

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE WEALD OF KENT
PLOUGHING MATCH COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD 23RD MAY 2005, AT MARDEN
CRICKET CLUB, HOWLAND ROAD, MARDEN, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

Present: Messrs W Thompson, A Marden, M Marden, M Cleverdon, K Britt, N Ridley, S Ridley, S Nesfield, G Eckley, J R Stevens, S Highwood, W Steel, M Ensoll, A Wise, T Overy, N Overy, N Henley, N Burdge, G Clark, J Simpson, C Lillywhite, R Chantler, M Scott, R Thomas, J Faulkner, R Barnes, FJ Harvey, Mrs A Elliott, Mrs L Mannington and Ms K Burchell and 6 members residing.

Apologies for absence: Messrs. J R Henley, M Foreman, J Mason, G Stonman, J Parsons, R Lewis, N Henley, B Henley, M Ide, G Beard, B Jones, A Jones, R Lewis, O A Reynolds, M Garner and Miss R Wickham.

Minutes of the previous meeting held May 24th 2004 as previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Mr J R Stevens, seconded by Mr W Thomspn.

Matters Arising: None

Correspondence: None

Financial Report

A full breakdown of the accounts is available on request.

The 2004 match produced a surplus of £2070 at year end. Income totalled £15987 which was up on the 2004 figures. Expenditure also rose, standing at £13917.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for all his hard work throughout the year by supporting such informative balance sheets. Mr Garner, Treasurer proposed acceptance of the accounts, seconded by Mr M Cleverdon.

Chairmans' Report

The Chairman opened his report by thanking everyone involved with the organisation of the Weald od Kent Ploughing Match, without them, we wouldn't be one of the best agricultural events in the South-East. The 2004 match was not without its challenges, a tricky autumn and late harvest added to the workload, meaning that some of the marking out was done amongst straw bales still lying on the site! After the initial worries, the actual match proved to be a huge success, which went off very well. It should also be notes that without the continuing support from Marston Hotels, this year would have meant a deficit in the accounts.

Special thanks should go to our President, Mr John Butler for his support, Richard Thomas, Karen Burchell and Mark Cleverdon for all their hard work behind the scenes.

Thanks to the committee, old and new, and as the match grows, we need every bit of their support. The Chairman closed his report by adding that he felt that his two years as Chairman have sped by.

The President echoes the Chairman's feelings, saying that it was a great match, a fantastic day, a resounding success, and has thoroughly enjoyed it all.

Election of Officers

President

Mr W Steel, Esq

Proposed by Mr R Thomas, Seconded by Mr M Ide

Mr Steel thanked Mr Butler for being such a "slick operator" and boked forward to the forthcoming year as Association President.

Vice-presidents Messrs D Barham, G Beard, R J Vezant, N Burdge, W G Calcutt, R C Coleman, A E A Day, J R Stevens, G H Fletcher, M C Foreman, J R Henley, D Kirby, Lord P Mayhew, O A Reynolds, M Scott, D Stevens, P Tipples, S Tipples, R D Warner, M Wheeler, N J Wickham, J Worsfold, B Wright, and the addition of J Butler, esq.

Proposed by Mr M Cleverdon, Seconded by Mr David Neame
All in favour.

Chairman Mr M Cleverdon
Proposed by Mr W Thompson, Seconded by Mr N Burdge
All in favour.

Vice-Chairman Mr T Overy
Proposed by Mr M Cleverdon, Seconded by Mr N Henley
All in favour

Treasurer Mr M Garner
Proposed by Mr W Thompson, Seconded by Mr J R Stevens
All in favour

Secretary Ms K Burchell
Proposed by Mr A Marden, Seconded by Mrs A Elliott
All in favour

Executive Committee

At present Messrs:G Beard, K Britt, N Burdge, M Cleverdon, G Eckley, M Ensoll, J Forknall, C Foster, N Henley, S Highwood, M Ide, C Lillywhite, A Marden, M Marden, G D Neame, N Overy, T Overy, O A Reynolds, N Ridley, W Steel, J R Stevens, R Thomas, W Thompson, J Tipples, A Wise, Miss R Wickham, Mrs L Mannington.

Initial proposal to abolish the maximum number that can be on the executive committee. As there were no objections Messrs J Forknall, S Ridley, S Nesfield, R Chantler, F J Harvey, G Clark and J Simpson were added.

Proposed by Mr J Butler, Seconded by Mr N Wickham
All in favour

Hon Life Members

Messrs P Tipples, P J G Cleary, J F Parsons, G H Stonham.

After many, many years of un-stinting service to the Association, Mr J R Henley has decided to step down. It was the feeling of all those present that in recognition of his support, Mr Henley should become an honorary life member of the Association.

Proposed by Mr N Henley, Seconded by Mr W Thompson.

Auditors Proposed by Mr N J Wickham, Seconded by Mr M Scott.

The President of the Association thanked all those for attending and the meeting was closed at 8.00pm.