



Bransgore Croquet Club Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 3pm  
The Pavilion, Burley Road, Bransgore

## **Minutes**

### **1 Opening Remarks**

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present to the AGM 2019.

### **2 Apologies received from:**

Robert and Teresa Clarke  
Ruth Elkins  
Lesley Wooltorton  
Bill and Mavis Cropley  
Barbara Bishop  
Peter and Coleen Warren

### **3 Minutes of the previous AGM, 2018**

Accepted and signed. Proposed by Kate Crumpler, seconded by Rod Clayton.

### **4 Matters arising**

None.

### **5 Chairman's Report (Barry Dench)**

The AC Singles Club Tournament winner for 2018, James Morton was belatedly presented with his trophy.

Philip Bloy had kindly bequeathed £250 in his Will to Bransgore Croquet Club.

Alan Cater audited the Club Accounts and was prepared to continue the role in 2019.

The focus on taking the Chairman role was three main items:

- To raise the quality of the lawns, and despite the inevitable issues with the weather over the 2018 season, the lawns were in a good state and had held up well for the entire season.
- To increase the numbers playing competitive croquet which has been achieved at club level and evident by now having two teams in the Southern Croquet Federation (SFC) Leagues.
- To increase the number playing AC, and this has had a moderate success.

Regular volunteers add a lot to the success of a club, and to that end thanks must go to George Baylis for his help with the lawns, Ruth Elkins for her tireless efforts in keeping the lawns and surrounding areas tidy and weed free; and David & Kate Crumpler, Brian & Sheila Davies for their catering help at our club events.

Thanks also go to the, proposed, three new Committee members, Tricia Clayton, Terry Huxtable, and Tony Cumes for standing up and being counted.

Of course, many thanks to the current committee members for their much appreciated hard work and support.

Challenging times lie ahead in driving forward our proposal for the additional lawns which will undoubtedly need sustained efforts to raise finance.

The expertise gained in your careers may be relevant and helpful if the Committee asks for volunteers. Don't just stand back and expect someone else to come forward. Step up to the plate, after all it is your club and it needs your help.

**6 Treasurer's Report (David Brown)**

David Brown presented the Club Accounts Report. (Attached)

The Club Reserves are very healthy.

The new Auditor, Alan Cater, thanked David and reported that the Club Accounts were accurate and well presented.

**7 Match Secretary's Report (Roger Price)**

In the 2018 season two teams were entered in the SCF GC Handicap competition. For the 2019 season the club is entering one team in the SCF GC Handicap competition and one in the SCF GC Level Play competition. Terry Huxtable will captain the GC Handicap Team and Art Wardle the GC Level Play Team.

There was a vacancy for someone to manage the Friendly Team games and Mike Glew kindly agreed to take on the role.

**8 Lawns Committee Report (Roger Price)**

The lawns suffered over the 2018 but with care and attention we were able to play throughout the season and fulfil our commitment to play all the SCF league fixtures.

Scotty has rough cut the lawns in preparation for the 2019 season and white lining will be done prior to the start of play in April.

**9 Social Secretary's Report (Kate Crumpler)**

**In 2018:**

We had quite a busy year of social events, most of which were reasonably well attended and raised a significant amount of money for the club funds.

Throughout the season we were very busy with Match Teas and held two very successful afternoons hosting local Probus Clubs.

The yearly BBQ was well attended, and was enjoyed by all, and we also had a very successful Indoor Croquet evening.

The End of Season Lunch was also well attended at Shackleton Square Hall which proved to be a very popular venue.

Unfortunately, our regular caterers have now retired so we will be looking for a replacement.

Special thanks go to Sheila who has given me excellent support throughout 2018.

**For 2019:**

The Club Tournaments Draw Evening has been booked for Wednesday, 24th April 2019 and will be held in the Pavilion. Cheese and Wine will be provided at £5 per head.

The Club BBQ will be on Friday, 19th July 2019.

The End of Season Lunch has been booked for Saturday, 26th October 2019 at the Bransgore Community Church Hall, Shackleton Square. BH23 8AJ.

**10 Election of Officers**

The Chairman asked for a block vote to accept the election of the following Officers.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Art Wardle	Chairman & GC Club Captain
Tricia Clayton	Secretary
David Brown	Treasurer
Tony Cumes	Lawns Sub-Committee Chair
Terry Huxtable	Asst. GC Club Captain
Kate Crumpler	Social Secretary
Mike Tomkins	AC Representative
Lexi Oakenfold	Re-election without portfolio

The election of the above Officers was unanimously accepted by the members attending the AGM. Proposed by Jane Tivey and seconded by Judith Nickson.

Non-committee roles

Roger Price	GC Fixtures Secretary
Barry Dench	Web Master and Club Tournament Coord.

Alan Cater agreed to continue in the role of Auditor for the club which was unanimously accepted by the members attending the AGM.

**Change to the Club Constitution.**

With the changes to club governance invoked by the Croquet Association, the following change is proposed to the Club Constitution:

“5.1 The affairs of the Club shall be controlled by a Committee comprising the Executive Officers and up to a maximum of six other members, all of whom shall be elected from, and by, the Full Members of the Club at an Annual General Meeting (AGM). They will normally serve for a term of three years, after which they resign or seek re-election for a further 3-year term. Committee members hold office for no more than 6 years in total and should then stand down for 1 year before seeking re-election. Members of the club, may seek to contest any position that is becoming vacant or up for re-election subject to a minimum notice period of 21 days before the date of the AGM. If at the end of any 3-year term, no nominations are forthcoming, the retiring member may be co-opted until the next AGM provided he/she has notified the Secretary 21 days ahead of the AGM.”

James Morton thought that the 21-day notice prior to AGM in the change to the constitution was too long and proposed that the period should be reduced to 7 days. This proposal was rejected by a majority vote.

The proposed change to the club constitution was accepted by the members attending the AGM with only 1 vote against the change.

### **Incoming Chairman.**

Art Wardle (AW), addressed the meeting.

AW thanked the members for supporting his election to Chairman and added that he had thoroughly enjoyed his 4 years as Club Secretary.

On behalf of himself and all the club members AW thanked Barry, for his diligence and all the hard work he put in over his term as Chairman. AW added that he would endeavour to run our club to the benefit of all the members, as Barry had done for the last 4 years.

Barry has agreed to continue as web-master for the club web site, and he will also be our Club Tournament Co-ordinator.

AW also thanked Roger for his commitment and hard work as he retires from the committee after 8 years.

Roger will still be actively involved in his role as Fixtures Secretary and will also be available to advise on lawns issues.

With the changes to club governance invoked by the Croquet Association in respect to time served on committees, there have been several changes.

We are lucky to have three new Committee members:

- Tricia Clayton will be taking over as Club Secretary.
- Terry Huxtable is replacing Lexi as Assistant GC Captain.
- Tony Cumes will be Lawns Sub-committee Chair. Of course, Tony will need plenty help from **you, the volunteers!**

The Croquet Association has been concerned about the lack of interest in AC, and they have asked clubs to take the initiative to reverse this trend. Graham Williams was asked to address the meeting on this item.

### **AC Tutorials.**

Graham Williams explained his proposal to introduce AC tutorial playing sessions, using the practice lawn in order to encourage club members to play AC. It is early days yet but once dates are organised it is hoped that club members will take advantage of these sessions.

Graham is expecting to attend a Croquet Association AC coaching course this year.

## **11 AOB**

Alan Marshall: Was the proposed booking system going to be introduced?

BD: No, but members must realise that just turning up may not be sufficient to guarantee a game.

AW: All ideas from the members on how we can improve potential overcrowding will be considered by the Committee.

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Mike Glew: Should the teams contribute to the cost of providing refreshments at Home matches?

BD: This used to be the case and could be considered by the Committee for reinstatement.

David Brown: It is essential that Membership Subs are paid promptly especially if members wish to be entered in the Club Tournaments.

AW: All to note: Only paid up members will be considered at the Draw Evening on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019!

**There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 16:30.**

Attachments: Audited, Club Account for Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

