Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Wilsonians' Cricket Club, October 17th 2017

Present : Paul Maxwell, Paul Jenkins, Michael Mitchell , Justin Pryor, Chris Rodda, Graham Watts, Jeff Mascarenhas, Stephen Millward, Denise Pilgrim, Doug Forbes, David Pilgrim, Kenny Maxwell, Jonathan Rodda, Andrew Steel, Steve Lawrence, Linda Seston, Barrie Frampton, Laurence Allen, Alex Forbes, Mick Pilgrim, Howard Abbett, Jane Abbett, Guy Hannah, Chris Scott, Thomas Sullivan, Matthew Abbett, Jasper Gundry-White, Laki Kasturiratne, Adrian Beckett and Mike Pike

1.Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Laurence Roots, Derek Birmingham, Jane Kempthorn , Andy Spedding, Tammy Senthitkumaran, Hugo Lovelock, Margo Lawrence, Ian Pilgrim, Anita Gray, Isobel Robinson, Andy Steel, Sanath Dandeniya, Dave Welch, Louis Pryor, Siva Ranjan, Elliott Betteridge, Josh Lawrence, John Larkham and Velson Deverajulu

2. Minutes of the 2016 AGM

The Minutes of the 2016 AGM were accepted as a true record

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. Secretary's Report

The secretary reported as follows

It's been a great season but is over-shadowed by an event that happened less than a week ago, namely the death of Ian Forbes

Ian was a one off and all sections of the Old Wilsonians' Association and Sports Club owe such an enormous debt of gratitude to him, and the amount of money he has raised has probably kept us afloat, not to mention the vast sums he has put over the bar, which probably kept him afloat, and I doubt there is anyone here this evening who has not been on the receiving end of his generosity

In Alex, Doug and Stuart he has sired three great servants of the Club, whilst Jill was the OW's Club captain and here virtually every Saturday afternoon this season to help produce the teas, so we owe the entire Forbes family a great debt of gratitude

Everything is a bit raw at the moment – this time last week I was sitting in this very room with Ian at an OWA Council meeting and it was just a matter of hours later that he was cruelly taken from us

Many tributes have been paid to him, including by members of the cricket club, and there will be many more to come and I'm sure his memory will be marked in a more tangible way in the not too distant future

The last few years have not been kind to the OWCC as we have lost John and Janet Brittain, John Ford, Bryan Watts and Brian Morley, none of whom we will ever forget and John and Janet's contribution to the Club was marked on President's Day by the unveiling of a memorial to them, whilst our President came up with an excellent suggestion that one end

of the ground should now be known as ‘The John end’ and the other ‘The Janet end’, although we have not decided which should be which yet

All of the above would have been proud of our achievements over the past few years and would have wanted to hear all about it, so I will now concentrate on the tremendous amount we have achieved this year, starting with the bare facts

The 1st XI, in only their second year in Division Two, finished third, and the 2nd XI fourth in the Kent League, whilst the 3rd XI 9th, the 4th XI 8th and the 5th XI 6th were the final positions in the Kent Regional league, although it is probably diplomatic not to mention how many teams were in the latter three’s respective divisions!

There was a threat to the very existence of the Feeder League but, and thankfully, this now seems to have been overcome

The Sunday Development side won their division, suffering just one defeat, and will now play Sutton, the winners of the Surrey league at the start of next season to establish bragging rights between the two counties

The U19s T20 side reached the finals of the Kent ECB competition, whilst the Sunday social side continue to enjoy their cricket and give opportunities to both young and old alike

My sincere thanks, therefore, go to all of the skippers, namely

Michael Mitchell, who led the 1st XI so magnificently and his never say die attitude rubbed off on the whole side

Chris Scott, who was so unlucky not to achieve the promotion that the side deserved

Laki Kasturiratne, who yet again worked his socks off, not only for the 3rd XI but to ensure that the Feeder league sides got a full complement of players most weeks

Jeff Mascarenhas, who moulded a side which was a true blend of youth and experience and had a great team spirit

Alex Forbes, who led by example, which is one that we all should follow

Chris Scott, again, for leading the Sunday Development side to the top of the table

Tony Sherlock , who was perfect to skipper a side and always ensured that the washing up was done after the game

Louis Pryor, the under 19 skipper, and, by implication, the youngest of our leaders

Also thanks to Justin Pryor, for managing this side, and to the Pryor family per se for looking after Jordan Thomas, our overseas player

‘Mitch’, Chris and Louis all came through our colts section, whilst Alex was one of its founders

The Kent League Dinner takes place on November 10th when Matthew Abbett will pick up the trophy for the highest run scorer in Division Two

Congratulations

Congratulations to all of the award winners at the colts and senior end of season celebrations, particularly the Club Person of each section - Barrie Frampton, the Colts and Paul Maxwell and Paul Jenkins, joint winners for the seniors

The bigger and more successful a Club becomes, and we score highly on both counts, the more work needs to be done, and these three epitomise that fact and were never found wanting

Many thanks to all of those who do the jobs that many tend to forget

The umpires - thanks Stephen Millward, Jasper Gundry-White, Dave Welch and Micky Pilgrim – there were others but these four did the bulk of the work
The scorers - thanks to Jane Abbett, who also put all of the Sunday Developmen and Under 19 games on play-cricket, and a few others besides, and good to see Graham Watts is set to make a welcome return next season
Graham also put some of the senior results on play-cricket and helped with the teas
The tea providers - thanks to Denise Pilgrim and her splendid team on Saturdays and Kelly on Sundays
To Ian Pilgrim, who is our over-lord, and whose vast knowledge and experience points us in the right direction with regards to the likes of Clubmark
Next year sees the 21st anniversary of the colts section and without him, Denise and Alex this would not have been possible, and we certainly would not be fielding five Saturday OW league sides
To Stephen Millward, again, in his position as ground manager – appreciate that this is an OW position but he ensures that the cricket club is looked after during the summer
He is also our league representative for the Sunday Development side, and thanks here to Tom Sullivan and Jeff Mascarenhas for being our representatives for the Kent league and Kent Regional league respectively
To 'Mitch', again, and Dave Ellicott-White, for their work in helping prepare the Hayes wicket, week in and week out
To the Fund-raising committee, Tony Sherlock, Kenny Maxwell and Steve Lawrence
The financial stability of any Club depends very much on fund-raising and, as Andy Spedding's report will show, the work they have done exceeded all expectations

Lawrence Allen, for his tremendous work on the website and the fixtures

To the entire management committee, all of whom have been a pleasure to work with, but with special mentions for Adrian Becket and Paul Jenkins, who are standing down as the Colts Chair and our President respectively

Paul Maxwell's leadership as Chair has been inspiring, with Jeff Mascarenhas as the perfect back up, whilst Jeff has continued to work on the Business Plan, more of which later, and lead the 4th XI
Andy Spedding continues to produce immaculate financial reports and his attention to detail is incomparable
Jane Kempthorn continues to do an excellent job , covering two important positions, membership and welfare, whilst we could not have a better Club captain than Alex Forbes

Two trees were planted at Hawes Down by the Old Wilsonians gardening group yesterday following complaints from a local resident about having to look out at the container from their back windows. One of the trees is to be named 'Ian' and the other 'Forbes.'

Finally, and with a great deal of patience, I feel, I continue to await contributions to the monthly newsletters and hope the conclusion of the season may inspire some to write end of season reports. We would all like to read the details of your magnificent achievements throughout 2017

The secretary was thanked for his work on behalf of the Club
Michael Mitchell recorded his thanks to the secretary for scoring for the 1st XI

5. Colts Report

Adrian Beckett, the Colts; Chair, reported as follows:

This year saw a new initiative, 'The All Stars', aimed at very young players, which Michael Mitchell co-ordinated
We could have taken as many as 50 children but put a cap of 25 on the numbers
This scheme will also be in operation next year
Training was moved to Friday nights, with members of the 1st and 2nd Xl assisting with the coaching
As for results the under 17s did not have a great year – Friday evening cricket is getting difficult to sustain
The under 15s had to scratch their B side , the fact that football continues to be played into the cricket season being the main reason for lack of numbers
The under 13s continued to field both a and b sides
The under 11 side contained a number of youngsters who had never played before
The Super 8s got to the finals day and finished fifth
We continue to have issues with regard to a lack of parents wishing to help run the colts section and need to address this problem

A vote of thanks was recorded to Adrian, who is standing down as Chair

Chris Rodda felt this had been one of the best seasons ever for the Colts
With regard to receiving more parental support he suggested that a meeting with the parents be held at one of the early training sessions to explain the situation and the need for more volunteers

Barrie Frampton and Paul; Jenkins said they had both had some interest shown by parents
Barrie felt Chris's idea of having a meeting with the parents early in the season a good one and he has already secured volunteers to help with administration and fixtures
The Chairman explained that details relating to 'All Stars' for next season would come out next month and we will be taking cognisance of the content

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had apologised for his absence but submitted a detailed report which had been posted on the website prior to the meeting
The secretary read the following summary:

This season we broke even, making a combined overall profit of **£383** across the two sections, comprising a loss of - £3,193 by the Seniors and a profit of £3,576 by the Colts.
The end of financial year actual bank balances are as follows:
Seniors current account £3,783
Sinking Fund £51,088
Colts current account £3,398
Colts Interest account £3,231
The Sinking Fund includes £5,514 ring-fenced for Nets maintenance.
The Colts Interest account contains £2,730 for the Tigers section and £500 for Jack Petchey 2018 awards.
This has been our 5th good year in a row, and is due to a number of factors - the main ones being:

 another excellent year of fundraising, exceeding target by over 100% - *see section 3 for details*
 continuing awards from the Jack Petchey Foundation
 sponsorship from Gingers Restaurant

This year we received a very generous donation of £45,574 from John and Janet Brittain. This is held in the Sinking Fund and we have not used this for any operational expenditure this season.
This season we have purchased new items of equipment from cashflow over the season: a bowling machine and storage container for Hawes Down, and this expenditure accounts for our breaking even.
We will not be increasing Annual Subscriptions or Match Fees for 2018 – *see section 2 for details*.
See section 1.6 for itemised details of the accounts, and Appendices A and B for the individual sections' accounts.

1.2 Business Strategy Plan

The following financial items relate to the Business Strategy Plan put forward by the Vice Chair of the Cricket Club, Jeff Mascarenhas:

Activities in 2017

 High Fundraising profits allowed the purchase of several targeted purchases through cash flow over the season :
o we purchased a container as storage for Hawes Down
o we purchased a new bowling machine
o we purchased a white backdrop for the Nets
 Overseas Amateur player Jordan Thomas engaged
 Sponsorship of match balls
 The Tigers section were dormant this season due to lack of numbers
 Take up of boundary boards for advertising was lower than in 2016
 We did not qualify for any grants this year

Forecast for 2018

 Purchase of Sight Screens from the combined current account surplus, and/or…
 … apply for grants to cover this and other major purchases
 The Association and the Junior Football Club will both help to pay towards the storage container for Hawes Down
 Provide training for coaches, umpires, scorers etc as required

1.3 Proposals for the AGM to vote on

It is proposed that Annual Subscriptions remain at the same rates as 2017 – *see section 2*
It is proposed that Match Fees remain at the same rates as 2017 – *see section 2*

1.7 Seniors summary

See Appendix A for Seniors accounts details.
The Seniors section made a loss -£3,193 this season, compared to a profit last season of £3,304.
This is due to the Seniors paying £2,187 for a new bowling machine and £2,262 for a storage container for Hawes Down from cash flow over the season, made possible by excellent fundraising activities.
An additional factor to the loss this year was the increase in our Ground Rent to the Association from £9,000 to £10,000. However this includes our £1,000 annual contribution to our Sinking Fund to make provision for future maintenance of the Nets.
Fundraising activities were again run jointly by both sections this year by the new Fundraising Committee and raised a net profit of £6,014, compared to a target of £3,000 set

for the season, and mainly due to an excellent Cricket Week. Many thanks to everyone involved in yet again raising such a high amount this season. *See section 3 below for more details.*
The use of Hawes Down as our second pitch has again saved us pitch hire fees apart from the 5th XI's use of Ex Blues as their home ground.
This year the Seniors section paid for Jordan Thomas as our overseas amateur player.
Gingers Restaurant are continuing their sponsorship for a fifth year.
Many thanks to Andy Steel for his donation to Club Force this year.
Ian Forbes raised a total of £320 from selling Scratch Cards over the season.

1.8 Colts summary

See Appendix B for Colts accounts details.
Another good year for the Colts section, making a season's profit of £3,576, although down compared to £6,981 last year as numbers were lower this season.
The Interest account is holding £3,231 at end of season, which breaks down to £2,730 for the Tigers section and £500 for Jack Petchey Foundation awards for 2018 – *see section 4 for more details*.
The Back to Cricket scheme operated by Pro-Active Bromley has folded and so the £1,587 held in the Colts Interest account for this was released into general funds.
The Colts section paid for the costs of Pasan Weeraratne as senior coach, and for Pitch hire for the 5th XI at Ex-Blues and made a substantial net contribution of £3,720 towards the running costs of the Cricket Club.
Winter Nets made an overall loss of -£322 this year, down from a profit of £529 last year. This is due to our paying for coaching this year for the first time, as well as Nets sessions having to be relocated from one school to another thus incurring double the overhead costs.

Justin Pryor asked about advertising boards
It was explained that we have had a lack of additional advertisers but we will continue to try to add to the numbers

The Chairman emphasised the additional £1,000 per year for OWA rent was put in the Nets sinking fund
The Chairman also added that the Jack Petchey award relies very much on the administrator and although Tammy Senthitkumarn is standing down, she will continue to do the job until a replacement is found
The secretary added that both the OWA and the Junior football club had agreed to contribute £500 towards the Hawes Down container, which will be deducted from our OWA rent

Loss of revenue from Nets

Jonathan Rodda felt that moving Nets to a week night might help the under 15s, overcome the football issue and enhance attendance

Doug Forbes suggested talking to Neil Kendrick about the Nets at Trinity

Chris Rodda substantiated Jonathan's view that moving to mid-week might encourage more colts to attend

Jeff Mascarenhas believed that we cannot please everyone, and , on balance, felt we should stay with what we know and use Ravensbourne

Mick Pilgrim asked if we used the Nets at Hayes school - they use our football pitches, and free of charge, 5 or 6 times a year and we should have a reciprocal arrangements to use their Nets

Denise Pilgrim agreed to speak to the relevant person at the school

Graham Watts explained that we had purchased 25 caps but they were the wrong colour These will be replaced, free of charge, and those who received the wrong caps will be given the correct ones

The Chairman stated that the Brittain legacy money will only be used for substantial items, e.g. the likes of a replacement of Roller, and not for day to day expenses of the Cricket Club

7. Fixture Secretary's report

Laurence Allen, the Fixtures secretary, reported as follows:

2017 fixtures were smooth with a quality pre-season arranged against Bromley for the 1st Xl and Bromley Common for both the 1's and 2.s . These games are already confirmed for 2018 and good to have them back, especially as Bromley Common are now in the Premier League.

- Sunday friendlies were worked out in good order combined with the Sunday league matches. A couple of concessions from the opposition were fixed with some solid replacements. 2018 matches are already in the pipeline, with the promise of a couple of new clubs visiting Hayes Hill.

- Thanks to Tony (Sherlock) , Stephen (Millward) Adrian (Beckett) and other skippers, and the committee for the open dialogue and communication throughout the season on all things fixtures related.

Additionally the 1st and 2nd Xls will again be going to Bath pre-season
The Sunday development game against Sutton will be played on the first Monday May bank holiday

8. Membership Secretary's report

The membership secretary had apologised for her absence but asked the secretary to read out the following statement

It had been harder to get a membership list this year and I have not been supplied with a list of appearances, although I understand that the latter are available on play-cricket
It is felt that the position of Membership Secretary is no longer required and we can produce a database containing all of the information we require
The Association are also working on a membership facility, which also needs to include all sections of the Club and take cognisance of the Date protection act

9. Welfare Officers report

There were no welfare issues to address

10. League Reports

Kent League

There is a league meeting tomorrow - October 18th – which Tom Sullivan will attend
There are a few proposed rule changes but these can only be carried at the league's AGM, which is next April, so we have some time to make a definitive decision whether to support or not
However, the committee feels that those worthy of support are:
Resolutions from Chestfield and Offam in relation to umpires
One from Chestfield relating to category two players
There is also a proposal relating to the league's 20/20 competition to extended the season by a week and have the last Saturday in May as cluster days to progress the competition
We suggest that this should be on a Sunday as we cannot extend the season an extra week because of OW football commitments

Regional league

Jeff Mascarenhas explained that it had been a difficult year for this league, with committee members resigning and a number of Clubs withdrawing
However an emergency meeting was called and Brian Smith, of Sidcup CC, has agreed to become chair and has formed a small committee
If anyone would like to help, would they please make themselves known
The AGM of the league will be held on November 15th

Sunday Development League

Stephen Millward reported that the AGM of this league had taken place this evening, had been attended by nine people and lasted 14 minutes!
The cost of balls will increase by £1 for next year
The starting times will be put back to 1-30 from 1-00
There will be no change in the format of games
The number of participating teams is yet to be confirmed
Our trophy for winning the league was collected this evening and we need to have it engraved

11 Business Plan update

Jeff Mascarenhas explained that the plan was presented last year and updated with regard to its progress as follows:

Performance - 1st and 2nd XIs are progressing and are on target to achieve promotion within three years
The youngsters continue to progress and integrate into the senior sides

Participation - We need to address the problem of not having full teams every week
The Under 14s are being introduced into senior cricket

Facilities

A container has been purchased for Hawes Down whilst that of a double sight-screen is on track

Community

Our participation in All Stars, Kwik cricket, the hosting of the two games against the sides from Barbados and the number of locals playing are indicative of our increased presence amongst the community

If anyone requires any further details of our Business plan they should please speak to Jeff, who will review the plan year on year

The Chairman reminded the meeting that we have short, medium and long term goals

The Business Plan is also an integral part of Clubnmark

12. Election of Officers

The following were elected as Officers of the Club

Seniors

President: Jasper Gundry-White Proposed: Graham Watts Seconded: Stephen Millward

Vice-Presidents:

The following additional Vice-Presidents were elected:

Jeff Mascarenhas, Justin Pryor and Dave Welch
Propoesd : Stephen Millward Seconded Doug Forbes

Chair: Paul Maxwell

Vice-Chair: Jeff Mascarenhas

Secretary: Mike Pike

Treasurer: Andy Spedding

League representatives

Kent League: Tom Sullivan

Kent Feeder League: Jeff Mascarenhas

Sunday Development League: Stephen Millward

Fixtures Secretary: Laurence Allen

Welfare Officers : Jane Kempthorn and Denise Pilgrim

Catering Manager: Mike Pike

Registration Officer: Mike Pike

Club captain: Alex Forbes

Communications Officer: Laurence Allen

All of the above were proposed by Paul Jenkins and seconded by Michael Mitchell

Skippers

1st XI: Michael Mitchell

2nd XI: To be decided within a month

3rd XI: Howard Abbett

4th XI: Jeff Mascerenhas

5th XI: Alex Forbes

Sunday Friendly Xl : Tony Sherlock and Paul Jenkins

Sunday Development side: to be decided

All of the above were proposed by Jasper Gundry White and seconded by Guy Hannah

Colts

Chair: Barrie Frampton

Treasurer: Andy Spedding

Under 19 league co-ordinator: Justin Pryor

Membership Secretary: Margo Lawrence

All of the above were proposed by Laki Kasturiratne and seconded by Laurence Allen

Fund-raising

It was agreed not to have a fund-raising committee next year and to reduce events because this puts too much pressure on the need to succeed
It was felt that if we concentrated on a specific events then this would not adversely affect our anticipated fund-raising income, these events being as follows:

Cricket week, Quiz nights and barbecues

Paul Jenkins will be available for cricket week to carry on the excellent work he did this year
Doug Forbes suggested that cricket week be a week later next season because the schools will have broken up by then
This will be looked into it, but it may mean that our cricket week clashes with those of other clubs

Denise Pilgrim reminded the meeting that next year sees the 21st anniversary of the forming of the colts section and we intend to celebrate it in great style
The occasion will also raise funds for the Club
A number of people have already offered to help and support this celebration

Graham Watts said we already have a banner for cricket week and all that is needed is to append the correct dates for next year

Paul Jenkins has agreed to take on the “£2 please” mantle

Doug Forbes felt that the Chair of the road committee would help with fund-raising

Stephen Millward said we could have colts games in the mornings at Hawes Down if cricket week fell within the school holidays

Doug Forbes reminded the meeting that, several years ago, we used Wickham Park and Ex-Blues as well as our own during cricket week and now have the added bonus of Hawes Down

13 Any Other Business

Start of 2018 Colts season

Stephen Millward informed the meeting that the first colts training session would take place on Friday May 4th
The pre-season Quiz night will be held on the previous Friday, April 27th, although this may be moved to an earlier date because of the Bath tour

Super 70/200 Club

Graham Watts reminded members of the opportunity to participate in the Association's 200 and Super 70 Clubs – those involved with the latter get a reduction of £50 to their annual subscription

Missing Colts trophies

Denise Pilgrim asked everyone to keep their eyes open for the original colts shields, which have gone missing

The Grounds-man

Michael Mitchell asked for an update on the position of the grounds-man
He felt that the wickets had played better this year but there are concerns about the outfield
The Chairman responded by saying that the OWA Council are addressing this matter, progress has made and a resolution to the issue will be put to the Association's AGM in December

Book of Condolence

Graham Watts informed the meeting that a book of condolence has been placed in the Predidents' lounge for members to express their thoughts about Ian Forbes

Indoor T20 competition

Jonathan Rodda stated that we will be participating in an indoor T20 competition and that it will start on October 29th
Anyone interested in playing should speak to Jonathan

Supporters Club

The Chairman floated the idea of a Supporters Club, with a membership fee, to encourage people to come and watch cricket on a weekly basis, for which they would be given a free

tea in return as part of their subscription
Doug Forbes said that Old Peoples' homes could be approached with the idea of encouraging their residents to come and watch the cricket, although he did not envisage a membership fee

First Aid courses

A reminder that First Aid course for coaches are being held at the Country ground

There being no other business the meeting ended at 10-00