

**□ MINUTES OF THE 74<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING ASSOCIATION**

**held at Brooklands Hotel, Dodworth Road, Barnsley,  
South Yorkshire, S75 3JT**

**on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 2.00 pm**

**Present:**

Mr TR Bobbett	Chairman/National Director
Mr WA Heeks	Vice Chairman/Regional Director – North
Mr BD Curtis	Regional Director – East Midlands
Mr C Fielding	Regional Director – West Midlands
Ms N Heron	Regional Director – South East
Mr TWD Blaney	National Director
Mr G Walker	National Director
Mr CD Butler	Regional Director elect – East Midlands
Mr B Waktare	National Director elect
Mr J Perry	Chief Executive Officer
Mr G Davis	Auditor (Graeme Bruce and Partners)
Mrs L Saunbury	Hon Solicitor (Lewis Nedas)
Mr R Doubleday	Hon Insurance Advisor (Perkins Slade)
Ms M Armstrong	Deeson Group
Ms M Voller	Minutes Secretary

A total of 50 current members were in attendance.

**OPENING REMARKS**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 2.10 pm by welcoming all present, and outlined the Agenda for the afternoon.

**OBITUARY NOTICES**

Mr S Barber announced the names of the 70 members who had passed away since the March 2009 AGM. Those in attendance showed their respects with a standing silence.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received in advance:

Mr KJ Newton	12394	Mr P Green	43292
Mr J Hall-Say	1726	Mr A Clifton	73876
Mr AM Halfacre	16925	Mr C Hames	84649
Mr SJ Halfacre	1616	Mr K Murray	461
Mr MA Halfacre	956	Mr P Usher	400
Mr JD Halfacre	955		

Members attending the AGM were invited to provide the names of members who wished their apologies to be tendered in their absence

Ms A Dupree	93162	Mr K Kilvington	107285
Mr J Winn	9739	Mr W Sayer	12448
Mr J Nightingale	8579	Mrs K Sayer	42733
Mr WA Johnson	5855	Mr G Brown	

## **1. MINUTES OF THE 2009 AGM**

The Minutes of the AGM held on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009 had been posted on the CPSA website. Hard copies were circulated and TRB invited those present to read through them if they had not already done so. Following this he asked if everybody present was in agreement with the Minutes provided.

Mr K Stoker (10029) queried the final paragraph under the heading of Any Other Business which he stated was totally inaccurate. He wished it to be re-worded to read "*Mr K Stoker challenged the need for retaking the Safety Officer qualification. After a lengthy discussion, TRB agreed that the subject needed to be revisited at the next Board Meeting.*"

Following the above amendment, the adoption of the Minutes of the 2009 AGM was proposed by Ms N Heron (89683), seconded by Mr N Reddy (66700) and unanimously agreed by a show of hands.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING**

a) Mr B Kibblewhite (1235) said that last year he had asked if there was any significant factor of why the turnover of membership was so high, and had been told it would be looked into. TRB replied that during the last 12 months the Association had lost approximately 500 members, and on investigation there appeared to be no specific reason other than the state of the economy

## **3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman's report had been published in PULL magazine, and TRB invited any questions on it under AOB at the end of the meeting.

## **4. ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 2009**

The Annual Report and Accounts had been published in PULL magazine and put on the CPSA website. TRB invited comments on them from the members present, which included.

a) Mr K Stoker (10029) queried the large reduction in the Motor and Travel expenses. Ms C Pierre explained that this had largely been achieved by a 50% reduction in the amount of travel carried out by the Membership Development Co-ordinator to grounds and game fairs at weekends.

b) In reply to a question regarding Academy finances, GD confirmed that all the costs relating to its operation had been correctly allocated.

c) Mr K Stoker (10029) also queried the marked reduction in the amount recorded under Regional Support. GD replied that it was paid to the Regions for various things including coaching initiatives. KS stated that the Regions should receive a payment annually of £5 for every club within its boundaries, and queried if this had been paid during 2009. CP agreed to investigate on her return to the office.

TRB confirmed that the Accounts have been agreed and signed off by the Board of Directors, and asked that they therefore be accepted.

Proposed by Mr I Ainsley (22334) seconded by Mr N Reddy (66700) and unanimously agreed by a show of hands.

## **5. LIFE VICE PRESIDENT APPOINTMENTS**

The Chairman announced the Board's decision to appoint three new Life Vice Presidents:

Ms Lesley Goddard (65708)

Mr Mike Barnes (84127)  
Mr. Keith Murray (461)

With the exception of Mr Murray, who was not able to be present, the new LVPs were presented with a LVP membership card by the Chairman, and gave short responses thanking the Association.

## **6. LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATION**

TRB made a presentation of Life Membership to Mrs Linda Heeks (68096) in recognition of her support given over the past 30 years to her husband, as a Director and England Sporting Team Manager, and the Association in general.

## **7. ELECTIONS TO THE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

GD announced the results:

Mr CD Butler (105629) had been elected unopposed to replace Mr B Curtis (72187) as East Midlands Regional Director.

Mr B Waktare (2552) had been elected to replace Mr TWD Blaney (14484) as a National Director. This vacancy originally had two candidates, and at the point when Mr T Wells (114016) withdrew, 961 votes had been recorded – Mr Waktare had 823 and Mr Wells 138.

TRB congratulated Mr CD Butler and Mr B Waktare and welcomed them to the Board. He confirmed that because CDB had been elected unopposed he had been invited to attend the last three Board meetings and had already made positive contributions. TRB said he had known BW for thirty years and was confident his proven business acumen and experience within the shooting world would prove invaluable to the Association.

## **8. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN**

GD invited nominations for the post of Chairman. TRB was proposed by Mr N Reddy (66700) and seconded by Mr N Bough (55). TRB was elected unopposed as Chairman.

GD then invited nominations for the post of Vice Chairman. WAH was proposed by Mr K Stoker (10029) and seconded by Mr P Sidebottom (4033). WAH was elected unopposed as Vice Chairman.

## **9. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

TRB recommended that Graeme Bruce and Partners remain as Auditors. Proposed by Mr I Ainsley (22334) and seconded by Mr K Stoker (10029). Graeme Bruce & Partners were elected unopposed.

## **10. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY OFFICERS**

TRB proposed that the following be appointed en bloc after no alternative nominations were received:

Honorary Legal Adviser – John Hugill QC  
Honorary Solicitor and Shotgun Licensing Adviser – Laura Saunbury (Lewis Nedas)  
Honorary Insurance Adviser – Richard Doubleday (Perkins Slade)  
Honorary Noise/Planning Adviser – Mel Kenyon (Martec)

Proposed by Mr I Ainsley (22334) and seconded by Mr P Sidebottom (4033). All in favour.

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

a) TRB said that Mr C Hames (84649) was unable to attend, but had sent a letter with 5 questions and he would read the questions together with the replies:

(i) Question: Due to the reduction in average staff numbers from 13 to 12, we have seen a fall in Wages & Salaries by £1,731 from £424,625 to £422,894. Disproportionately we have seen an increase in Social Security costs by £7,466 from £32,388 to £39,834. Can this 23% increase be explained?

Answer: *Unfortunately Graeme Bruce & Partners inadvertently split the salaries incorrectly and substituted the pension figure in YE08 instead of the social security figure. The comparison should have been:*

	<u>YE08</u>	<u>YE09</u>
Salaries	417918	422894
Social Security	39096	39834

*This shows that there was a slight increase in salaries (not a reduction) and the NI is reflected correctly by the slight increase.*

(ii) Question: I presume the £7,000 figure is the settlement for Jenny Andrews? Could it be confirmed if the increase of £45,288 in Legal & Professional Costs from £8,835 to £54,123 is also costs incurred in dealing with this settlement? If the answer is affirmative, could the members be advised why we have incurred a total cost of over £52,000 for an action for which we should have held insurance cover.

Answer: *The figure of £7,000 was the settlement figure for JLA. We can confirm we thought that we had insurance cover but that proved not to be the case. The situation has been rectified and such cover is now in place.*

(iii) Question: Why did the AGM costs increase by £3,585 from £7,108 to £10,963, over 50%?

Answer: *The costs increased in YE09 due to the Directors ballot. The AGM costs include the Director election costs. As there was no ballot in YE08 (three nominees for three vacancies) there were no costs for the individually printed election forms, insertion in to Pull! etc and no costs incurred by Graeme Bruce & Partners for the count.*

(iv) Question: What are Asset Disposal costs for £3,374?

Answer: *This was the loss on the sale of the Skoda which was not required following the departure of Grant Dorrall.*

(v) Question: There has been an increase in Light and Heat costs of only £4 to a total of £539. How do we do it?

Answer: *The heating system has been totally replaced and includes air conditioning. It is therefore anticipated that the costs will increase during the current year.*

**b)** Question from Mr N Bough (55). He asked the Board to consider bringing back the use of Regional Referees. Whilst previously a Regional Referee he had organised 8 courses per year with the profits being divided 50% to Region and 50% to the CPSA HQ. It had also been the remit of the Regional Referee to inform the Regional Committee rule changes. The system had worked very well and was very cost effective.

Answer: *TRB said that an Academy Steering Group had been set up which will be reviewing everything related to the Academy. GW, who is the Steering Group Chairman, said it had been recognised there were shortfalls in the old system. He stated that there had been a discussion during the morning's Board meeting on this particular subject, and approval obtained to move forward and put Regional Referees back in place.*

**c)** Mr B Waktare (2552) wished to record his thanks to the members on voting for him. He had attended the Board meeting in the morning, and in his opinion it had been an excellent meeting with a good atmosphere, clear presentations, and confirmed that the Association was in a good financial state.

**d)** Mr P Whaites (502343) asked that as the Minutes of last year's AGM as recorded had been amended, he would like the assurance of the Chairman that the amendment would be made to them and published on the website and in Pull! TRB gave him this assurance.

**e)** Mr K Stoker requested that the Board urgently addressed the wording contained within the current Articles because of the problems experienced recently by the North Region

in forming a Regional Committee. He stated that the AGM had been well attended with Yorkshire members, and in his opinion there should be the option whereby members could be co-opted on to the Committee to represent the Counties who had no representatives. Previously Yorkshire had been divided into four Counties, and there had not been a problem in forming a Regional Committee.

TRB agreed that at the AGM held in Yorkshire in November, and according to the current articles, there were not enough members elected to form a quorum. TRB confirmed there was not a problem in the other four Regions in the formation of their Regional Committees. Mr K Stoker asked if the Northern Region could be classed as a special case, to which TRB replied that it would need to be proposed and verified at an AGM. Mr P Whaites (502343) questioned whether it should be proposed and seconded at this meeting. TRB stated that as the proposal is currently unknown, it could not be voted on now, but it could be debated. Additionally, any proposal requires publication in PULL magazine ahead of a ratification vote at next year's AGM, a fact confirmed by GD (auditor). Mr I Ainsley (22334) suggested that the Articles could be changed when required, and then ratified at a subsequent AGM, but TRB confirmed that any changes were not effective until ratification has taken place, and gave his assurance that the Board will look into the matter. Mr K Stoker enquired if Head Office possessed a copy of the Articles pre Limited Company status. JGP confirmed that he would do his best to locate them.

TRB stated at the morning's Board meeting he had requested that each Director read the current Articles thoroughly and bring back to the next meeting any changes they consider require alteration. After discussion, the agreed amendments will be collated and passed to LS to ensure the Association complies with all relevant laws.

TRB also advised the meeting he had called for a full review of everything the CPSA currently does and does not do and urged members to lobby their County and Regional Committee members and their Regional Directors with their views

**f)** Mr P Rowbottom (48710) stated that a Premier Plus ground in the Northern Region does not hold registered or competition events, and queried whether there should be a rule governing this. TRB replied that there is no requirement for any grounds to hold registered shoots at all. Mr Rowbottom also commented on the Safety Officer re-qualification scenario and, whilst he agreed with stopping it, he felt that it should have run for 2 years at least. TRB replied that once a decision had been taken, a specific date needed to be set and acknowledged that some members would inevitably be disadvantaged by it. Mr B Kibblewhite (1235) asked if there was an intention of reviewing the criteria when registering grounds, and in particular that fresh consideration could be given to the disabled facilities available. TRB stated the ground classification system needed to be fully reviewed and suggested a system similar to hotel grading regarding facilities, accessibility etc might well be the preferred option.

**g)** Mr I Ainsley (22334) enquired whether there would be another CEO or an Officer Manager to fill the vacancy left by PJB's departure. TRB replied that it would be likely to be entitled Chief Executive Officer in line with other National Governing Bodies.

## **12. MEETING CONCLUDES**

There being no further questions the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, for their attention and input, wished them a safe journey home, and declared the meeting closed at 3.45 pm.

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