



Present

John Barker (Chair), Rob Kinsey, Stan Davies, Jonathan Williams, Neil Tuffin, Andrew Black, Keith Griffiths, Brian Corfield, Vicki Ruff-Cock, Phil Betts, Ned Hayes, Thomas Corfield, David Thomas (minutes), Adam Bowen, Rob Bennett, John Jones, Ian Fletcher, Mike Williams, Richard Blayney, Andrew Barker, Ieuan Griffiths.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Harry Williams, Peter Swanson, Paul Loveluck, Ian Bapty, Tim Davies, Tom Wilkinson, Anne Griffiths, Gareth Griffiths, Sam Davies, Colin Davies, Rob Yewdall, Jack Williams, Ed Bennett, Jake Wilkinson, Gavin Corfield.

1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 16 February 2011 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters arising.

2 Chairman's Report

John Barker commented that the club could look back at 2011 as a season of consolidation, with enjoyable, but not outstanding, cricket being played by all the teams. The notable achievement was the victory in the Montgomeryshire Cup, and he thanked the captains, coaches, and other members for all their hard work.

Looking forward to the coming season, the club faces new challenges, particularly the two Saturday senior sides as the league re-organisation means higher standards of cricket will be required by both the first and second XIs.

John concluded by congratulating all the award winners at our Annual Dinner and thanking all the players, officers of the club, volunteers and tea ladies for their support through the year. He also thanked the Dragon Hotel for their after match hospitality.

3 Secretary's Report

David Thomas asked members to fill in the senior membership forms circulated at the meeting. He noted that the forms have to be completed every year as they represent the member's commitment to the constitution and code of conduct.

He then proceeded to inform the membership of the re-arrangement in the leagues structure caused by the merging of the fbc Manby Bowdler Shropshire Cricket League with the Marstons Shropshire Premier League. The constitution of the new league, which will be known as the Shropshire County Cricket League, was circulated in draft form at its inaugural AGM in December.

Montgomery First XI have been placed in Division One and the Second XI in Reserve Division II. Both teams will have a number of local derbies as Newtown, Welshpool and Alberbury teams are in both divisions. The season begins on 21 April with the club playing Knockin and Kinnerley – the First XI at home and the Second XI away. The first part of the league newsletter has been received, which largely covers administrative arrangements for the coming season, but the second part, which will cover playing rules, has yet to be circulated.

David concluded by reporting that he was awarded the Clubman of the Year Trophy and Jack Williams the Young Player Award at the Annual Dinner.

4 Treasurer's Report

Andrew Black circulated the annual accounts and thanked Mark Cadwallader for acting as certifying officer. He highlighted the end of year deficit, which is unusual for the club, but explained this was caused by the cost of the pitch improvements and the purchase of kit that was not covered by the Dragon's sponsorship. He added that the deficit was not a matter for concern as the club expects to make a surplus of between £750 to £1,000 every year for the foreseeable future.

Andrew noted the success of non-regular fund raising events such as the Golf Day and Bowlathon, and commented that such events mean that the club is in a very sound financial position.

The club now has assets of £22,000, of which £18,834 is cash, although Andrew noted that only £4,379 is unreserved as the rest is related to advances on grants such as the Oral History Project and the non-turf pitch.

John Barker thanked Andrew for explaining the figures and added he was glad the club has such a capable Treasurer. He commented that it is encouraging to see how much money is being raised by the members of the club.

5 Development Plan

David Thomas presented the results of discussions held at a recent Committee Meeting to look at a new development plan for the club over the coming five years now the previous plan, which started in 2008 is coming to an end. The focus of the plan is on improvements to the pitch and strengthening of the senior teams in a gradual and sustainable way. He invited comments on the plan.

Phil Betts suggested that better sight screens be provided, and the committee agreed to look into this. Richard Blayney suggested more emphasis on coaching of existing players, and this met with general approval. Keith Griffiths commented that few of the qualified coaches at the club made the most of their skills, and it was also noted that more individual training on aspects of technique would be useful. The Committee agreed to look at ways to improve senior coaching at the club.

6 Updates

Golf Day, 4 May

Stan Davies reported that Colin Davies is seeking sponsors for the Golf Day to be held at Mile End Golf Club. Stan also urged members to help on the day, particularly with the raffle as this had not raised as much money as expected last year.

Oral History Project

Andrew Black reported on progress in the Oral History Project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. All interviews have been completed, including four group interviews, and transcription and indexing work is proceeding. The club have been offered space in the SWALEC Stadium's Museum of Welsh Cricket in the coming summer, and Andrew suggested organising a day out for the club to visit the stadium and see the exhibition.

7 1st XI Captain's Report

Neil Tuffin summarised a season where the team had consolidated rather than improved their standing, and had ended up being involved in a relegation battle due to the re-organisation of the league. This was disappointing as Neil had expected the team to compete for one of the top positions. In the end the team finished seventh in Division One of the fbc Manby Bowdler Shropshire Cricket League.

Neil then informed the meeting of his decision to stand down from captaincy at the end of the season. He thanked Colin Davies for his work as umpire, Stan Davies for his work on the ground and Jonathan Williams for his support as Second XI captain. He also thanked all the tea ladies, the committee and his players.

John Barker led the club's thanks to Neil for his hard work as captain, and noted that Neil had been a captain at the club for many years because prior to his appointments as First XI Captain he had done the same job for the Second XI.

The First XI's record for the season was as follows:

Won 7, Lost 10, Drew 4. Finished seventh in Division 1 of the fbc Manby Bowdler Shropshire League.

The Awards were won by:

Batting: Ed Davies

Bowling: Neil Tuffin

Fielder: Rob Bennett

Performance of the Season: Tim Davies, 78 against Knockin and Kinnerley.

8 2nd XI Captain's Report

Jonathan Williams reported on a season that saw the Second XI compete well in Division Four of the fbc Manby Bowdler Shropshire Cricket League with a mixture of youth and experience. He mentioned young players such as Thomas and James Corfield and Charlie Clinton who had developed well, particularly in the second half. Once again the division was a very tight one, and the team finished in eighth spot, but could have been placed much higher if some games had gone in their favour.

Jonathan announced his intention to stand down at the end of the season, and he wished his successor well. John Barker led the club's thanks for his hard work as captain

The Second XI's record for the season was as follows:

Won 7, Lost 9, Drew 6. Finished ninth in Division 4 of the fbc Manby Bowdler Shropshire League.

The Awards were won by:

Batting: David Thomas

Bowling: Aaron Ruff-Cock

Performance of the Season: Adam Bowen, 45 not out vs Hodnet and Peplow.

9 Sunday XI Captains Report

Andrew Barker read the report on behalf of Sam Davies. The team had played six games, winning four and losing two, but there had been selection problems at the start of the season because many young players had been revising for exams. All those who had played and helped the team through the season were thanked, particularly the tea ladies and Stan Davies who had prepared pitches.

The Awards were won by:
Batting: Jack Williams
Bowling: Thomas Corfield

10 Youth Section

Keith Griffiths commented that on paper the 2011 season compared poorly with the 2010 season, but in fact the youth section had seen much re-building and many players had developed. The Under 13 squad lost to champions Bishops Castle in a play-off and the Under 15s won half their games. The Under 11 squad, which was entirely new, saw positive improvement through the year.

The club had eight representatives in the mid-Wales squads, and ten have been selected for the 2012 squads. There are two new Level Two coaches, Andrew Black and Gareth Griffiths, and four new level ones, including Hayley Griffiths. Hayley intends to encourage girls to take up the game.

Keith thanked all those involved in the youth section, particularly those who helped with the Bowlathon which once again raised money for the club. He expects to see this year's hard work pay off next year and hopes to organise another Under 9 festival.

John Barker led the club's thanks to Keith and the rest of the Griffiths family for all their hard work and commented that the BBC story about the club on the Weatherman Walking had shown the club in a good light as it featured a Thursday night youth training session.

Keith reported that the following won trophies at the Youth Awards evening:

Under 11s

Batting (sponsored by Andrew Black) Nye Owen
Bowling (sponsored by John Jones) Eogan Jones

Under 13s

Batting (sponsored by Stan Davies) Patrick Fletcher
Bowling (sponsored by Neil Tuffin) James Corfield

Under 15s

Batting (sponsored by Steve Clinton) Harry Wilkinson
Bowling (sponsored by Jonathan Williams) Joe Haycock

Outstanding Performance (sponsored by John Barker)
Patrick Fletcher.

Most Improved Player (sponsored by Keith Griffiths)
Craig Allan

11 Election of Officers

Harry Williams was proposed as **President** by Colin Davies and seconded by Richard Blayney. He was duly elected.

John Barker was proposed as **Chairman** by Robert Kinsey and seconded by Colin Davies. He was duly elected.

Stan Davies was proposed as **Vice-Chairman** by Richard Blayney and seconded by Brian Corfield. He was duly elected.

David Thomas was proposed as **Secretary** by Colin Davies and seconded by Stan Davies. He was duly elected.

Andrew Black was proposed as **Treasurer** by Brian Corfield and seconded by Colin Davies. He was duly elected.

Victoria Ruff-Cock was proposed as **Child Welfare Officer** by Andrew Black and seconded by Richard Blayney. She was duly elected.

Stan Davies will not be continuing as Fixture Secretary. The duties will be covered by the Secretary.

Tim Davies was proposed as **1st XI Captain** by Neil Tuffin seconded by Rob Bennett. He was duly elected. Rob Bennett will act as vice-captain.

Mike Williams was proposed as **2nd XI Captain** by Jonathan Williams seconded by Brian Corfield. He was duly elected. Brian Corfield will act as vice-captain.

Andrew Barker was proposed as **Sunday XI Captain** by Andrew Black seconded by Stan Davies. He was duly elected. Adam Bowen will act as vice-captain.

Keith Griffiths was proposed as **Youth Manager** by Andrew Black seconded by Neil Tuffin. He was duly elected.

David Thomas was proposed as **Communications Officer** by Neil Tuffin seconded by Colin Davies. He was duly elected.

Brian Corfield, Colin Davies, Rob Kinsey, Neil Tuffin and Jonathan Williams were proposed as **Committee Members** by Richard Blayney and seconded by Stan Davies. They were duly elected.

Neil Tuffin, Jonathan Williams and the captains and vice captains of the 1st and 2nd XIs will form a selection committee.

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

12 Subscriptions

Neil Tuffin, seconded by Stan Davies, proposed no change to subscriptions, and this was agreed by the meeting. They will therefore remain at £30 per year (£15 for students), and £10 for juniors. Vice President's subscriptions will remain at £30. Subscriptions should be paid by the end of the sixth week after the start of the season.

Rob Bennett, seconded by Brian Corfield, proposed no change to match fees and the meeting agreed. They therefore remain at £5 per game (£3 for students), and £2 for under 15s. £40 will be given for home teas and opposition teams will be charged £40, or the equivalent of the amount they charge us if more than £40.

13 Any Other Business

Stan Davies will continue to gather sponsors for the club, who will pay a minimum of £30 for an advert on the score sheet. John Barker thanked him for this work, and commented that it brought in over £1,000 for the club.

The committee will set a date for a pre-season work party.

Andrew Black will book sessions at the indoor nets at Shrewsbury School and David Thomas will circulate the dates when known.

The meeting concluded at 9.15pm.