

# **SEVERN VALLEY MCC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Alveley Sports Club, Alveley, WV15 6LN  
28<sup>th</sup> October 2023; 10:55 am

## **Committee Members Present:**

Chairman – Chris Windmill  
Treasurer & Secretary – Phil Care  
Member – Tony Barnsley  
Member – Andrea Care

## **MINUTES OF MEETING** (Non-verbatim) Notetaker - Karen Sheers

### **1. Chairman's Introduction**

Chairman opened meeting at 10:55am and welcomed members, requesting mobile phones are switched off.

Chairman welcomed Jacqui and Graham Durkee, CoM members to the meeting.

Out of Group members also welcomed to the meeting.

Secretary:

*"I hereby announce that the 61<sup>st</sup> AGM of the Severn Valley Group of the MCC is now convened."*

Chairman called for a minute's silence for anyone we have lost in the last year, asking members to stand if able.

### **2. Apologies**

Secretary confirmed the following apologies:

Hayley Scarborough  
Andy Mawdsley  
Gail and Steve Cole  
Mick and Janet Emeneay  
John and Joan Billett  
Bobbie and Mike Maloney  
Brian and Diane Preece  
Jim and Sharron Keown  
Val and Graham Marchant  
Vic and Hazel Lancaster

Further apologies received from the floor:

Dave and Chris Farmer  
Allen and Gill Warren

Graham and Wendy Kendall  
Derrick Lawton

### **3. Minutes of EGM 2023**

Chairman asked if members had any queries arising from the minutes of the EGM from April. No queries were raised.

Chairman asked for a proposer and seconder for minutes to be accepted. Proposer – John Kirby, Secunder – Jeremy Layton.

Vote:

29 for, 0 against; 6 abstaining. Minutes of the meeting thereby accepted.

### **4. Chairman's report**

Chairman:

We've had a good year overall. I had to step in half way through the year because Dave Blissett was taken ill. Overall, as a Group we have done well, had some good rallies. Turnout; some have been good; some have been disappointing. This weekend is very disappointing. 360 members but only 35 have attended today. We have a core of members who turn up to every rally. We need to do something to get people to join in, but what we do, I don't know. Every Group is suffering aren't they Jacci?

Jacci Durkee:

Yes, everybody is in the same position, struggling to find venues.

Chairman:

This venue, the clubhouse is being knocked down, the village hall is also being knocked down. They are having a club built across ways, and all of that field will be a hardstanding carpark which we will be able to use.

Jacci Durkee:

That will be much more beneficial. A lot of people would say the weather is too bad, we're not going.

Chairman:

Yes, that is the proposal that I've been told this morning. It's all being drawn up at the moment.

Jacci Durkee:

Going forward that will be an excellent venue for a rally.

### **5. Secretary's report**

Secretary:

Thank you everybody. Don't know what I can say; I only took over on 4<sup>th</sup> June, being co-opted onto the committee, but at the end of July we had 369 members of which only 340 were active. Since then, we have had an increase in numbers thanks to Jacci and her team at the shows and the current membership is 390 with 365 active members. That's the state of the group at the present moment. Any questions?

No questions from the floor.

## **6. Treasurer's report**

Treasurer:

Hope you've all had a look at it. I've tried to give as much information so you can see what we did during the course of the year. It's a bit of a funny accounting year because I only took over as Treasurer from the 1<sup>st</sup> August, and there were two previous Treasurers over the course of the financial year. There was no spreadsheet kept so I had to dig down and do everything. So, on the rallies during the course of the year, we made a slight amount of money of £1,355; that's from the rallies, food, raffle, everything. So, we didn't do too bad. We had two big losses; that was the birthday bash which lost us £1,068 and the AGM at which we lost another £783. Welland helped us a lot where we made a massive profit of £1,175, so on the rally side that was quite good.

The expenditure side, as I said it was a bit of a mess because of the cancelled holiday rally last year, then it being put forward to this year and the payments had to be made in total before the end of the financial year, so the West Bay holiday rally in September has got to be taken out of last year's accounts. Hence the massive expenditure of £5,818 but if we take all that out, our expenditure was about £1,500 on top of that. I've tried to give you some significant items, as you can see the West Bay at £4,800.

I've tried to ascertain where all the assets are. The list is at the bottom, some of these assets have been with us a long time and really have no depreciation value whatsoever. In fact, if you look at the nominal value on them it's going to take a bit of work to try to put a cost on them so it's similar in line from previous years. We've had to buy another boiler, a flag, some of the items are listed on the expenditure.

If you look at the balance sheet, overall, we are down £182.79 on last year giving a balance of £15,583.54. Last year's was £15,766.73. Basically, that's the state of the Group's finances at this moment. If anybody has any questions, happy to answer as best I can.

No questions from the floor.

Jacci Durkee:

You need to get your accounts voted on.

Treasurer:

Do I have a proposer and seconder? Proposer – Kirstie Lamberton, Seconder – Barry Robbins.

Vote:

34 in favour, 0 against; 1 abstaining. Accounts thereby accepted.

## **7. Election of Adjudicators**

Secretary:

Next will be an election of officers because we will be having a ballot. I have asked Jacci and Graham if they will stand as independent adjudicators for us.

## **8. Election of Committee**

Chairman:

We've got some names on the forms, on the back of those who would like to go on the committee. Is there anyone else in the room who would like to join, and have their name put on?

The first person we have is Andrea Care, the lady sitting here. Proposers and seconders are on the form.

Voting is by closed ballot.

John Kirby:  
Would you like me to explain to members?

Chairman:  
Yes, if you don't mind.

John Kirby:  
You've got a ballot sheet with all the names that have been nominated. I will go down them; they are Andrea Care, Phil Care, Hayley Scarborough, Andy Mawdsley, and Gail Cole. Is there anyone who does not know who these people are?

Several members commented they did not know the nominees.

John Kirby:  
Okay, can you address the floor?

Chairman:  
Gail and Steve Cole have been members for about 3 years, they come from Ledbury, they help us out when they can with stuff. Hayley Scarborough was the Secretary for a short time but she had to resign because of work commitments before but she is willing to come back on now. Andy Mawdsley is her partner, I think most people know Andy and Hayley, Andy is the wine drinker! [Laughing from the floor.] That's how most people know him. All 3 are good workers for the club.

John Kirby:  
If you are happy, then you fill in your forms. Tick them, or a cross, in the box but only a tick or a cross in the box which is for, against or abstain. Do not put anything else on, otherwise your ballot paper will be invalid, okay?

Jacci Durkee:  
I will collect them.

## **9. Supplementary Document Amendments**

Secretary:  
It has been put into the agenda this time because there is one major change which is section 5.10. We want to change it so that committee members serve for a period of 12 months then seek re-election. The reason why we want to change that is that we have had such a change over of committee over the last few years, I won't go into personalities, but if we do it every 12 months and the committee is successful then we would be quite prepared to stand up for re-election on our own count. So, we'd like to change that, and Jacci has advised me of one which I haven't highlighted, 9.9 about the fire extinguishers being kept by the hosts at rallies being visible at all times. There is no need or requirement for that any longer. Most of us have our own fire extinguishers

so it's proposed to take that section out. If anybody has any questions, I will be happy to answer as much as I can.

Pat Kirby:

I don't have a question but I'd like to add something. As far as the group committee changing, we had it before where the group committee has changed after 12 months. If everyone stands down you have no consistency going forward and you could end up with having a completely new committee every year which isn't good because you've got nobody to follow on and be consistent. The regulations or rules, whatever you call them, going on and this is why you have so many, not mistakes, but things that do not carry on so to change every 12 months is not a good thing.

Secretary:

From my own personal view, I think changing every 12 months is a good thing. I have seen some of the issues that have gone on over the last 12 months with some people, and to be quite honest, one of the reasons I resigned was because of that. I think a lot of us are in agreement that you stand for 12 months and we stand and fall on our merits. I would be quite happy if we have a good year and stand again next year, and I should be judged on my merits like all committee members need to be judged on their merits. We need to stop all the in-fighting that's been going on for the last few years.

Pat Kirby:

I don't see how changing every 12 months is going to stop that, or change that.

Secretary:

It's because you might have people on there for three years who don't go anywhere.

Pat Kirby:

But you don't have to serve for three years. You can change if you find after 12 months it's not for you for whatever reason, you can still stand down. To have your whole committee stand down, on an annual basis, is not good.

Secretary:

This year we have literally had a decimated committee. As of the 1<sup>st</sup> July, Andrea we co-opted on just to give us the 5 people that we needed on the committee. I was co-opted on because we had the secretary leave. If you look at the committee over the course of the year, a number of people left. We've had no stability. We want to have some stability and so say we are prepared to do this for the next 12 months come hell or high water, and that's what it's got to be.

Pat Kirby:

But that's what you're committing to anyway, and that hasn't been happening. There has been a falling out, like throwing their toys out of the pram, but ...

Chairman:

People are not realising that when you go on the committee you have to work. It's because people think you can go on the committee just to be there and you do not do anything. Once people have gone on the committee and then thought, oh I've got to do something, and then there's a problem, instead of working through the problems it was easier for them to just to say I'm jacking it in.

Pat Kirby:

I agree, I get that, but that will never change. But to have everyone standing down every 12 months, you've got to have some form of consistency and continuity going through and you won't get that if everyone stands down after 12 months.

Chairman:

It's being done so if you go on the committee, if people like them and they've done a good job, they'll get voted back on. If they've done a crap job, they don't get voted back on. If you can't get them off, if they are on for three years, they just say I'm on for three years, that's it. You can't get them off. That's what this is about really.

Pat Kirby:

Well, that's my opinion.

Chairman:

That's what it's all about; to try and stop somebody coming on, wanting to be on for three years, doing a crap job, and you can't get them off. You're stuck with them, aren't you? Unless you call an EGM or something, and have a vote of no confidence against them. But you don't want to keep doing that.

John Kirby:

The Chairman does have the right to actually withdraw them from the Committee. It's got to go to the floor for a vote, so it's entirely up to the members present to vote on your proposition.

Secretary:

I'm going to propose it, and the other one. So, the proposition is section 5.10 will be that all committee members will serve for a period of 12 months until the next AGM where they can stand for re-election at that time. Do I have a seconder for that one – Jeremy Layton.

Vote:

29 in favour; 5 against; 1 abstaining. Proposal is thereby accepted.

Jacci Durkee:

Can I just say at this point, please bear in mind that if you have everybody stands down, as Pat says you'll have no group and no committee. I think your minimum is 5; if there's not 5 people that want to run the group, then there will be no group and that £15k you think is a nice comfy 'thank you very much', goes back to the Council of Management. I don't want it because it belongs to the group so you'll all be segregated into all the other areas, all to groups surrounding Severn Valley. Bear that in mind for the future when you are all saying I don't want to do this anymore. At the end of the day, this is supposed to be fun.

Secretary:

The next one is the removal of 9.9; fire extinguishers being kept by the hosts, remove that section. That's what I am proposing. Do I have a seconder – Jeremy Layton.

Vote:

35 in favour; 0 against; 0 abstaining. Proposal is thereby accepted.

Secretary:

That's that section done; I will get that amended and on the website as soon as possible for you.

Jacci Durkee:  
Please don't forget to update the office.

Secretary:  
Yes, Jacci.

## **8. Election of committee - results**

Secretary:  
People coming off the committee is Chris [Windmill] who is standing down mainly because of a lot of business interests and Janet Emeney who has decided that it's time to stand down now, she's given a good few years of service and Mick isn't well.

[Round of applause]

Chairman:  
Do I have to announce the actual count?

Jacci Durkee:  
No, you don't have to.

Chairman:  
On the committee are everybody that have put themselves forward, Andrea, Phil, Hayley, Andy and Gail. The vote is for them so they will be the new Committee, along with Tony who is staying on.

Jacci Durkee:  
A lady is questioning it; it wasn't a unanimous decision but there were more than enough votes.

Chairman:  
We had, if people want the numbers, I can tell you. We had one vote against every person, and five abstaining against three people, and that was it.

## **10. Election of Honorary Independent Accounts Certifier**

Secretary:  
We need to elect the independent auditor of the accounts for next year. The lady who did it this year was Lisa McManus who is Chris' accountant and I would like to propose we continue to use her services next year.

Chairman:  
She's not actually an accountant, but she is my accounts person who looks after all our accounts facility. Phil did it all, she's checked it through.

Secretary:  
I'd like to propose that we use Lisa's services again next year. Do I have a seconder for that - Richard Lamberton.

Vote:  
35 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining. Proposal is thereby accepted.

Secretary:

We'll have a break now before the member's meeting.

Keith Penn:

Who is doing what on the Committee? I know that's what you are going to do now, but most of the people are not here.

Linda Maynor:

The new Committee's not all here, is it?

Secretary:

It has been decided before-hand.

Chairman:

Keith it was decided before, they knew what they wanted to do, wanted to come on, and they agreed to doing it. They have worked it out between themselves.

We will take a break now, please help yourself to food.

Jacci Durkee:

Can I just say before you close the meeting, thank you very much for stepping in during the year, and thank you to anyone else who has helped the committee and hosted rallies. If it wasn't for volunteers there would be no club, so thank you very much.

[Round of applause]

Secretary:

One issue that we haven't covered is the Walter Barlow Trophy. I assume everybody knows what the trophy is?

John Kirby:

We've got new members here. The trophy is because Jenny's father was one of the founder members of Severn Valley group, and it was decided that those people who have spent the most amount of nights camping throughout the year would be totalled up and they would be awarded the trophy, which Jenny will keep going even when all the names are put on, it will continue because she will provide a new trophy. We thank Jenny.

[Round of applause]

Chairman:

The winner this year is Janet and Mick Emeney.

[Round of applause and cheering]

Meeting closed 11:30am