



Present

JB (Chair), AB, JW, DT, KG, RK, CD, SD, NT, VR-C.

1 Apologies

BC, RY

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 13 January 2010 were agreed.

3 Matters Arising

DT has spoken to Elin Yewdall about her plans for erecting a marquee on the ground in September 2010. She replied that her plans are for 2011.

The Cheese and Wine Tasting evening is planned for May 14 and tickets will be available soon.

There has been no progress on the clock and cupola for the roof of the pavilion.

4 Appointment of Child Welfare Officer

The Committee thanked VR-C for offering to take up the post and she was elected unanimously.

5 Correspondence

The Shropshire Cricket League Newsletter has been received and DT highlighted the following points:

- The requirement for an umpire in Divisions 1 to 4 will affect both our senior teams. DT will ensure that all our umpires are registered with the league.

- A pro-forma including the sponsor's details should be used for all match reports sent to the press.
- DT will inform the league of VR-C's appointment as Child Welfare Officer.
- DT has submitted the list of players registered to play for the club.
- There are no major changes to the playing arrangements except that 23 points will be awarded for a win in all circumstances except when a team wins having won the toss and decided to field.
- The Captains meeting will be held on Monday 26 April at Shrewsbury Cricket Club. AB agreed to attend on behalf of the club.
- There will be a vote at the Captain's meeting to decide whether clubs with only one team will be allowed to compete in the First Division. AB will vote for their inclusion in accordance with the decision made at the last Management Committee.

The Annual General Meeting of the Montgomeryshire County Cricket Club is being held on 20 April. Richard Blayney will attend on behalf of the club. SD has spoken to Ian Crawshaw about the club hosting a fixture for the County, and this is planned for 8 August when Flintshire will be sending a team.

Two clubs planning tours in the area have enquired about fixtures. SD reported that there are very few Sundays free this summer and the Committee decided to decline both offers.

The club has been approached by a tourism consultant promoting Montgomery and the surrounding area. DT has responded by saying that the club is happy to help where possible, but could not commit to the specific proposal of hosting two day touring events.

Frankton Cricket Club have sent an invitation to a fund raising golf event. SD has asked members if they are interested in taking part, but has not been able to raise a team.

6 Financial Update

AB tabled a summary of accounts to 20 April 2010. He highlighted the grant situation and noted sponsorship from Nat West, the Post Office, and Tuffins. There is a grant application outstanding from the Co-op, but AB is not confident that it will be successful. The conditions of a grant for £5,000 from Laura Ashley include a clause that the money should be spent this financial year. As these funds will be used to create a non-turf pitch and are not expected to be spent this financial year, AB has received permission to hold the funds for two years. This was agreed.

Significant payments relating to the development programme have been made for clubhouse improvements and for the production of John Jone's book about the club. Other bills relating to the development work, including those for the balustrade, covers and stairs, will be made in the next couple of weeks. Annual insurance costs have risen to £1,800 because of the new

equipment and facilities. The cash forecast suggests a surplus of around £9,500 by the end of December.

7 Fund Raising

A summary of fund-raising was tabled by AB. The cash forecast for the end of December includes funds from a Sportsman's Dinner, necessary to raise the money for the non-turf pitch according to the Development Plan. AB noted that the club will be eligible for a second Lord's Taverner's Grant in 2011, which could be used for the non-turf pitch. The Committee agreed to defer the decision about holding a Sportsman's Dinner until the next meeting.

Other fund raising opportunities for the year were recognised by the Committee, including an event to mark the improvements to the clubhouse, the new nets and new covers. The Committee agreed with a suggestion made at the Annual General Meeting that the President's Day is a good opportunity for such an event, and a provisional date of 11 July was suggested. Detailed planning for this event will begin at the next Committee meeting. KG suggested that the Cricket Board for Wales may be interested in supporting the event because they are keen to develop a stronger presence in mid-Wales. SD suggested that the event could be used to recruit more vice-Presidents and individual committee members agreed to suggest names to SD.

8 Ground Issues

JB thanked all members who had contributed to the working party held on April 17 and 18. AB reported that the clubhouse and other facilities will be operational by the start of the season, but that around 40 hours of work are still necessary before all jobs are fully complete. Members will be asked at the next practice night for further help and another working party may be necessary. The Committee thanked NT and CD for all their hard work, which was far beyond what would have been expected from an external contractor.

SD reported on a full programme of Sunday fixtures, including the County game on 8 August. KG asked that games start at 2.30 if there is a morning youth fixture on the same day. RK enquired whether the club is taking part in the Shropshire Village Knock-out competition this season. DT replied that the club has not yet been invited, but the Committee agreed that it would decline any invitation because of the already busy programme of Sunday fixtures and because the Sunday XI will be used as a development squad this season and may not be strong enough to compete against clubs who field full strength teams.

AB raised concerns about the rusting rings at the bottom of the uprights in the nets. He will raise these concerns with the contractors and the ECB if necessary. The Committee agreed that all members need to be informed about how to use and maintain the nets in good condition, including a ban on spikes and brushing them after use.

The Committee agreed to defer the decision about a combing cassette for the front of the wicket mower to a later date.

9 Captains Issues

JW intends to maintain a balance in second XI selection to give young players an opportunity to develop experience, despite promotion to Division 4.

KG asked that the emphasis on practice night is given to developing all skills rather than focussing on batting and bowling in the nets.

10 Child Protection Issues

There were no child protection issues.

11 Youth and Coaching Issues

Three more Level 1 coaches obtained qualifications over the winter, but KG is concerned that we do not have many Level 2 coaches. This may create a problem on youth practice nights because there needs to be at least one Level 2 coach available.

The fixture list for youth competitions has been received and the format is the same as last season.

Once again we have strong representation in the mid-Wales regional squads, with two representatives in the Under 16 team. Harry Wilkinson will captain the Under 13 team and James Corfield and Chris Ainscough have been selected for the the Under 12 squad. Patrick Fletcher and Ieuan Griffiths will be in the Under 11 team.

The ECB's Safe Hands policy has been updated, and KG highlighted the rule that no child under 12 is allowed to play cricket of any form against a senior player. This will include the informal local knock-out competition run by the club. DT will provide a link to the policy on the club's website.

12 Communication Officer Issues

DT is preparing a newsletter for the beginning of the season. He has updated the website and has created a new page with links to important documents, such as the league newsletter, the Safe Hands policy and the tea rota. A pre-season press release was sent to the Shropshire Star and the County Times.

13 Annual General Meeting Actions

Two actions for the Management Committee were identified at the AGM. Both of these, the President's Day and the new candidates for Vice Presidents, were raised elsewhere in the meeting.

14 Any Other Business

The Committee agreed that this year's local knock-out competition should go ahead as usual. DT will ask BC to start making arrangements.

15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 on 24 May at Lymore.