

**BATH STREET MARINE TABLE TENNIS CLUB**  
**Minutes of AGM Held 23 May 2018**

Present: Ian McElwee (Chair), Liz Adams, Barbara Alcock, Fred Bainbridge, Tom Bell, Lesley Blanchard, Ian Brownrigg, Bernard Cooney, Elaine Core, Brian Crolley, Mary Delamere, Keith Dudley, Billy Dunleavy, Don Gibson, Herve Gillet, Keith Hardman, Des Logan, Steve McCormick, Margaret Morris, Dave Noden, Bill O'Hara, Albert Parker, Tony Rimmer, Angela Simkin, Doreen Smith, Sue Young and Graham Turner.

**1. Introduction**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:32pm welcoming all present and thanking them for their attendance. He hoped that people would be able to stay after the meeting to share in refreshments which would be served in the club room.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Received:- Billy Clayton, Barry Davis, Val Delamere, John & Grace Donnelly, Ann Fletcher, Dave Roberts, Mary Sefton, Dave Stoddern and John & Margaret Wheeler.

**3. Minutes of 2017 AGM**

A copy of the Minutes of the last AGM were provided to all present, approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**4 Matters Arising From Minutes**

None.

**5. Secretary's Report**

The Secretary reported as follows:

It is always difficult to know where to start in presenting a report to the AGM of the preceding year.

It is, however, worth saying that the year will finish very much as it began with a great social night for the whole club! Our end of season social is on 1 June, it will feature good food, the music of the Silhouettes, and great company. The event being organised by our newly appointed social organiser Keith Hardman, with his band of very willing helpers. Tickets priced at just £10 – excellent value for money!

Social events have very much been part and parcel of our calendar over the last year as members got behind the various initiatives to raise funds towards our new building. So much so, that we have been able to increase our property fund from £2,000 to £5,000 at the year end as the accounts to be presented will show. This is a tremendous effort by all concerned. Well done and thank you!

The Club once again entered 8 teams in the L&DTTL and managed 4 teams in the Liverpool Junior League (JDD). In fact, working with Crosby High TTC, the club was jointly responsible for 15 out of 20 teams that took part in JDD in the 2017/18 season. Two of our juniors, Finn Mason & Hugh Frediani-Bellis finishing second in the top division of JDD and the team of Anfield Boys managed by the club finished top and also reached the final of the JDD Handicap Cup, ending as runners-up. Euan Mason, one of our most improved juniors, also won the JDD Singles tournament.

On the L&DTTL front we had teams in every division. Our A Team of Barry Davis, Matt Wilson & Colin Turner won Div 2 and will advance to the top division next season. Full reports on all our teams will appear in the Club Newsletter, to be published online shortly after the AGM. Special mention must however be made of our F Team, who ended up supporting the whole League! Even though they only accumulated 15 points, compared to the 151 of the top team in that division, all season out of a possible 200, they remained cheerful, and fought for every point right to the end of the season and generally were a credit to the club and themselves. Their sportsmanship and hospitality drawing a number of excellent comments from rivals. Next year.....!!

All our teams also played in the respective Divisional Cups, but it was only Dave Noden's C Team in Div 3 that reached the semi-final stage, before bowing out to the eventual winners.

There was however more success in the Frank Murphy Veterans Handicap Cup in which we entered 6 teams. For the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 5 seasons 2 BSM teams reached the Final. A report on that event can be found on our website. The trophy was won by BSM 3, captained by Andrew Armstrong – in his first season as a BSM captain – with the very strong line-up of Keith Williams, Ian McElwee & himself. Congratulations!

Over the past year the Club Management Committee has met together 7 times, and we also held a SGM. In a break with tradition the Club now publishes in full the Minutes of its AGM, SGM and Man Com meetings. Under the present Chairman there has been a positive direction for the Club bringing together every aspect of club life. As a result the club has continued to flourish and grow.

We have published 15 News Stories on our website, which has attracted more than 1700 views this last year, and made 13 entries on the Club blog. There have also been 54 posts to the club's Facebook page which have attracted interest from far and wide, with the most successful post attracting more than 600 views.

The social side of our club has continued to grow and thrive and around 50% of our members enjoy social and recreational table tennis only at the club. If you need more information about our social side then do please ask questions of our newly appointed social secretary, Keith Hardman.

Members safety is a matter that is of paramount importance to our club, and it is significant that in the last year we have experienced at first hand two serious medical incidents. In both instances the response of members has been exemplary. Over the year we have engaged in emergency first aid training concerned with proper and safe handling of defibrillator equipment which is now installed onsite. Many of our members attended that training. We have also appointed a Health & Safety Officer, in the form of Keith Hardman, who joins our existing Welfare Officer, Mary Delamere. Together they are doing their utmost to ensure that those coming to our club are welcomed and cared for and that their safety is ensured whilst they are here.

For the first time last year our club tournament was held in the luxury of Anfield Sports & Community Centre with play on 10 tables. It was at time chaotic but nevertheless a great day of table tennis. This was followed by a very successful Finals Night at the clubroom, with club newcomer Colin Turner taking the singles title at the first time of asking.

This last year has been dominated by the club's search for a new home when the present building is demolished. Fortunately the scheduled demolition has been put back a year, and will not now take place until 2019, but a new home is essential if the club is to continue in its present form. As most of you will know, Marine AFC would like to keep us on their site, and have offered space for us to place a 'portable' home. We are now actively working with Sport England to see if we can raise the approximate £75,000 needed to make this dream a reality. Our funding bid is to go before the

decision-making panel, and to assist that we have provided all information requested, and we are being strongly supported by Sefton Borough Council. This together with a bout of ill health has somewhat pre-occupied your Club Secretary this past year, and here I would like to record my thanks to Dave Noden for his tremendous assistance this past season with managing our league teams and fixtures; and also to the team captains who have by and large managed their respective squads extremely well.

I would have liked to be able to give you good news about the club property. But at the moment it is simply a waiting game! Hopefully we will not have to move to Plan B....., our first and foremost aim remains to establish a new permanent club home on this present site, and for that home to have its own new kitchen and toilets and be capable to allowing more tables to be in use for social and recreational play, as well as being open to members 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

I would like to thank all members for their help and support over this past year, and especially for getting behind this property project. Raising as much money as we can, and as quickly as we can remains the main need of our club at this moment.

Overall it has been a good year for our club both on and off the table, and the forthcoming National Table Tennis Day in July provides another opportunity to showcase every facet of what we have to offer in the future. And especially so if we can secure a new home. That has to be our highest priority.

If we can secure a new permanent home then I believe there is also the prospect of a very bright future for this club because we have a very good product, and some very good people.

All that remains is for me to wish the club and all of its members the very best for the future, and to thank you all for your support over the 7 years that I have had the pleasure of being your Secretary.

After questions from members, answered by the Secretary, the report was unanimously adopted.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer presented a copy of the audited accounts for the period ended 30 April 2018 showing an overall profit for the year of £3787.08, and balances to carry forward of £6414.37. A copy of the audited accounts is attached to and forms part of these Minutes.

The Treasurer drew attention to the following points:-

- a. The tremendous effort by members in fund raising this year. It had been a team effort and he thanked all for their help and support.
- b. That a number of members had made voluntary donations towards the new property fund. He encouraged all members to act similarly.
- c. The accounts do not reflect the money paid by members directly to Marine AFC by way of entry to the Golden Letter Draw. But it is these payments that form part of our membership fees and pay for the use of our club room. Over 60 members have contributed to the Marine lottery in the last year providing around £6,500 of income to Marine AFC. Once the club becomes independent of Marine AFC these payments will have to come directly to the club so that the club can pay the overhead costs which it will then become responsible for.
- d. The accounts had been audited and approved by the auditor, Barry Davis.

Ian thanked all members for their help and support in this his first year as Treasurer.

Members raised one or two questions that were fully answered by the Treasurer, it was then proposed

and seconded that the accounts as presented be adopted and the meeting unanimously approved the accounts and the Treasurer's report.

## 7. Election of Officers

- a. President – The Chairman explained that the role of President is an honorary one which Billy Clayton had fulfilled over the past year. Members unanimously agreed that Billy should continue in this role.
- b. Chairman – The Secretary explained that although the agenda indicated that the present Chairman was not seeking re-election he was nevertheless proposing to nominate Ian for the post as he understood that he may now be willing to continue for a further year. No further nominations were forthcoming, and Ian was unanimously re-elected and resumed the chairmanship of the meeting.
- c. Secretary – No nominations were received. After a considerable discussion it was resolved that Graham would continue in this role for the time being whilst the Club searched for a suitable successor.
- d. Treasurer - Ian Brownrigg was nominated and unanimously approved as Treasurer.
- e. Auditor – Barry Davis was unanimously elected.
- f. Other Committee Members – The following were nominated and unanimously approved: Lesley Blanchard, Bernard Cooney, Mary Delamere, Keith Hardman, Des Logan and Doreen Smith.

Outgoing committee member Dave Noden, who did not seek re-election, was thanked for his past service to and support for the club, in particular his support of the Club Secretary in relation to League matters.

## 8. Property Update

This had effectively been covered in the Secretary's report. The present situation is that the Club is waiting on the outcome of the funding bid to Sport England.

## 9. Subscriptions 2018/19

Ian presented the following Resolution to the meeting, copies of which were provided to all:

*“This AGM determines the Annual Membership Fees for 2018/19 (1 May 2018 – 30 April 2019) to be:-*

*Adults - £144*

*Juniors (U18) - £10*

*These fees to be paid as follows:-*

1. *Juniors – by a single payment to the club by 31 August 2018;*
2. *Adults – until such date, to be notified, as the club commences to make rental payments to Marine AFC on a lease of land for new club premises;*
  - a. *£40 by a single payment to the club by 31 August 2018*
  - b. *£104 to Marine AFC, by equal monthly instalments by standing order, by way of participation in the Marine Golden Letter Draw.*

3. *Adults - from the notified date, all fees must be paid to the table tennis club. In addition, the member may, if they wish, continue to make payments to the Golden Letter Draw.*
4. *Adults - Any member not wishing to participate in the Golden Letter Draw, or make payments by standing order, must pay the amount due to the table tennis club in a single payment by 31 August 2018.*
5. *Adults – where fees are payable to the table tennis club members may if they wish pay the whole amount of the fees due by equal monthly payments by standing order.*

*Any adult becoming a member of the Club part way through the year may have their fee reduced by such sum as is equivalent to the number of months that have elapsed since the start of the year for payments under 2b (or pro-rata to the total fee if not joining the Golden Letter Draw or joining after the notified date).*

*Further, the following fees shall be payable:*

6. *Guests attending any session with a member - £5 per session, payable in full at the time of the session.*
7. *At the discretion of the Club Management Committee, a Guest League Player may participate on an occasional basis in one of the club's teams in the L&DTTL at a fee of £5 per match played. Such fee to be paid to and accounted for by the captain of the team."*

It was explained that the complexity of the resolution was needed to facilitate any change necessary if and when the club became independent of Marine AFC as the club can only set its annual fees at AGM. Basically, the resolution maintains the status quo and represents no increase for members. He explained that following the SGM which effectively treated all members the same, the fee structure now reflected that fact too. All members would pay the same fee level. It was stressed that all members were liable for the full adult fee of £144. And that either needed to be paid directly to the club or partly to the club and partly to Marine AFC for so long as our present arrangements with Marine AFC continued.

There was a considerable discussion over fees following which it was proposed and unanimously agreed that the resolution be adopted.

#### **10. Appointment of Team Selection Committee**

It was agreed that a group consisting of the Club Chairman, Secretary and the previous season's league team captains should form a selection committee. The main purpose would be to consider and decide on the Club's entry to the L&DTTL for the forthcoming 2018/19 season.

#### **11. League Matters**

The League AGM is on Wednesday 13 June at Wavertree Labour TTC and will include presentation of league trophies. All members may attend and it is hoped that representatives of the A Team in particular will attend to receive their trophy.

The League are also planning to operate a Summer League this year, at Anfield on Monday evenings starting 4 June. Anyone interested in participating should speak to Graham immediately after the meeting.

#### **12. Any Other Business**

- a. The Chairman reminded all of the End of Season Social at Marine on 1 June.

- b. Some members expressed concern that the free parking badges that the club has are being taken off site by users. It was confirmed that badges should always be returned to the clubroom after use.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:16 and tea and biscuits were then served.

***These Minutes approved at AGM XX May 2019 ..... (I McElwee – Chairman)***