



## The future of our sport

MINUTES OF THE 72nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of THE CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING ASSOCIATION  
held at THE HOLIDAY INN, TAUNTON on SATURDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2008 at 14.00 HRS

**PRESENT:**

Mr T W D Blaney	Chairman	Mr P J Boakes	Chief Executive Officer
Mr K Walsh	National Director	Mr B Curtis	East Midlands Region Director
Mr W A Heeks	National Director	Mr T Bobbett	National Director
Mr A J Kirkland	West Midlands Region Director	Mrs N Heron	South East Region Director
Mr K J Newton	South West Region Director		
Mr C Fielding	West Midlands Region Director (designate)		
Mrs J L Andrews	Commercial Manager	Mr G M Dorrall	Championships & IT Manager
Mrs M Voller	Operations Manager	Mr P Rendell	Ground Support & Development Manager
Mr C Mcverry	Technical Manager		
Mr G Davis	Hon. Auditor	Mr M Martin	Hon. Solicitor
Mr M Norman	Hon. Insurance Advisor		

83 Current Members of the Association were in attendance plus invited guests.

**NOTE:** These minutes are not verbatim and have been produced on a Summary and Actions basis.

### **OPENING REMARKS**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 14.00 hours, welcomed all present and outlined the agenda for the afternoon. The Chairman also welcome Ms Kate Hoey, MP, Hon. President to the meeting

### **OBITUARY NOTICES**

Mr J Perry announced the names of the 88 members who have passed away since our last AGM. Those in attendance showed their respects with a standing one minute silence. One further deceased member was advised to the meeting in addition to those already known.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Members attending the AGM were invited to provide the names of members who sent apologies for their absence.

### **MINUTES OF 2007 AGM**

The Minutes of the AGM held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2007 had been published on the CPSA website.

Mr C Hames (84649) advised that an amendment to the 2007 Minutes had not been published. It was agreed that this would be done and incorporated into the 2007 Minutes and are provided here for information.

### **"MINUTES OF 2006 AGM**

The Minutes of the AGM held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2006 had been published on the CPSA website. There was some concern expressed by C Hames that only a minority had seen the minutes and on asking the 80 members present who had seen them, there was only one person that confirmed they had. "

The Minutes of the 2007 AGM were proposed by P J Boakes and seconded by T Bobbett and thereby confirmed by a show of hands.

It was agreed that the Minutes of today's AGM will be posted on the CPSA web site within a month of the meeting, thereby allowing Members present to comment well in advance of the next AGM and for Members not in attendance to be informed of what transpired. The AGM Minutes will be retained on the web site through to the next AGM. Any Member requiring a hard copy may request same from HQ. These will be provided free of charge.

### **PRESENTATION BY THE CHAIRMAN & THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Before Terry Blaney began his presentation, Mr Keith Stoker (10029) asked whether there would be an opportunity to present AOB. This was confirmed. The Chairman then presented, with visual aids, an expanded version of the Chairman's Report as published in Pull Magazine.

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

The financial performance of the CPSA for Fiscal 2007 was reported as 'on budget'. There were some specific questions raised, in particular by C Hames, who asked for a breakdown on Academy expenses. It was asked what the spend against this line included. The meeting was advised that it included all expenses, including payments to the Technical Manager and other Consultants. It was also asked for the current head count for HQ personnel, including consultants. It was confirmed as 14 (although the fourteenth, the Accountant, was currently vacant).

Mr J Hall-Say (1726) asked if there was an amount in the accounts which included the cost of advertising. This was confirmed as being correct.

Mr B Waktare (2552) expressed concern as he believed that from reviewing the accounts he would assume that every member of the HQ staff would be earning in excess of £40,000 per annum and had been given increases in salary of 10% each over the past two years. It was confirmed that this was not the case and the staff increases in salaries were as follows:

2006 increase 2.5%

2007 increase 3%

Mr John Hall-Say expressed concern that we should be offering an incentive scheme to members to encourage them to attract other members to the association. It was explained to Mr Hall-Say that several such schemes were already in place, which he accepted and approved.

The Chairman then explained that the newest membership drive "Member get a Member" would be launched in May 2008. Mr N Bough (55) then asked whether this initiative had cost the association money. It was confirmed that this was an in-house initiative and would not cost the members undue expenses.

### **ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS & ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL 2007**

Having presented a summary of the Financial Statements earlier in the proceedings, (and the detailed numbers in Pull Magazine), and following the questions and answers session on some specific points, the Accounts and Annual Report were duly adopted.

### **APPOINTMENT OF LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS**

The Chairman announced the Board's decision to appoint a new Life Vice President, Mr George Digweed. Mr Digweed could not be with us at the meeting, but the Chairman read out a letter from him, accepting the award and thanking the association for their honour.

Mr George Digweed (12652) was awarded a Life Vice Presidency as a recognition for his contribution to shooting.

### **RESULTS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS**

There were several changes to the Board of Directors since the 2006 AGM. Mr Graeme Davis (Hon. Accountant) advised the meeting of the results of the nominations. He advised that no election was necessary as three vacancies were advertised and two applied, therefore automatically gaining a position on the Board of Directors. He also explained that as there was no application received for the West Midlands Region Director (being vacant as a result of Andrew Kirkland completing his term), that Mr Carl Fielding had agreed to be co-opted as a Director in his place. New members to the Board therefore included:

Mr T Bobbett	National Director (co-opted)
Mr K Walsh	National Director
Mrs N Heron	South East Region Director
Mr C Fielding	West Midlands Region Director (co-opted)

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

#### **CHAIRMAN**

Mr T W D Blaney was proposed by Mr Pete Usher (400) and seconded by Mr Brian Curtis (72187).

Mr T Bobbett was proposed by Mr N Woodward (82564) and seconded by Mr. S Ling (31535)

Mr Peter Usher asked whether the members could ask questions of the two candidates as to their vision as Chairman of the association. This was accepted by both candidates and they stood to accept questions.

Mr Peter Usher asked each candidate of their commitment to the association. He was aware that Terry Blaney gave a considerable amount of his time to the organisation (57 days, not including evenings) to the association since the last

AGM and wondered whether Terry Bobbett could show the same commitment. Mr Bobbett explained that he was in exactly the same position as Terry Blaney and would be able to match his commitment as Chairman should he be elected. Mrs Nicola Heron (89683) advised the meeting that she was aware that Terry Bobbett was actively involved in both County and Regional matters and asked him to confirm his attendance at said events within the last year. Terry Bobbett confirmed he had given a minimum of 15 days during the year, not including his attendance at Board Meetings.

Mr J Hall-Say asked Terry Bobbett how many years he had been shooting. Terry Bobbett explained that he had been interested in shooting for some 30 years or more and had shot small bore, full bore and clays since 1974. He confirmed he joined the CPSA in 1974.

Terry Blaney was asked the same question and advised he joined the association in 1978 when he began shooting and is a Life Member.

Mr P Sidebottom (4033) asked Terry Bobbett why he had decided to stand as Chairman. Terry Bobbett explained that he felt he would be able to bring a greater clarity to the members with a belief in openness, whilst understanding that there were areas which would be confidential, even from the members.

Mr M Plant (50323) confirmed that the Chairman's report given by Terry Blaney explained his vision for the association very clearly and asked whether Terry Bobbett could give his own vision, should he be elected. Terry Bobbett explained his vision would be focused on, NATSS, Academy and Membership Development. He further explained that when he was co-opted he was not sure he was in favour of NATSS, but since being involved with the Board and attending one of the NATSS workshops, he was more inclined to believe this opportunity should be explored further and brought to the membership at an appropriate time. He also explained that he was in favour of the aims of the Academy, but had some questions on how it had been implemented. Membership Development was in need of new initiatives and needed to grow and he would be looking at this area as well.

Mr J Hall-Say asked Terry Bobbett whether he would dismiss a member's concerns out of hand. Terry Bobbett answered that of course he would never do that.

Mr Hall-Say expressed to the meeting his concern regarding a long standing dispute he has had with the safety of a ground in his Region and the previous ground owner and current ground owner. Mr Hall-Say has spent a great deal of time and effort writing both to the CPSA and MPs about his ongoing concerns. He expressed to the meeting once again that he was still unhappy that the outcome he had hoped for was not forthcoming. He believed he was being deliberately ignored and wanted to bring his case again to the attention of the CPSA at this AGM. P Boakes advised the meeting that he was aware of Mr. Hall-Say's complaint, but that it had never been found to be valid, either with the

previous owner or the present. He also read to the meeting a letter he had recently sent to an MP regarding Mr. Hall-Say's complaint, advising him that he was fully cognoscente of the problem and that the matter had never been found to be valid. P Boakes spoke again to Mr. Hall-Say and said he was unhappy that he was still so unhappy that the matter could not be resolved to his own satisfaction, but that it had repeatedly been investigated and found to be resolved in so far as the CPSA was concerned. He hoped Mr. Hall-Say could finally accept the decision and would close that particular chapter and move on.

Mr M Martin (56842) advised the meeting that he felt both candidates were more than capable potential Chairmen, but asked what level of business acumen they had both attained in order maintain/attain the position.

Terry Bobbett explained where he currently was employed and his position within that organisation. He explained that he had spent many years working with American companies and had a lifetime of working experience at both management and board levels and was entirely comfortable with both his position on the CPSA Board and as potentially as Chairman.

Terry Blaney explained he had begun his working life in finance then moved onto commerce. He had run companies around the World of different sizes, cultures and profiles for over 30 years. He advised he was now a part owner in a technical recruitment business and had been on the Board of the CPSA for 5 years and served as Chairman for the past 2.

As there were two members of the Board standing for Chairman a ballot was called for.

T Bobbett gained 60 votes from the room

T Blaney gained 17 votes from the room

6 voters in the room abstained

2 members of the audience were not CPSA members (invited attendees)

Total: 83 members from the room eligible to vote and 83 votes accounted for.

#### **VICE CHAIRMAN**

Mr A Heeks was proposed by Mr K Stoker (10029) and seconded by Mr Terry Bobbett.

Mr T Blaney was proposed by Mr Peter Usher (400) and seconded by Miss C Alger (115365).

As there were two members of the Board standing for Vice Chairman a ballot was called for.

A Heeks gained 54 votes from the room

T Blaney gained 20 votes from the room  
9 votes were not cast  
2 members of the audience were not CPSA members (invited attendees)

Total: 83 members from the room eligible to vote and 74 votes cast and accounted for.

### **APPOINT HONORARY OFFICERS**

The Chairman requested a proposal for the re-appointment en bloc of all honorary officers. Mr Clive Haines queried that Perkins Slade had appeared in the March edition of Pull! Magazine, although we had changed insurance advisors in September 2007. His comment was accepted and the Chairman made a change to the presentation slide being shown in order to reflect the new appointment.

### **APPOINT HONORARY OFFICERS**

**HONORARY ACCOUNTANT – GRAEME DAVIS**  
**HONORARY LEGAL ADVISOR – JOHN HUGILL**  
**HONORARY SOLICITOR – MALCOLM MARTIN**  
**HONORARY INSURANCE ADVISOR – TOWERGATE TLC**  
**HONORARY NOISE/PLANNING ADVISOR – MEL KENYON (MARTEC)**  
**HONORARY SHOTGUN LICENSING ADVISOR – BOB KIBBLEWHITE**

All officers were duly elected by a show of hands.

### **INTERVAL & CPSA GRAND DRAW**

Details of the results of the Grand Draw have been published independently on the CPSA web site. We are grateful to the following companies for their generosity in providing prizes for the Grand Draw:

GMK	Maylands Gun Club	Shot-Boxes (Amps Intl)	Musto
Mr Mike Williams	Top Gun	Smart McWet	IPC Magazines
Coventry Silvercraft	Chris Potter Country Sports		

**PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO CPSA ARTICLES  
TO CHANGE SECTION 7: DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS  
TO CHANGE SECTION 8F: APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS**

Mr C. Hames queried the wording of both proposed alterations:

Section 7 The wording of whom should provide a decision regarding suspension/exclusion should be amended to state; That this would be a board decision not just show as a CPSA decision.

Section 8f The proposed wording of the amendment is ambiguous it states: "Each candidate will be proposed and seconded by ten (10) individual members of the Association in good standing." The wording should state: "Each candidate will be proposed by one (1) and seconded by nine (9) making ten in total."

Mr C. Hames said if these points were minuted to be included in the proposed alterations then they would become acceptable.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**GROUND SAFETY**

Mr Hall-Say expressed to the meeting his concern regarding a long standing dispute he has had with the safety of a ground in his Region and the previous ground owner and current ground owner. Mr Hall-Say has spent a great deal of time and effort writing both to the CPSA and MPs about his ongoing concerns. He expressed to the meeting once again that he was still unhappy that the outcome he had hoped for was not forthcoming. He believed he was being deliberately ignored and wanted to bring his case again to the attention of the CPSA at this AGM. P Boakes advised the meeting that he was aware of Mr. Hall-Say's complaint, but that it had never been found to be valid, either with the previous owner or the present. He also read to the meeting a letter he had recently sent to an MP regarding Mr. Hall-Say's complaint, advising him that he was fully cognoscente of the problem and that the matter had never been found to be valid. P Boakes spoke again to Mr. Hall-Say and said he was unhappy that he was still so unhappy that the matter could not be resolved to his own satisfaction, but that it had repeatedly been investigated and found to be resolved in so far as the CPSA was concerned. He hoped Mr. Hall-Say could finally accept the decision and would close that particular chapter and move on.

**INSURANCE COVER FOR MEMBERS**

Mr N Bough asked for clarification as to whether it was correct that when refereeing in America or Canada, the insurance company (Towergate tlc) would need to be notified separately. Mr Matthew Norman (Hon. Insurance Advisor) confirmed that this was the case.



Mr B Waktare also asked whether this would apply to any individual member who was travelling and shooting abroad. Again Mr Norman confirmed this was the case, but only in America or Canada.

Mr B Smith (93995) requested that this appear in the insurance documentation. It was confirmed at the meeting that the insurance leaflet does actually contain this information and is sent out with each annual renewal. Mr Bjorn Waktare advised that as a Life Member he does not get an annual renewal and therefore does not have an up to date insurance leaflet. The Chairman commented that this was indeed something that HQ had missed and it would be addressed as soon as possible to ensure all members received the up to date leaflet.

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORMS**

Mr J Hall-Say advised the meeting that the membership renewal form used to advise a member could shoot at any ground, but has noticed this has been changed. He asked why this was done? Mr Phil Boakes (CEO) advised that indeed this has been changed as it is the right of any ground owner to accept a shooter on to his ground or not and that the CPSA has no rights to insist a member should be allowed to attend a ground. He did comment, however, that there was one exception to this in that any member attending a selection shoot could not be refused entry to a ground, but must be allowed to attend that ground to shoot.

### **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Mr N Woodward (82564) suggested that a good opportunity to gain new members was to offer the first year of Clubman membership with the full benefits of the CPSA (ie competition membership). He suggested that at the end of the first year they would be offered the opportunity to join as full members or re-join as Clubman, with its attendant benefits. Mr Ian Stokes (89167) also commented he felt this would be a very good opportunity to increase membership and would like to add his support to the idea. Mr P Boakes advised that this suggestion would be discussed by the Board at a future meeting as a potential membership development opportunity.

### **CPSA ACADEMY**

#### **CPSA WEBSITE HOMEPAGE**

Mr K Stoker advised the meeting that he had written a letter to the Board in December highlighting several concerns with the way the Academy had been launched and was now being run. He also mentioned that the HomePage of the CPSA website was inviting new shooters to find an Academy coach to teach them to shoot and he felt it was unfairly biased towards the Academy. He mentioned that to his knowledge it had been raised at both the December and February Board Meetings, but still the HomePage remained unchanged. P Boakes advised the room that from the first Academy workshop and coaching meeting held in February 2008, it was agreed that changes to the coaching section would be made in order not to disenfranchise any of the current coaches. He also advised that the prices he had been

quoted were quite disproportionate when we were currently working on the development of a new website. The changes requested by the coaches at the Academy workshop would be included in the new website.

Mr Stoker explained that this was not the area of his concern; he was more concerned with the HomePage of the current CPSA website. Mrs J Andrews (Commercial Manager) addressed the room and explained that she was entirely responsible for the commercial content of the website and it was she who had placed this advert onto the website. She also explained that whilst she did attend Board Meetings, she had not at any time seen the letter that Mr Stoker referred to and was not aware of any problem with the HomePage. She also explained that it was very quick and easy to change and she would do so on Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> March) to ensure it was gone before the beginning of the week. She also said she would then re-word the item to be more inclusive. She apologised to Mr Stoker if there had been a breakdown in communication but was able to resolve the problem very quickly. Mrs N Heron advised the room that she had been present at two Board meetings when this subject had been mentioned and was very sure that the Commercial Manager had been aware of the letter. J Andrews then reiterated that she does not lie to cover herself was more than willing to put her hand up and admit if she had not done as she had been asked, but had at no time seen the Board Pack in which the letter Mr Stoker had written had been given to the Board and had not been aware of it until this meeting. Mr Stoker thanked Mrs Andrews and looked forward to reviewing the site on Monday.

#### **ACADEMY COACHES**

Mr C Schofield (21841) advised the meeting that he was an Academy coach and that he believed the Academy was a really good and positive move forward for the association. He hoped that other coaches would follow his lead and join and that they themselves would give it a chance and help to promote its success.

#### **ACADEMY COSTS**

Mr N Woodward (82564) asked why there had been such a large increase in Academy costs between 2006 and 2007 and what the forecast was for 2008.

P Boakes advised that he could not bring the budget for 2008 to mind (later confirmed as £80,000). He advised that the Academy cost was not just expenditure of Academy items (i.e. marketing etc), but it also included the costs of the consultants who have direct responsibility for the Academy.

#### **BUDGETS AND EXPENDITURE**

Mr J Hall-Say asked why we could not put money to one side (in a savings account) and reduce the expenditure of the association. T Blaney explained that the Board had looked at the very healthy savings fund they already had and decided to use the current turnover in order to invest in the future of the association.

P Boakes also explained how the budget is managed and spend is decided and advised that in order to obtain the budget for the year he asks all Senior Management to put together their proposals for the year ahead. He then reviews their requests, makes adjustments and a final budget is put forward to the Board for their approval. This had been done for 2008 as in previous years.

### **PRIZE MONEY AT SHOOTS**

Mr C Hames queried the way the prize money should be handled in the future at registered shoots. He said that shooters do not understand the way the prize funds are allocated. Mr D Stuart (89167) advised the meeting that commercial aspects do come into play and that if the calculation of prize money is openly placed on a Board once the entries are closed then this would encourage transparency in all things. Mr N Bough advised the meeting that according to Rule Book 5 all ground owners have an obligation to post the prize fund after close of entries. Mr P Usher advised the meeting that Rule Book 5 does not say that the ground owners cannot move money around within the overall prize fund and that this should not be allowed to happen. Mr A Hann (501150) said that all prize funds need to be displayed and if it is not it is up to the shooters at the event to ask why it has not been displayed. Mr D Stuart countered that he is aware ground owners sometimes advise that the money cannot be determined until the entries close and will not display the prize fund. Mr C Hames again advised the room that it is often difficult to determine the prize fund. Mr J Hall-Say concurred with Mr Hames' statement. Mr B Kibblewhite (1235) commented that it is not up to the ground to decide where the differences are in the prize fund. All monies in said funds belong to the shooter.

### **DAY PASS SCHEME**

Mr A Hann asked whether the CPSA insurance could not now cover the Day Pass Scheme rather than expect the ground owners to cover the insurance on third party liability. Mr P Boakes advised that it was impossible to identify who the Day Pass holder was (via the CPSA membership records) and they would need to be able to do so in order to process any claim through the insurance provider. Mr M Norman (Hon. Insurance Advisor) advised the meeting that there needs to be documentation available on the claimant. If no documentation existed, the costs to the association would increase because there would have to be a "speculative" amount in the costs of the premium to cover "unknown" day pass holders who may have an accident. Mr A Hand asked whether a member is insured from the day he joins. This was confirmed as being the case for all new members.

### **DATA PROTECTION**

Ms H King (33451) advised the room that she was unhappy that the meeting was being videoed and had not been asked for, nor had given her permission for this to happen. It was requested that the videoing be stopped.

### **CPSA OWNERSHIP OF A GROUND**

Mr J Hall-Say advised the meeting that he believed the real aim of the CPSA should be to have a prime shooting ground somewhere in England so that they could hold their own premier events. The Chairman explained that a great many grounds spend a large amount of money getting and keeping their grounds up to standard and if the CPSA went ahead and transferred all major events to it, there would be no incentive for ground owners to invest the money they do currently. He referred back to his Chairman's report in that it was believed that after the 2012 Olympics, British Shooting should have a premier ground which would accommodate all types of target shooting (similar to Bisley). This new ground would then be incorporated into the "rota" system currently employed by the CPSA and the new ground would take its turn to host major events.

### **MEETING CONCLUDES**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, wished them a safe journey home and declared the meeting closed at 16.50 hrs.



The future of our sport