Smith, Paula Taylor-Smith, Jasmine Mayo, Dafydd Rhys, Paul Jones, Jonny Lister, Lisa Roberts, Gill Jones, Terry Jones, Gareth Roberts (Auditor), Martin Turner, Gareth Parry, Gareth Boys, Katy Roberts, Nathan Harvey, Nathan Ritchie, James Claybrook, Jane Roberts

Apologies: John Lloyd, Ross Roberts, Anthony Savage, Tush Maitra, Adam Meredith, Geoff Lloyd, Bev Griffiths, Aled Griffiths, Andy Evans, Charlie Croasdale

1.	<p>Apologies & Welcome Apologies for non-attendance were noted and the Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.</p>
2.	<p>Condolences Before starting the meeting, the Chair offered sincere condolences to those members who have lost loved ones during the year - Anthony Savage's father-in-law, Terry Jones' Mum; and only this week, Gary Aplin, father of Sam & Jack, husband of Diane who had bravely battled his illness for 15 months and who will be sadly missed by all at the Club. A minute's silence was observed.</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of AGM held on 7 January 2020 All had the opportunity to read through the minutes prior to the meeting. Jane Roberts proposed them as a true record, seconded by Robbie Blackwell.</p>
4.	<p>Matters Arising There were no matters arising from the minutes.</p>
5.	<p>Chairman's Report What a year!! One of the worst in many peoples' history and one we hope never to have to repeat. The start of the year resembled a game of "Musical Chairman". After the chairman resigned in February, Robbie Blackwell and John Lloyd stood in for a period, and I was asked if I would let my name be put forward for the role. I agreed, and became the current chairman in March/April time. Since then, we now have a new Vice Chairman, Dafydd Rhys, who is also the Club Welfare Officer. My personal thanks to Dafydd for all his support over recent months. We also have a new Secretary Jane Roberts who has replaced John Lloyd who made a decision to step down after many, many years of hard work for Brymbo Cricket Club. A huge thank you John and we hope you enjoy your second retirement!! Along with the treasurer, Robbie Blackwell, and a hard-working committee, we all hope that we can contribute to the continued benefit of the club. It certainly won't be for the want of trying! Unfortunately, we didn't get off to a very good start as a result of the pavilion being broken in to and vandalised on three separate occasions. The Complex has had some of the work done to repair the damage, but there's still some work to do. We've now put CCTV cameras up around the pavilion (at our own expense) and hopefully this will help head off any future break-in attempts – but we still need to address security in and around the ground and we will be liaising with the Sports & Social Complex in this regard. It was about this time last year that Covid raised its ugly head and eventually lockdown took over everything. All our plans for the season were put on hold. The season was deferred and all our Fundraising events such as the Scott Quinnell Sportsman's Dinner, the Big Bash and Prosecco Cricket were postponed, and social evenings and race nights cancelled, vastly reducing the club's potential income for the year. Many obstacles and restrictions were put in our way, but we decided to make a big push for sponsors and to try and increase membership too, so that we could hopefully keep our heads above water. This proved to be a successful strategy. We now have 16 sponsors and 76 paying members (plus 25 Junior members whose membership was not charged in 2020 due to Covid) and a much healthier bank balance – one that we can be proud of. The audited accounts are testament to that. The bank balance has increased from just over £5,000 to almost £11,000. And after the year we've had, this is extraordinary.</p>

July saw the lockdown lifted and the season was allowed to start. Preparations started in May/June to bring the ground up to standard ready for play.

Massive thanks to Jonny Lister, who took on the responsibility of co-ordinating all of the maintenance work on the ground, including: repairing and refitting the boundary fence and sight screens, installing a completely new permanent fence in front of the Pavilion and new changing room benches. Jonny got his Dad, his Mum and Livvy involved and between them they did great work.

A lot of thanks are also due to all the many volunteers who spent their weekends up at the ground painting, fixing fence panels, decorating, gardening and housekeeping in general. It was great to see the enthusiasm shown by everyone giving their time and we really hope that we're able to build on that this year and in the years to come.

I want to give a special thanks to the "reliables" – Gareth Boys, Dan Parry, Wayne Smith Cj Craven and Connor Davies. I call them "reliables" because they've made themselves available at the drop of a hat and it's been much appreciated.

The 2020 season was classed as "uncompetitive" (if there is such a thing)! We had a great turn out of players committing themselves for games and we were generally successful. Thanks to the Team Captains for their efforts during the season.

Some notable performances by:

- Joe Norman, who joined us from Buckley this season and had an immediate impact – Hat-trick on debut!! Fantastic effort!
- Sam Aplin – who at 13 years old played and performed extremely well for the 2nd XI and is also a member fo the Welsh U14/U15s run by Glamorgan.
- Ioan Craven-Jones turned a corner this season – scoring two consecutive 50's for the 2's as well as some good bowling spells

The Juniors have done incredibly well this season, with teams at all age groups winning all or the majority of their games. Even when other teams haven't been able to play, our Juniors have had games against each other, having great fun and playing some excellent cricket. It's also been a pleasure to see how popular the Friday night training sessions have become again. It's great to see the youngsters putting in so much practice and just enjoying themselves. Special thanks goes to Gareth Boys for the incredible amount of work he puts in to organise the games and the training sessions, and also to Dafydd Rhys, Chris Prince and Jack Aplin too. The Juniors are the future of our Club, we must keep encouraging and nurturing them to bring them on and to keep enjoying the game – as a Club this is our responsibility. A big thanks to all the parents too, without whose support none of this would be possible.

Covid has taken its toll on our winter training too and, sadly, the indoor nets for Seniors and Juniors has had to be put on hold – as has the MCC Foundation training with Jamie Griffiths. Hopefully, maybe later in the Spring we might get some practice in – but we'll have to wait and see!

On the positive side though – we have, finally, been awarded the grant from ECB for the permanent two-lane outdoor net facility and this will be a massive bonus for our Club. Everything is in place now, so, hopefully, the nets will be up before the start of the 2021 season. This has been a long time coming!!

As a result of shorter games, no access to pavilion and social distancing, we saw what may very well be the end of cricket teas! They certainly won't be back in 2021 as NWCL have already confirmed this. I'm not sure how I personally feel about this long term. Cricket teas is an institution that I've grown up with and it's sad that Covid-19 could be changing this. We'll just have to wait to see what the future brings – perhaps we could have a "Brymbo Cricket Club Café" where players and spectators can buy their teas!!

It was a concern to me last year to see that the Club had spent nearly £800 more than we had coming in and had only a couple of sponsors. That trend couldn't continue as within a few years, there would be no money left – and no money means no Club.

As mentioned earlier, in 2020 all our fund-raising plans had to be put on hold but It's been fantastic to see the efforts of some of our members bringing in some great rewards – in spite of it being such a difficult year.

After doing a great job pre-Covid to collect many, many raffle prizes and donations from local businesses, Wayne and Paula Smith organised an end of season raffle, raising a huge £565. That was a sterling effort and thanks to them both. The great news is that they are raring to go this year too!!

Members have gone out and made contact with new sponsors and we now have 15 advertisement board sponsors, plus our superb Wrexham Lager main sponsor, who we sincerely hope will continue to support the Club.

Even those companies that have given us items, such as pallets and timber, have also given financial donations to the Club. So, it's been excellent.

As well as our fantastic volunteers, our sponsors are our lifeblood – we must look after them and we must find more of them, so I ask you all, please make every effort to find and approach new sponsors. We need them, to ensure the future development and sustainability of our Club.

This takes me nicely on to the club's future development. You may or may not know that we are currently forming a Development Plan for the next ten years to ensure a positive future for the club. This is on the back of the Club Development Survey which was sent out to everyone in September. We had great feedback from that and it forms the basis of the Plan. This work is being led by Dafydd Rhys and we have a sub-group in place taking the various aspects forward.

This will incorporate the aims and goals of the club in the following areas:

- Cricket (Senior, Junior, Ladies, Disabled, Coaching)
- Infrastructure (Buildings, access & entrance)
- Grounds / Playing Facilities (Nets, Wickets, Outfield, Scoreboard)
- Refreshment Facilities (Bar, Kitchen, Barbecue area)
- Community participation (including Publicity & Volunteering)
- Fundraising (including Sponsorship, Grant Applications & Social Events)

However, to achieve our goals we need more volunteers. As you all know, every single one of us – myself included, are volunteers. None of us are paid for what we do and the more volunteers we have, the better for the future sustainability of the Club. I can't stress that enough. We can provide volunteering opportunities to youngsters too, we can offer (and pay for) training (e.g. coaching) and this will help build confidence, skills and experience which can be included on their CV and will help with their future careers.

We've applied for a few grants which, if we're successful, will see us working more closely with schools and the local community to offer free cricket sessions to youngsters, giving them the chance to experience the game, meet new friends, and enjoy the team spirit in a fantastic, safe environment.

Projects which are already underway and should be in place before the beginning of the season are:

- New sight screen installation – we have managed to obtain funding for the new sight screens.
- Kitchen upgrade – the new kitchen is to be donated by one of our long-standing sponsors, Tri-Plan, a family who has been involved with the Club for many, many years (with Chris & John having played for our Club), so we're extremely grateful to them. We are now on the lookout for donations for kitchen equipment – new fridge, cooker, hob, and microwave – so if anyone knows of any companies who we can approach, then please let us know.
- New Bar installation – Ross Roberts is leading on this with Anthony Savage and Terry Jones and they've done a great job so far – removing the old kitchen and getting the area ready for the building work to begin. Anyone who can help with this work should let Ross know.

The new kitchen and certainly the bar will be a great addition to our Club. During the 2020 season it was great to see so many people enjoying themselves after matches; and at the junior training sessions to see so many parents around the ground, relaxing. These new facilities will only enhance the social side of cricket for everyone and will draw more people to the Club and I, personally, can't wait for this season.

So, everything appears to be on the "up" for our great Club and it's very exciting to see. Brymbo is a fantastic Club full of fantastic people and although I already knew many of you, it's been a pleasure this year getting to know more players, committee members, parents and juniors. I'd like to thank you all for making my first (part year) as Chair an incredibly enjoyable one.

6. Financial Report – Treasurer

The Treasurer ran through the accounts and income & expenditure for the year 1.11.19 to 31.10.20.

There was a surplus of income over expenditure for the year of £5498.28. The Treasurer commented that given the year it has been, this is an exceptional outcome and has never seen the bank account look this healthy.

The Chair & Treasurer both thanked Gareth Roberts, the Auditor, for his work once again in auditing the accounts this year.

Gareth Roberts (Auditor) also commented that the sponsorship efforts have made a big difference and it is absolutely brilliant, after the year we've had, to have that kind of money in the bank. He has been doing the audit for many years and the Club has never had a year like this – which is testament to the efforts of everyone. With the plans for the Club for the future, it is great to see a bit of money there to enable the plans to be taken forward.

The accounts were accepted. Proposed by Wayne Smith and seconded by Dafydd Rhys and agreed by all.

7.	<p>Club Constitution</p> <p>The Secretary advised that a slight amendment was required in the Constitution as timescales had been included for notifying of General Meetings. Suggested that the reference to “14 days” should be removed and that notice should be “21 days”. Also, that the annual report should be give to the AGM by the Chair and not the Secretary.</p> <p>Changes were proposed by Martin Turner and seconded by Paul Jones and agreed unanimously.</p>
8.	<p>Election of Officers</p> <p>All Officers had agreed to remain in the roles if they were voted in, with no-one standing down:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President: Alan Jones • Chair: Nige Roberts • Vice-Chair: Dafydd Rhys • Treasurer: Robbie Blackwell • Club Welfare Officer: Dafydd Rhys • Secretary: Jane Roberts • Head Coach: Gareth Boys • 1st Team Captain: James Claybrook • 2nd Team Captain: Gareth Parry • 3rd Team Captain: Terry Jones • Chair of Selectors: Wayne Smith • Club Development Sub-Group Lead: Dafydd Rhys • Maintenance Lead: Ross Roberts • Research/Information Officer: Dan Parry • Branding/Publicity/Website: Gareth Roberts • Web Assistant: Nathan Ritchie • 300 Club: Wayne Smith • Bonus Ball: Anthony Savage <p>Proposed by Paul Jones and seconded by Wayne Smith. All in agreement.</p> <p>Current Committee Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Monk • John Lloyd • Geoff Lloyd • Peter Claybrook <p>Proposed by Gareth Roberts and seconded by Dan Parry. All in agreement.</p> <p>New Committee Members & New Officer Roles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Member: Paula Taylor-Smith (also Fund-Raising Sub Group member) – proposed by Wayne Smith, seconded by Jane Roberts • Grant Funding Lead: Paul Jones – proposed by Nige Roberts, seconded by Terry Jones • Fund Raising Sub Group Lead: Wayne Smith – proposed by Dafydd Rhys, seconded by Robbie Blackwell. • Disabled Cricket Lead: Gill Jones – proposed by Jonny Lister, seconded by Nige Roberts <p>Other New Officer Roles available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Co-ordinator • Fixture Secretary • Junior Committee Lead • Ladies Cricket Lead • Social Media Lead <p>The Chair welcomed Paula Taylor-Smith and Gill Jones to the Committee and thanked current Committee Members for putting their names forward to fill other roles. He confirmed that it is important to the Club that the vacant roles are filled to enable the Club to move forward with the Development Plan.</p> <p>Sarah Monk & Jasmine Mayo confirmed that they were happy to be involved and help out with the ladies’ cricket, but would not wish to take the lead at this stage.</p>
9.	<p>Vice Presidents</p> <p>Currently, the Club does not have any Honorary Vice Presidents. The Chair asked the meeting if they felt inviting Vice Presidents would be good for the Club. By charging a small annual subscription. This would pay an important part in the finances of our Club.</p> <p>Proposed by Martin Turner and seconded by Sarah Monk, all agreed that the Committee could take this forward.</p>

10.	<p>Life Membership</p> <p>The Chair advised the meeting that Brymbo Cricket Club would wish to honour someone who has served the Club for many, many years and put a hell of a lot of effort and work into the Club – some of it which is seen and some of which we don't see. Unfortunately, due to ill health he is unable to contribute as he has in the past but we are certain that he would still love to do it if he possibly could. The Club awarded a Life Membership to Martin Turner and thanked him for his contribution over many years. All in the meeting agreed.</p> <p>Martin thanked everyone and was happy to accept.</p>
11.	<p>Club Membership Subscription Rates for 2021/2022</p> <p>Although, as a Club, the level of membership subscription needs to be reviewed, the Chair proposed that due to the current Covid situation they should remain the same this year.</p> <p>Robbie Blackwell proposed that Playing & Junior memberships should remain as they are but that Non-Playing Memberships should increase to £15.00 per annum, especially as £5.00 of that subscription goes to the Sports & Social Club for membership there and so the Club is only currently receiving £5.00 of that fee. This was seconded by Dafydd Rhys and all agreed.</p> <p>Memberships for 2021/2022 will, therefore be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £60.00 – Playing Membership • £25.00 – Junior Membership • £15.00 – Non-Playing Members <p>The secretary advised that during the coming year, efforts will be made to approach local businesses (rather than asking them to sponsor us) to ask if they would give a percentage off if Brymbo Cricket Club members showed their current membership card. Making membership more attractive and, hopefully, drawing in more members.</p>
12.	<p>Appointment of Auditor for next Financial Year</p> <p>The Chair thanked Gareth Roberts very much for all the work he has done in previous years and invited him to continue as Auditor for the Club for the coming year. All were in agreement and Gareth confirmed that he would be happy to continue and thanked the meeting.</p>
13.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>No-one had submitted details of any other business they wished to raise at the meeting. However, the following discussions took place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terry Jones advised that Chris Lloyd (Tri-Plan) wanted a plan of where the plug sockets were to be placed in the kitchen. - Graham Williams is currently drawing up plans and they will be passed to Chris Lloyd as soon as possible. • Wayne Smith will speak to his employers in relation to the obtaining white goods for the kitchen and will feed back to the Committee when he has done this. • Martin Turner asked who would be responsible for running the bar in the pavilion and who would have the profits. - This will be manned by the Sports & Social Complex who will be responsible for manning it and will receive all profits from it. • Martin Turner asked if the nets which are to be installed are of the same design as had originally been discussed. - The nets are the exact design as were originally agreed and DuraSport, who had originally been chosen, will be installing the facility. • Martin Turner asked if the CCTV cameras were doing their job. - We have had no more break-ins since they have been installed. The cameras are exceptional and work in the dark and they do notify you if anyone is walking around the pavilion. As soon as someone is captured by the camera, the footage is saved in the Cloud. • Gareth Roberts, Auditor, said that as he lives a fair distance from the Club, and in all these years he hasn't really felt involved. However, he wished to thank Jane, Secretary, for the emails that she sends out as he now feels very much part of the Club and enjoys receiving the emails.
14.	<p>300 Club</p> <p>As John Lloyd has decided to step down, after 20 years of running the 300 Club, Wayne Smith has agreed to take on the running of the draw. The Chair thanked Wayne for taking on the mantle and thanked John for running the draw over the years as it had brought in a large amount of funding into the Club.</p> <p>The January draw normally takes place at the AGM. However, due to Covid-19 Wayne has not been able to collect the draw information and kit from John and so the January and February draws will take place at the Committee meeting in February.</p>
15.	<p>Thanks for Attending</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting ended.</p>