

**MINUTES OF THE
81ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING ASSOCIATION LIMITED**

Held at
Chesford Grange Hotel, Kenilworth CV8 2LD

On
Saturday 25th March 2017

PRESENT:

Mr T R Bobbett	South West Regional Director – Chairman
Mr W A Heeks	North Regional Director – Deputy Chairman
Mr N Fellows	Chief Executive
Ms M Conway	National Director
Dr J Martin	East Midlands Regional Director
Mr J Offord	South East Regional Director
Mr G Walker	National Director
Mr B Moorhead	Independent Director
Mr C Smith	National Director
Mr S Oldman	Operations Manager
Mr J Beard	Auditor, Haysmacintyre
Ms L Saunbury	Honorary Solicitor and Shotgun Advisor
Mrs S Watson	Minutes Secretary

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all those in attendance. An outline of the agenda for the afternoon was presented.

OBITUARIES

Terry Bobbett asked everyone to stand whilst Michele Conway read out the names of the 106 members who had passed away since the previous AGM. A minute's silence was then observed.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Victoria Knowles-Lacks
Connie Pierre
Denise Humphrey
Johnny Johnson (5855)
Keith Stoker
Richard Hunter
Anthony Evans

MINUTES OF 2016 AGM

Ratification of the Minutes was proposed by Stephen Williams (101057) and seconded by Richard Blacker (73033).

For: All / Against: 0 / Abstain: 0 / Proposal carried.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Terry Bobbett drew members attention to his Chairman's Report in "Pull" magazine and asked if members had any questions on that or the accounts.

Olympic Bronze medallist Ed Ling was presented with a Life Vice President award by TB. Steve Scott was similarly awarded the same honour following his Bronze medal in Double Trap, though he was not able to attend the AGM.

REVIEW OF 2016 AND PLANS FOR 2017

Nick Fellows drew members' attention to the Annual Review booklet, with particular attention to the image of Ed on the front cover whose Olympic medal, along with Steve Scott, has helped to put the sport on the Olympic and wider public stage last year.

There was good feedback from the World English Sporting event at Churchills, and membership has continued to grow to over 24,000 members. There has been a 14% increase in scores coming in for Registered competitions and an increase of 38% in attendance at championships. This has been in part delivered through the additional focus placed on CPSA championships over the past five years and a concerted effort to restore them to prime position in the calendar.

The World Sporting championships held at the EJ Churchill Shooting Ground demonstrated increased audience popularity, with approximately 6,000 people watching the live stream of the super final in those few hours and more than 200,000 watching the footage over the next couple of weeks. There has been strong social media growth, with CPSA bringing additional dedicated resources to the role.

The 120th Dougal Memorial, English Open DTL sponsored by Blaser and Eley, English Open Sporting sponsored by Perazzi and Eley and British Open Sporting sponsored by Zoli, Gamebore, Promatic and CCI were all a success, with the Annual Awards generating more support. Companies are now coming to the CPSA to see how they can join us and work with us which is a pleasing turnaround from a few years ago.

The Awards Dinner was a great success, recognising all those who support our sport and including the new category for County and Regional Committees. The Belfry offered a better venue, a bigger and well-organised event and our sport will generate increased awareness due to the social media following of the presenter, Sharron Davies. This event was also live streamed, despite technology challenges!

British Shooting has received increased UK Sport funding for the new Olympic cycle, which was a great vote of confidence for the sport following Olympic medal success and strong governance progress. The funders recognise the value of multi-medal sports and the talent programme has had a slight increase in funding for the third year, giving us the opportunity to capture and grow the talent coming through for the sport.

The England teams performed very well at the Home Internationals and in the World Sporting Blaser Inter-Continental Trophy we beat the USA.

A second coaches' day, sponsored by Zoli and NSI cartridges, took place at Sporting Targets with more than 70 instructors and coaches in attendance.

The Premier League has seen continued growth with more than 300 registered for team shoots. The Clubman Classic is also gaining more interest.

The Young Shots Days introduced nearly 1000 youngsters to our sport and around 600 members took part in our coaching and training courses.

The CPSA had good profile at last year's Ragley Hall Game Fair, with a very busy stand opposite the clay line where over 1000 people 'had a go'.

Behind the scenes, the British Shooting Sports Council, which meets near to Whitehall, has developed very good links to the Home Office and Government and is an effective and collaborative consultation channel for us. Current topics include the EU Firearms Directive and GP involvement in licensing, the latter of which has particular need for further development, with the issues of GP opt out, and variable charges being two of the challenges.

The Police and Crime Bill is being revised, with the Section 11.5 definition of an 'occupier' of land being better defined as someone who has written permission to shoot on the land. This delegation is good for smaller grounds, especially straw bale shoots.

Noise and nuisance work is ongoing. We are seeking to improve initial advice for Clubs. John Martin is visiting grounds regularly and Richard Worthington took an Institute of Acoustics course last year, in order to increase our in-house knowledge.

We are developing our CRM / Merlin IT system to increase the efficiency of our admin work and perform other useful tasks. We are aiming to set up online direct debit payments for members.

Following the changes to the DTL selection format there was a small drop off in numbers at the DTL weekend with some members feeling the format was less sociable, so that will be under review.

The publicity and PR coverage has been good at major championships, enabling us to reach wider and new audiences.

Haysmacintyre has produced benchmark financial and other information on National Governing Bodies and the CPSA compares favourably in almost all categories for its size and scale.

In relation to championships, the British Open Sporting championship in September has sold out, as has the British Open Sportrap. The English Open Sporting at Highwaymans, and DTL and Skeet are generating a good level of interest. There is also good interest for the July event at Kelmarsh.

The Commonwealth Games take place in April next year, with final selection in November of this year. There will be a test event, with time to prepare over the winter months in cooperation with British Shooting. The Sporting team will be competing at the World Sporting in San Antonio next month.

We are considering whether to continue our attendance at the British Shooting Show at the NEC next year.

We continue to offer support to grounds and are developing our knowledge particularly in relation to noise and there is a legal helpline available to grounds, through our club membership scheme. Accidents can happen and we encourage CPSA members to be aware of other shooters who may not have insurance cover when shooting at grounds. We would encourage everyone to ensure they have cover whenever they are shooting as it gives an important layer of protection for themselves, particularly if they are involved in an accident that injures a third party.

We attended all Regional Committee AGMs and it is encouraging to see some County Committees breathing new life into our volunteer structures. Good examples include Cheshire (voted County Committee of the Year at our 2017 Annual Awards) and Shropshire, and their impact appears to be spreading.

Nick expressed his thanks to the various volunteers, who assist with county and regional committees, sub-committees, referees, grounds, team managers the Directors on the Board and all the staff.

Nick finished by thanking the outgoing Directors, Michele Conway and Victoria Knowles-Lacks for their hard work and input to the Board.

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

Income has increased as membership has risen. Club revenue has increased, with 11 more clubs last year. The large number of Visitor Shotgun Permit

applications has brought increased fees and revenue has been swelled by the 2,200 entries for the World English Sporting championship (which broke even overall). There have been more courses, organised by our Regional Co-ordinators, which generates a share of the surplus for the Regional Committees.

Our retained HR consultant retired, and any necessary guidance will be provided by ACAS as and when required. The consultancy fee line relates to cover provided whilst Connie recovers from ill health. The electricity bill has increased, now that Southern Electric has fixed the meter!

New trophies have been purchased and we have made further investment in our IT and systems. Bank charges continue to be a factor, as well as direct debit intro fees and credit card fees, as for all businesses.

The proposed updated website is proving to be a major challenge to get finished. There are plans in place to produce live scoring at championships with scores being transmitted on our website during the event, which will help to enhance the sport's profile. The new website will allow members to set up their own 'dash board' tailored to their own interests, as well as a different front page for new shooters. The website will adapt to different formats, eg mobiles and tablets. We are planning to have a series of videos available; for example "How to hit" for beginners.

We are negotiating a deal with a clothing supplier, and developing that as a cost saving relationship.

Mr Hames (84649) drew the Board's attention to the reference of stock increasing from £48000 to £58,000 and asked what "stock" included. TB confirmed it was items such as skeet vests, clothing, badges, courses. Mr Hames felt that £60,000 worth of stock being held, was a large amount.

Mr Hames also asked why there was a large increase in trade creditors from £19,000 to £75,000. The answer was not immediately available, but the Board undertook to find out and report back to Mr Hames. A question was raised about the increased costs of championships and the Board confirmed that championships are budgeted not to make a large profit; the increased costs were due to the World Sporting championships which had also generated proportionally extra revenue. Overall, there was half per cent profit, before bank charges for credit card payments.

The accounts were approved, proposed by Mr Williams (101057) and seconded by Mr Howarth (57796).

For: All / Against: 0 / Abstain: 0

ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD

Nicola Heron : National Director

Bob Kibblewhite : West Midlands Director

Appointment: Dave Rollason : Second Independent Director

Nicola did not wish to make a speech, but confirmed she would act for the benefit of members, and that she appreciated the vote.

Bob had been on the Board before and was happy to work again for the benefit of the members. He has experience of shooting in all disciplines with the CPSA.

Dave is a life member, and started with straw bale shoots. He is a member of the Chartered Quality Institute, and has 35 years of experience in engineering. He is currently working in a senior role at BAE Systems, in the nuclear submarine manufacturing division. Dave has experience of process compliance, and is also a local parish councillor. He served 3 years as Vice Chairman, and the last 3 years as Chairman dealing with planning applications, county and borough matters, as well as public enquiries. Dave will be able to contribute business management, understanding of business systems, compliance and audits. He hopes he will complement the existing skills of the Board.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

Jeremy Beard.

Proposed by Neil Ready (66700) and seconded by G Walker.

All in favour.

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY OFFICERS:

HON. SOLICITOR

Laura Saunbury.

Proposed by Tony Heeks and seconded by Ben Moorhead.

All in favour.

HON. SHOTGUN LICENSING ADVISOR

Laura Saunbury.

Proposed by Tony Heeks and seconded by Ben Moorhead.

All in favour.

HON. INSURANCE ADVISOR

Martin Mansley.

Proposed by Bob Kibblewhite and seconded by Stephen Williams (101057)

All in favour.

AOB

Mr Hames (84649) raised the question of elections and that announcements are not normally made prior to the AGM. TB confirmed that nobody else applied for the West Midlands role and Bob was the only applicant at the deadline. Dave was appointed as an independent director as he meets the published criteria for such a position. TB confirmed to Mr Hames that announcements are now normally made to the membership once known.

Mr Hames mentioned the 2015 meeting Minutes, which referred to two vacancies, but this was not correct and Tony Heeks' appointment had not been recorded in the AGM minutes. Terry accepted Mr Hames' remarks, though no action could be taken as Mr Hames' comments related to back dated AGM meetings and minutes.

Michele Conway took the opportunity to thank her fellow Directors for their support during her time on the Board. She had been referred to as being 'constructively challenging' and 'discussion provoking' but nonetheless wanted her thanks and gratitude put on record. Michele also thanked members for the high number of votes given to herself and Nicola Heron.

AGM DECLARED CLOSED at 3:45pm