

Minutes of the AGM of the Welsh Croquet Association held at Cheltenham on Sunday 1st July 2018

Present

IJ Burrige (Chairman), MJ Evans (Vice Chairman), CN Williams (Secretary), GJ McElwain (Treasurer), SA Melvin, CS Jones, CCT Roberts, DL Gunasekera

Item 1. Apologies

P Pristavec, RW Moss, RQ Barrett, T Golesworthy, TF Jenkins, RH Smith, DR Walters

Item 2. Minutes of the Meeting of 25th June 2017.

The minutes of the meeting of 25th June 2017 were not read to the meeting, but taken as read. MJ Evans proposed and SA Melvin seconded that they be accepted as a true record and the meeting approved.

Item 3. Matters Arising.

None.

Item 4. Chairman's Report.

Events - The Chairman reported that Wales had a good previous 12 months on the playing front. We won the World AC Team Championship Tier 2 at Southwick in July and had come a creditable 2nd/3rd in the inaugural GC Home Internationals. Wales had finished third on countback in the AC Home Internationals at Bowdon in June 2018.

On the individual front Rich Waterman and Chris Williams represented Wales in the European AC Championships in Sweden with Chris knocking out the World Champion Stephen Mulliner in the quarter finals. Ian Burrige and Brian Shorney had represented Wales in the European GC Championships at Budleigh and Ian Burrige had reached the last 32 in the AC World Championships in New Zealand.

Item 5. Dyffryn Situation

G McElwain explained that the National Trust had been making it very difficult for us to continue playing at Dyffryn Gardens and that the lawns would be closed in 2019 for work to be done to the yew trees around the lawns. In 2020 the lawns would be open to all and so it would be impossible to play since we would not have exclusive access.

The club has been looking all around Cardiff for old bowling greens and tennis courts and there were possible venues at

Lisvane – an old unused football field this looked most promising

Sully

Penarth – on old hard court tennis courts

Merthyr Mawr – a field next to the Glamorgan Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club which had been croquet lawns a long time ago.

It was suggested that the Welsh CA write to the Welsh Assembly Government explaining the situation and how we were having to play the Welsh Championships in England.

It was mentioned that there was potential for a club in Mold and John Evans reported that there was the possibility of starting a club in Swansea.

Item 6. Accounts.

The accounts for 2017 were presented to the meeting and they showed a surplus for the year to 31st December 2017 of £134.56 and a balance of £3118.54. Income was £810.84 and expenditure £676.28.

Comments on the accounts were that the Home Internationals were for the GC one. We were not charged for the AC ones which had been moved from Carrickmines to Southport at the Irish request. There was also a query as to why the GC B Level run by Kevin Ham was not included.

It was pointed out that the lawn hire will be much higher this year since we will be paying £198 to Cheltenham for two lawns for three days.

The meeting was reminded that we have previously agreed that the Association would pay the entry fee for the Home Internationals and half the entry fee for WCF Team events.

The accounts were proposed by IJ Burrige and seconded by MJ Evans.

Item 6. Fixtures and Events.

Over the next 12 months there will be GC Home Internationals in September and AC Home Internationals at Budleigh in June.

Rich Waterman will be representing Wales at the European AC Championships in Sweden in August 2018.

There are no inter-CA events planned for the rest of 2018 or 2019.

There was a discussion over the Welsh Championship venue in light of the loss of Dyffryn Gardens. It was felt that a 3 day event at Cheltenham on the second weekend of August would be our preferred option and that we should look to book three lawns in the first instance.

Item 8. Election of Officers and Committee.

Under the constitution the three Officer bearers are elected for three year terms whilst the two ordinary members are elected annually. The following committee had been elected in 2017

Chairman	IJ Burrige (retires 2020)
Secretary	CN Williams (retires 2019)
Treasurer	GJ McElwain (retires 2018)
Committee	MJ Evans, DR Walters

The following new committee was elected for 2018-2019

Chairman	IJ Burrige (retires 2020)
Secretary	CN Williams (retires 2019)
Treasurer	GJ McElwain (retires 2021) (proposed IJ Burrige, seconded MJ Evans)
Committee	MJ Evans, DR Walters (proposed K. Ham, seconded S. Mackay)

Item 9. Election of Selection Committee

The following were elected to the Selection Committee. IJ Burrige, DR Walters, CN Williams (proposed MJ Evans seconded GJ McElwain)

Item 10. Any Other Business.

Other clubs – there had still been no contact with Llanfairfechan. MJ Evans reported that the Llandovery club is still in a fine state. The club uses one old bowling green and has about 18-20 members; almost all of whom are retired and play GC.

MJ Evans also reported that the club in Cardigan has about 18 members.

CNW reported that the CA has been looking to get croquet in the Birmingham Commonwealth Games as a Demonstration sport.

Date of next meeting

The 2019 AGM will be held on the Sunday of the 2019 Welsh Championship whenever and wherever that is.