Worlingworth Cricket Club

Minutes for the 2024 AGM – Sunday 17 March 2024 at 4pm

Attendees: Rob Bensly (RB), Graham Mobbs (GM), Dan Payne (DP), Val Swallow (VS), Chris Watson (CW), Bill Mugleston (BM), Jenny Holmes (JH), Sarah Hewett (SH), Kate Simpson (KS)

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| Item | Title | Detail | Action |
| 1 | Apologies | * Harry Nesling, Bruce Sears, Jemma and Guy Wood, Jane Jordan, Sam Boynton.
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| 2 | Minutes of 2023 AGM | * Agreed as a true record (Proposer:CW, Seconder:VS).
* All the actions were complete or overtaken by events.
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| 3 | Chairman’s Report | * Thanks to the 3 main sponsors (J&G Maintenance, Ashtons Solicitors, Muddy Matches) for their support in 2023.
* Thanks to the 3 Captains who had not only ensured that sides were fielded but also the individuals all felt they were fully involved.
* DP reported that the 1st team had avoided relegation on the last day; however, it had been an exceptionally close year and a win on that day would have seen the team finish 5th.
* The Sunday team had enjoyed a variety of fixtures and it was hoped that the 2024 season will see more fixtures and a consistent level across the opposition teams as opposed to the peaks and troughs of 2023.
* JH reported that the Ladies had a comparatively strong season with no cancellations and the most batting points in their league - a particular note for Chloe Williams who was the 3rd highest run scorer in the League. The 2024 season will present a different challenge in that, although the standard of the teams will be similar, most of the opponents are from West Suffolk; therefore, significantly more travelling.
* Following JH's comment on travel, opportunities to hire the College minibus or the Community Bus were discussed.
* A final thanks to all those behind the scenes who had kept the Club moving forward (GM, VS, SH, BM) in 2023. A particular vote of thanks to Richard Nesling.
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| 4 | Treasurer’s Report | * GM presented the Club accounts as of 1 Jan 24.
* He highlighted a positive balance of £1,519.93 against a figure of £9,233.52 at the start of the year. Several factors had reduced the Club income, particularly no Junior Section fees, reduced Sunday fixtures and higher utility bills. Assuming this trend continues the Club will be looking at a year-on-year income gap of £6k.
* On a positive note, working with Suffolk Cricket and Howdens, the Club had halved its insurance bill.
* Accounts accepted as a true record (P: RB, S:DP).
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| 5 | Welfare Officer’s Report | * There had been no incidents in 2023.
* All Club members were reminded that, while the Club's Junior Section has been suspended, the Club and opposition adult sides still have Junior members so all should be aware of their conduct and the Club's Safeguarding Policy (Club Website - 'Policies').
* There was still no volunteer for the role as RB completed 3 years in the post with a refresher course booked for 18th March.
* RB was pleased to report that the Club was marked as compliant on SHMS. A situation which would be improved further in the next month with KS and SB receiving their clearances.
* All those who attended the First Aid Course in 2022 remained in date for the 2024 season but a refresher course will be required at the start of 2025.
* The Defib remained in place and fully functional, although fortunately it had yet to be used.
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| 6 | Club Constitution/Trustees/Policies | * RB had reformatted the Constitution since the 2023 AGM and had included a line at 2.7 to ensure the Club is fully compliant with the ECB Anti-Discrimination Policy. The changes were accepted unanimously (P:RB, S:CW).
* The trustees of the Club remained: RB, GM, Ian Absolon, Dave Courteen and Rob Nesling.
* RB reported that he had been sent a template of the latest ECB recommended Safeguarding Policy. He had updated the document to reflect the Club's details and had circulated as a draft for adoption at the meeting. The new policy was agreed unanimously (P:RB, S:CW). SH to publish on the 'Policies' page on the Club Website.
* All the remaining Club Policies (found on the website) were valid until 2025.
 | SH - Policies |
| 7 | Election of Officers | * Given no new nominations for any of the Club posts and all the current post holders were content to carry on for another year, it was agreed that the following posts would be re-elected en masse.
	+ Chairman – Rob Bensly
	+ Club Captain – Chris Watson
	+ Welfare Officer – Rob Bensly
	+ 1st XI Captain – Dan Payne
	+ Sunday T30 Manager – Sam Boynton
	+ Ladies Captain – Jenny Holmes
	+ Ladies Vice-Captain - Kate Simpson
	+ Petanque/Table Tennis Coord – Val Swallow
	+ Groundsman – Bill Mugleston
	+ Secretary – Vacant
	+ Treasurer – Graham Mobbs
	+ Website Manager – Sarah Hewett
	+ Management Committee – As above, RB to approach Bruce Sears, Harry Nesling and Eric Davy to continue.
	+ Sub Committee – Fundraising.
* Re-election agreed unanimously (P:RB, S:JH)
* RB suggested a 'Succession Planning' meeting during the Summer to identify future post holders, RB to raise at the first Management Committee Meeting.
 | RB - SecondeeRB - Succ'n Planning |
| 8 | Fixtures 2023 | * The Two Counties and Suffolk Alliance fixtures had been received and are posted on the Club website.
* Suffolk Cup – The Club had entered the Cup for 2024 season and had been placed in a league with Melton and Easton; this year's event would incorporate home and away fixtures. RB to agree dates with the other 2 clubs by 7 April.
 | RB - Fixtures |
| 9 | Fundraising | * DP updated the meeting on the formation of the sub-committee and the on-going work.
* The meetings were well supported by a number of members from across the Club and it was hoped that this would lead to a new pool of potential sponsors.
* Work had started on events in the Summer with an end of season afternoon already on the fixture list.
* SH would update the website to provide a sponsor summary/website link.
* The meeting discussed the 100 Club and the lack of traction to date. RB to raise with the members at the start of the season.
 | SH - Sponsor LinkRB - 100 Club |
| 10 | Pavilion and Ground Maintenance | * Pavilion - Jason Gobbitt had been approached to provide a quote to repair the edge of the roof and guttering. That quote would form part of an application for a Locality Grant from Councillor Hicks. RB to progress by the deadline of 22nd March.
* Grounds - BM had everything in hand; however, a Club night on 15th/16th April was required to clear the nets and also set up the ground for the first fixture of the season on the 20th. DP to put out a WhatsApp message to coordinate.
* BM mentioned the hole in the entrance driveway. RB agreed to approach Richard Nesling for his help.
 | RB - GrantDP - Working PartyRB - Entrance |
| 11 | Subs and Match Fees | * Given the likely funding gap, increases in both subs and match fees were discussed at length. It was agreed unanimously (P:RB, S:DP) that there would be no change to the Match Fees for the 2024 season; however, it was likely that an increase would be required for 2025. Fees remain as:
	+ **Two Counties Div 6 Games – Adults £10, Students £5.**
	+ **All other games – Adults £5, Students £3**
* As there was no rise in Match Fees, it was agreed unanimously (P:RB, S:JH) that the Subs for 2024 would be as follows:
	+ **Adults - £70**
	+ **Students - £55**
	+ **Ladies - £40**
	+ **Social - £25**
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| 12 | Spring Nets | * DP reported that the first 2 sessions at Thomas Mills High School were well attended and collecting cash on the day had worked well.
* The final sessions will move to the College at the end of the March.
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| 13 | AOB | * Clubmark 2024. RB had all the required information and would complete the required online paperwork before the start of the season.
* With no further AOB, the meeting was closed at 5.40pm. Thanks to SH for the tea and biscuits.
 | RB - Clubmark |

RWB