

MONTGOMERY CRICKET CLUB**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting****Thursday 12 February, 2009****The Dragon Hotel, Montgomery****Present**

John Barker (Chair), John Brown, Rob Kinsey, John Jones, Stan Davies, Jonathan Williams, Caroline Black, Neil Tuffin, Andrew Black, Keith Griffiths, Mark Cadwallader, Roger Davies, Ed Davies, Steve Clinton, Charlie Clinton, Glyn Davies, Jack Williams, Francis Hick, Colin Davies, Dave Mason, Rob Yewdall, Brian Corfield, Richard Blayney, Sam Davies.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Tim Davies, Peter Swanson, Norman Davies, Aaron Ruff-Cock, Vicki Ruff-Cock, and from the Ainscow, Cornish, Owen, Mould, Love and Fletcher families.

1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Caroline Black noted that she had attended the meeting; otherwise the minutes of the meeting of 4 February 2009 were agreed.

John Barker reported that David Thomas was appointed Club Secretary at the Management Board Meeting on 17 March 2008.

2 Chairman's Report

John Barker congratulated the 1st XI on their promotion to Division 1 and their success in reaching the final of the 20/20 knockout. He commiserated with the 2nd XI for their relegation from Division 4.

John thanked all those involved in the bid for accreditation with the Wales Cricket Board, and noted that the club is the first in mid-Wales to be successful.

He then noted the success of the Annual Dinner held at the Town Hall in November, and concluded by saying how much he was looking forward to the coming season.

3 Secretary's Report

David Thomas thanked Rob Kinsey for his advice when passing over the secretary's duties.

He then reported that the club have received the Shropshire League Newsletter. The coming season will start on 25 April with the 1st XI at home to Frankton and the 2nd XI away at Tibberton. There are no major changes to the competitions, but the first division will be using a more expensive ball - the Reader's County Match. The maximum number of overs any bowler is allowed will be reduced from twenty to eighteen.

The club has entered the Shropshire Village Knock-out, but will not be entering the Welsh Cup. The club will host the final of the Shropshire League 20/20 final on August Bank Holiday Monday.

He noted that Andrew Black was awarded the Clubman of the Year Trophy and Andrew Barker the Young Player Award at the Annual Dinner.

4 Treasurer's Report

Andrew Black circulated the annual accounts and noted a surplus for the year just over £1,000 once already committed funds are taken into account.

He then explained that the figure from club subscriptions is higher than in previous years, largely due to the incorporation of subscriptions from the junior section. Match day fees are down, partly because more junior members played for the senior teams.

The club also received £1,000 for achieving accreditation, and won prize money for the 1st XI's third place in the league and for being runners up in the 20/20 competition.

5 Update on Accreditation, Development Plan and Fund Raising

Andrew Black explained the development plan, focussing on the club's intention to buy the following items:

- Square mower
- Non-turf pitch (artificial wicket)
- Club house renovation and extension
- Outfield mower
- Two-bay nets
- Covers

He then outlined the expected costs, which amount to around £60,000. Accreditation means that the club can apply for a number of grants from a variety of sources, including the Wales Cricket Board, Powys County Council,

and the Lord's Taverners. If grant applications are successful it will leave the club having to meet around £12,500 of the costs.

Mark Cadwallader then stressed the importance of fund raising over the next two years, and outlined plans that he hoped the whole club would be involved in. These include an e-bay account, increasing income from the Annual Dinner, and a Sportsman Dinner and Promise Auction. He also asked members to consider increasing subscriptions and match day fees.

John Barker thanked all those involved in drawing up the Development Plan, and stressed the importance of the work. He also noted that a number of grant applications need to be submitted in the coming weeks, and asked for the members to support the plans through a vote. This was carried unanimously.

6 1st XI Captain's Report

Neil Tuffin reported on a successful season that saw promotion back to the first division the runner's up award in the 20/20 competition. He praised the spirit of the team and commented that unlikely results had been achieved due to a 'never give up' attitude.

He commented that the bowlers had put in a number of good performances, but that batting had often been difficult in wet conditions. The league season was summed up by the victory over Conover, secured in the last over of the last game of the season. This result meant that the team finished third in Division 2 after 6 wins, 7 losses and 6 draws.

In the 20/20 competition wins over Llanidloes (after losing less wickets in a tied match), Knockin and Allscott led to the final where the team lost to a strong Frankton team. Dave Mason's 91 not out against Llanidloes and Ed Davies' 80 against Allscott were the stand-out performances.

The bowling and batting awards were both won by Rob Kinsey, the performance of the year by Ed Davies for his performance against Allscott in the 20/20, and the Fielder of the Season was Ed Bennett.

7 2nd XI Captain's Report

Jonathan Williams congratulated Neil Tuffin on the first team's success, but noted that his own team had only secured two victories in the season, leading to relegation from the fourth division. This was partly due to inconsistent availability, but was also a reflection on the strength of the opposing teams. On the positive side a number of players, especially youth players, had more opportunities to play, and this means that the side will be a strong presence in Division 5 in the coming season. Overall the team won 2 games, drew 5 and lost 11.

John Barker won the batting award, Jonathan Williams the bowling award and Phil Betts the performance of the season for his 96 against Cound.

8 Youth Section

Keith Griffiths reported on the continuing strength of the youth section, which now runs four age groups. He noted this was a critical factor in the club's achievement of accreditation and thanked all those involved, particularly the Youth Committee, coaches and parents. There are now 69 youth members and eight regular qualified coaches.

There was an under 9's soft ball festival which Alberbury attended as a guest side. Montgomery fielded 3 teams consisting of 23 players. The success of the event means that the club is keen to repeat it in the coming season. Thanks are due to Andrew Black and others for organizing the day.

The Under 11s played in the Powys League, and Keith highlighted a notable win against Welshpool despite fielding four under 9 players. James Corfield and Harry Wilkinson were outstanding throughout the season and represented mid-Wales in their age group. Thanks are due to Andrew Black and Phil Betts for coaching the side.

The Under 13s played in both the Powys and North Shropshire leagues, finishing third in the latter against very strong opposition. In Powys, the squad was too strong for the opposition and they lifted the mid-Wales Under 13 Trophy. Rhys Roberts and Charlie Clinton both represented mid-Wales. Keith thanked Richard Blayney and Andrew Black for their help throughout the season.

The Under 15s also played in both Powys and North Shropshire leagues, again finishing third in the latter. Once again the squad was too strong for its mid-Wales rivals and they were crowned mid-Wales Champions. Jack Wilkinson, Jacob Langton and Rupert Griffiths all represented mid-Wales at Under 14 level, and Gareth Griffiths played for the Under 15s. Keith thanked Jonathan Williams for all his help during the season.

9 Election of Officers

Harry Williams was proposed as **President** by John Barker and seconded by Stan Davies. He was duly elected.

John Barker was proposed as **Chairman** by Richard Blayney and seconded by Jonathan Williams. He was duly elected.

Stan Davies was proposed as **Vice-Chairman** by Mark Cadwallader and seconded by Rob Kinsey. He was duly elected.

David Thomas was proposed as **Secretary** by Caroline Black and seconded by Keith Griffiths. He was duly elected.

Andrew Black was proposed as **Treasurer** by Mark Cadwallader and seconded by Richard Blayney. He was duly elected.

John Barker was proposed as **Child Welfare Officer** by Keith Griffiths and seconded by Andrew Black. He was duly elected.

Stan Davies was proposed as **Fixture Secretary** by Colin Davies seconded by Rob Kinsey. He was duly elected. Stan noted the importance of someone taking on responsibility for organising teams for Sunday fixtures. Ed Davies agreed to take responsibility as captain.

Neil Tuffin was proposed as **1st XI Captain** by Richard Blayney seconded by Stan Davies. He was duly elected.

Jonathan Williams was proposed as **2nd XI Captain** by Brian Corfield seconded by Andrew Black. He was duly elected.

Keith Griffiths was proposed as **Youth Manager** by Phil Betts seconded by Richard Blayney. He was duly elected.

John Barker reported that John Brown was unwilling to continue as Communications Officer because of other commitments. He thanked John for all his hard work and noted that there was now a well established structure for communication. Mark Cadwallader proposed **David Thomas** as **Communications Officer** seconded by Andrew Black. He was duly elected.

Mark Cadwallader, Brian Corfield, Rob Yewdall and Rob Kinsey were proposed as **Committee Members** by Richard Blayney seconded by Stan Davies. They were duly elected.

Mark Cadwallader was proposed as **Accounts Certifier** by Andrew Black seconded by Phil Betts. He was duly elected.

10 Subscriptions

A proposal to raise senior subscriptions to £30 per year (£15 for students), to keep junior subscriptions at £10 per year, and to raise Vice President's subscriptions to £30 was made by Rob Kinsey and seconded by Keith Griffiths. This was agreed.

A proposal to raise senior match fees to £5 per game, raise student fees to £3, and introduce a junior fee (under 15s) of £2 per game made by Jonathan Williams and seconded by Keith Griffiths was agreed by vote.

A proposal to pay £35 for home teas and to charge opposition teams £40 made by Jonathan Williams and seconded by Stan Davies was agreed.

11 Any Other Business

John Barker noted that hosting the 20/20 final on the day following the local knock-out finals offered a good opportunity for fund raising, possibly with a bar and barbeque run over two to three days.

Andrew Black reported that the club has been offered eight tickets for the Ashes match in Cardiff (two for each of the first four days). The meeting agreed that the tickets offered good fund raising potential and asked the Management Board to consider the best way to realise this.

Jonathan Williams enquired about work to lop branches overhanging the boundary. Sam Davies agreed to ask a friend who was a qualified tree surgeon.

Neil Tuffin reported that net practice will be held at Shrewsbury School on 15, 22, and 29 March.

Stan Davies noted that it may be difficult to secure sponsors for the coming season due to the current economic climate. All members agreed to seek new sponsors.

The meeting concluded at 9.20