

Bell Inn Aldworth Cricket Club
Annual General Meeting
14-Nov-2013

The meeting was opened at 8pm in the Tap Room at The Bell, the President and 15 other members present.

Hugh Macaulay (President) welcomed everyone, gave thanks for the better weather this year, and thanked those involved with the club, especially:

- Cheryl Lafford, for the teas
- Alastair and Hamish Smellie for their work with the colts
- Malcolm and Bill for preparing the pitches
- The match managers and all the players

1. Apologies

Received from Alastair Smellie, Ian Turrell, Alistair Stone, Sam Liddle and Paul Dutton.

2. Minutes of Previous AGM

Due to the resignation of the then secretary, no minutes were recorded for last year's meeting.

3. Matters Arising

No one had any comments about last year's meeting.

4. Election of Officers

The following were proposed, and elected by acclamation:

- Secretary: Simon Giles
- Treasurer: Steve Hanson
- Fixture Sec: Alastair Smellie
- Match Managers: as last year; Paul Dutton and Nils Baker were willing to carry on with Wednesdays

Notes:

- 1) Alastair has said he is willing to be Fixture Secretary for the coming season, but would like to hand over to someone else for 2015. No willing volunteers came forward.

AP13.1 Committee to find a replacement Fixture Secretary.

- 2) Anyone else wanting to help with match management would be very welcome.

5. 2013 Season Reports

Match Managers

The match managers concept was felt to be generally successful, especially as no one wanted to take on the whole burden of captaincy and team selection throughout the season. It would be better if

all the matches had a nominated manager by the start of the season, last year several games had no manager until late on.

Friendly Games

24 games were on the fixture list, and two Aldworth vs Aldworth. Eight were not played due to failure to raise a team (5), opposition called off (2, including Radley), not organised (1).

Some matches were not apparently recorded in the scorebooks; as far as can be determined, Aldworth won five games, one was drawn, and the rest lost.

Notable highlights were Barry Gardner's first fifty (64), first ever 6, and Sam Warren's succession of centuries. Alastair Smellie also scored 101 at Chieveley.

Friendly Cup

Aldworth lost to Moreton in the 1st round, beat Cholsey in the 2nd, and lost to Isis in the 3rd.

Downs League

Aldworth finished comfortably in 3rd place in Div 2 with 21 points, behind Woolly Badgers and Cold Ash. We won 3 and lost 3 at home, won 4 and lost 2 away. There was general enthusiasm for the change from 8 to 6 ball overs.

Paul Richardson consistently scored well including 85* against Cold Ash in our highest total of the season (173/3).

A summary of the final league tables was provided.

Averages

Steve Hanson provided a summary of the averages using the information available in the scorebooks. Not all matches are included, as some matches appeared not to be recorded at all, and some only the Aldworth batting. Match mangers were asked to try to ensure that the scores are all recorded in the right scorebook.

Awards and Trophies

The trophies have not been awarded this year. Dave Garratt will return the 'Clubman of the Year' trophy; we need to find the 'Young Player of the Year' trophy. Winners of these trophies, and the Best Colt award, will be decided at a future committee meeting.

6. Fixtures

The club wished to express their best wishes to Mike Hopkins of Radley College and hope that his health has improved.

Social

No specific changes were requested, except to avoid at all costs two games in the same weekend. On both of the occasions when this occurred in 2013, the Sunday game was cancelled as we could not raise a team.

6-a-side

2014 is the 25 anniversary of the Friendly Cup. Alastair Smellie has provisionally offered Aldworth to host a 6s competition on the usual May bank holiday Monday. Alastair will pass on information to Julian, who agreed to lead the organisation of the day.

7. Competitions

Friendly Cup/Down League - see above.

Further information about 2014 competitions will be provided as it becomes available.

8. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report is available as a separate document. Steve Hanson presented the financial statement and accompanying notes. Key points were:

- 1) The Lottery is our main source of income, many thanks to The Bell for running it.
- 2) The club more or less broke even this year, but only because of a substantial anonymous donation.
- 3) Expenditure on mowing the outfield was balanced by savings on equipment maintenance.
- 4) Further income should be generated to maintain the financial stability of the club; see following sections for details.

The Village Hall Committee has asked that we pay a fixed £400 fee per season for the hire of the hall, rather than paying on an ad-hoc basis. This would be roughly the same as the total in 2013, though in 2012 we paid a lot less because so many games were rained off. After discussion the meeting agreed with the recommendation of the Treasurer that we should accept the proposal.

AP13.2 SH to tell AVHC

9. Match Fees and Subscriptions

Number of subscriptions was down by 5 since last year.

Proposed to increase match fee from £2 to £3 per match (together with £3 tea would total £6 per adult per game). This would increase match fee income significantly, and would improve the financial position of the club. This suggestion was accepted by the meeting.

Juniors (18 and under) and students (in full time education) would continue to be exempt from match fees.

Touring sides would also be asked to pay the match fee (i.e. £6 per head including their tea contribution).

10.Nets

The numbers at nets started well this year, but tailed off to almost no one towards the end.

Suggested to reduce the number of sessions by 2 (to 6). Also to look at 8.15 as start time.

Nils Baker will check whether his neighbour (?) might be willing to coach at nets.

AP13.3 Nils to see if he can find a coach for nets

11. Ground and Equipment

Thanks to good work from Malcolm, Bill Oliver and Dave Garratt, the pitch and square is in good condition. The outfield has been mown regularly, which has been effective.

Barry Gardner suggested that we should once again provide club bats. It was agreed to look into this depending on the financial state of the club.

Hugh Macaulay will check whether the old and unused gang mowers could be sold to boost club funds.

Hugh Macaulay has some colts nets available, which could be used on an ad-hoc or more permanent basis.

Hugh Macaulay volunteered to strim round the nets, and check the trees.

Dave Garratt will fix the first bar so his pies no longer hit it.

Other equipment will be reviewed before the start of the season, and appropriate purchases made. (At least) adult and colts balls, and scorebooks will be required.

12. Fund Raising

A quiz night in the New Year was proposed, and Julian Sankey agreed to run it.

AP 13.4 Julian to plan a quiz night

Other suggestions included a race night and skittles evening. These will be considered by the committee.

13. Teas

Thanks were expressed again to Cheryl Lafford for the teas, which continue to be of high quality. Tea costs remain at £3 per head for 2014.

There was much discussion about how to minimise delinquent tea payers. Captains were urged to collect tea money during the tea interval, and to mark in the scorebook those who had and had not paid. It was suggested a book or list of shame should be held at The Bell. The possibility of paying monthly was also raised, though this would require further discussion due to the different people playing each week.

Opposition tea fees would remain at £3. Touring sides would also contribute to the match fees (see above).

14. The Youth Academy (Colts)

The meeting thanked Alastair Smellie for continuing to organise the Colts evenings on Tuesdays. Alastair has agreed to do this again next year. Its likely that the Colts season will be slightly shorter, as fewer players attended during September, once the schools had returned.

After the enthusiasm for the match against Goring, we will try to organise more games against local opposition next season.

Once again, any volunteers to assist on a Tuesday would be most welcome.

15.Aldworth vs Aldworth

A start of season barbecue was proposed. This would need to be self financing (i.e. tickets rather than donations).

AP 13.5 Committee to discuss start of season event

The end of season barbecue could be moved to The Bell. Should be decided nearer the time according to the weather forecast. Once again, it was suggested that Saturday might be more acceptable. This will be decided nearer the time.

AP 13.6 Committee to decide on Sat or Sun

16.Village Hall Trustee

Hugh Macaulay agreed to carry on as representative from the cricket club, though last year no involvement was required.

17.ECB Affiliation

After a brief discussion the meeting unanimously agreed not to pursue this at present.

18.Tour

No support for a tour at the moment, unless a member is prepared to organise it. No one volunteered for this.

19.Date of Next Meeting

The 2014 AGM will again be held in November, exact date to be decided nearer the time.

20.AOB

Regular (quarterly) committee meetings were proposed, to progress actions and arrange events such as Aldworth vs Aldworth.

It was suggested that a web site would also be helpful. Doug Martin and Phil Jones were interested in being involved.

Recruitment of a few more players – all were encouraged to involve anyone they thought would be able to contribute. Dave Garratt will speak to some possibles in Yattendon.

Captains were asked to post the team lists in The Bell. Steve Hanson would be able to do that if the list was mailed to him.

Barry Gardner proposed a vote of thanks to Hugh and Heather Macaulay for their support for the club over the whole year, and also for providing the refreshments for the AGM. The members unanimously agreed, and the meeting closed at 10pm.