**Battle Muffin Club – Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

**Held 0n: Thursday 9th May, 2019**

**The AGM was held at Crowhurst Park after the Members Meeting.**

**Current list of Members**: David Amos, Alan Bancroft, David Beavis, Ray Broomfield, Martin Burge, Chris Campbell, Dennis Campbell, Mike Clarke, Ron Cook, Alan Covall, Chris Davidson, Mike Doncaster, David Earwaker, Peter Ellin, Robert Ellin, Robert Emeleus, Jeremy Field, Keith Foord, Ivan Foster, Alf Freeman, Chris Gardner, Malcolm Gates, Richard Glover, Bryan Godwin, Ken Gough, Don Gray, John Hassell, Trevor Henning, Ian Hicks, Ray Hingston, Clive Johnson, Jeff Mansfield, James McArthur, Terry McCarthy, Danny Milligan, Derek Morgan, Norman Nuthall, Richard Palmer, Pete Parry, Mark Peake, John Peters, David Pratt, Harry Pugh, Paul Redstone, Bryan Sagar, Mike Saunders, Geoff Sharman, Bernard Spring, Mike Vandenburg, Pete Wildey.

**Current Membership: 50**

**Honorary Member**: Maurice Palmer

**Guests:** None

**Members Present**: David Amos, David Beavis, Ray Broomfield, Chris Campbell, Dennis Campbell, Mike Clarke, Ron Cook, Alan Covall, Mike Doncaster, David Earwaker, Robert Emeleus, Keith Foord, Ivan Foster, Alf Freeman, Chris Gardner, Malcolm Gates, Richard Glover, Bryan Godwin, Ken Gough, Don Gray, John Hassell, Trevor Henning, Ray Hingston, Clive Johnson, Jeff Mansfield, James McArthur, Terry McCarthy, Derek Morgan, Richard Palmer, Pete Parry, Mark Peake, John Peters, Harry Pugh, Paul Redstone, Bryan Sagar, Mike Saunders, Geoff Sharman, Bernard Spring, Mike Vandenburg, Pete Wildey.

The Chairman, Harry Pugh, opened the AGM by welcoming all members present to the meeting.

1. **Apologies Received:** Alan Bancroft, Martin Burge,Chris Davidson,Robert Elin, Peter Elin, Jeremy Field, Ian Hicks, Danny Milligan, Norman Nuthall and David Pratt were unable to attend.
2. **Minutes of the last AGM** held on Thursday 10th May 2018 were agreed as being a correct record and signed by the Chairman, Harry Pugh.
3. **Matters Arising:** Items covered under the headings below.
4. **Appointment of two Scrutineers for the Year-End Accounts:**

Alan Howland and Derek Morgan have agreed to continue in this role. Their appointment was elected by a show of hands.

1. **Treasurer’s Report by Terry McCarthy: Year-End Accounts for 2018/2019.**

Terry had issued emails 23rd April and 8th May, 2019 enclosing Treasurers Report to all members. A synopsis of the Annual Accounts was advised as follows:-

**The Members Account** had an opening balance of £2219 and a closing balance of £650.

Turnover represents dining receipts, payments and sundry outgoings for the Club’s monthly meetings as well as the Christmas Party and Chairman’s Night functions.

Key factors contributing to the reduced end of year balance were subsidies to:

Christmas Party £1977

Chairman’s Night £1882

**The Charity Account** had an opening balance of £4391 and a closing balance of £4053.

Gifts received: Do not yet allow for Members Dining refunds.

Fund Raising: Total £4281 is around £1,500 less than the previous year. Bell Money £500-, Functions £900-, Candy Floss & Roll-a-Penny £400-, Raffles £300+.

Donations: Down from £7947 to £4495.

**The Leisure Club Account** had an opening balance of £541 and a closing balance of £.4062.

Day Trips and Residential Trip generated a turnover of around £63,000 in and £60,000 out. Residential trip entries are often not completed in one financial year.

**General Account** had had an opening balance of £129 and a closing balance of £338.

Increased turnover this year due to Tapestry sales and distribution of sales income to the project sponsor together with donations gifted to the Charity Account.

Harry warmly thanked Terry for his continued excellent work as Treasurer over the past year.

The Year-End Accounts for 2017/2018 have been agreed and signed off by Alan and Derek.

1. **Services and Charities Report by Malcom Gates:**

Malcolm confirmed that there had been 18 donations for the year which totalled approximately £5,000. Significant donations included £500 Crowhurst Youth Club, £250 Helen Baker, Battle Arts, £500 Netherfield Hall, £500 Snowflake Trust, £500 Special Buddy Benches.

The money was raised from traditional events that the Muffin Club gets involved in every year plus the donations kindly given by the club members.

Special event coming on 9th July is the Antiques Road Show at Battle Abbey. Malcolm has received a request for Battle Muffins to assist as Marshalls and will be looking for volunteers.

1. **Entertainment Report by Bernard Spring and Richard Palmer:**

Bernard highlighted 3 key events which had all been very successful.

Muffin Quiz Night held on 16th November, 2018 at Battle Memorial Halls, Muffin Christmas Dinner held on 15th December, 2018 at Highwoods Golf Club and Chairman’s Night held on 23rd March, 2019 at PowderMills Hotel. He went on to thank all those members and partners where applicable, for all their hard work in making each evening so enjoyable.

Bernard then proposed that that club members, family and friends might enjoy a Horse Race Night later in the year in either October or November. The idea was well received by a good show of hands so Bernard agreed to report back later in the year with full details for the club’s consideration.

Finally, Bernard confirmed that he had booked the next Muffin Christmas dinner for 14th December, 2019 at Highwoods Golf Club, more details to follow in due course.

1. **Programme Report by Pete Parry:**

Pete was pleased to report that there had been some very good and entertaining Speakers at the Club’s Dinner meetings over the past 12 months. Furthermore, there were some interesting speakers booked for the coming year but some evenings yet to finalise. Accordingly, Pete said he would very much appreciate it if anyone could the let him know if they were aware of any more suitable Speakers.

1. **Dining Report by Mike Saunders:**

Mike confirmed that all Refund Notices distributed and that Attendance Performance refund total amounts to £2,282.

Mike also reconfirmed the following Dinner meetings away from Crowhurst. These are Senlac in July, White Hart, Catsfield in August, and again White Hart, Catsfield in December.

Finally, Mike reminded the membership the importance of advising him in good time if they were unable to attend any dinner meeting to avoid losing any refunds. Also important to advise him of any guests.

1. **Leisure & Recreational Club Report by Pete Parry:**

Pete advised the Pub walks continued to be very popular with club members, family and friends last year. This years itinerary was being developed and there would be full details to follow on the walks in the near future. In addition, any one who wished to join him and others on the weekly cycling event (MCC) would be very welcome so please come along if you like biking.

1. **Battle Muffin Leisure Club Report by John Hassell**:

John started by expressing his sincere thanks for all the work Terry has done over the last 12 months in dealing with over £60,000 into and out of the Leisure Club reconciling the Day and Residential Trips.

John then thanked David Pratt for the excellent efforts in arranging very successful Residential Trips culminating in the final trip to Oxford last May which had given so much pleasure to many Seniors over the years. Jan Morgan had subsequently agreed to take over from David to ensure that Battle Seniors could still benefit from the Residential trips going forward and John was delighted to confirm his thanks for her support to resolve a difficult situation saying it was a high spot of the year. Finally, John confirmed another successful year for the various Day trips he has arranged during the past 12 months resulting in well over 200 outing days for seniors. This has provided much needed support and benefits to the local community.

1. **Communication & Web Report by Derek Morgan/Terry McCarthy:**

Derek reminded members that they should visit the club website monthly to catch up with the information regarding Committee meeting minutes, club activities and news.

1. **The Loyal Toast by the Chairman:**

In accordance with tradition, the Chairman who is about to retire kindly pays for the port. Harry asked the Muffin Club Members to stand and raise a glass of port for the Loyal Toast to The Queen.

1. **Outgoing Chairman’s Report by Harry Pugh:**

Harry commenced his report stating: Another year has flown by and my time as Chairman is coming to a close. I have to say it’s been a challenging twelve months of highs and lows. We have done the town proud with our continued support of the Marbles, Medieval Fayre, “Lights On” plus the Lighting of the Flare event. Our School Community Awards to Battle & Langton and Claverham are now established as an annual event. My personal regret is that we are down on donations despite being proactive, due to a lack of requests for help. However, there are plenty of opportunities in the pipeline and I am confident that the Charity Fund balance will be much closer to our target of £1,500 by the year-end. We had some excellent social events during the year, with the Christmas Party, Chairman’s Night and Music Quiz greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

As you know, Malcolm is standing down from the Committee after returning from a sabbatical to become Chairman last year. He spent a lot of time and energy promoting the Battle Tapestry and after the sad loss of David Arrowsmith, took up the reins on Services and Charity. Malcolm was duly presented with wine in appreciation for all his help and support.

Harry finished his report stating: On the subject of the Committee, we will need at least three nominees to join at next year’s AGM. I think it’s vital to have a regular turnover of committee members, providing new energy and fresh ideas, so if you haven’t served or would like to return for another stint, please give it some serious thought.

1. **Election of Officers**

In accordance with Club Rules, Mike Vandenburg, the previous Vice-Chairman was elected as Chairman. The nine Committee Members seeking re-election along with Alan Covall and James McArthur were all duly elected by a show of hands from the membership.

The Committee for 2019/2020 will be as follows:

Mike Vandenburg (Chairman)

Harry Pugh (Past Chairman)

Derek Morgan

Terry McCarthy

Pete Parry

John Hassell

Richard Palmer

Bernard Spring

Mike Saunders

Alan Covall

James McArthur

1. **Incoming Chairman’s Acceptance by Mike Vandenburg:**

Mike looked forward to serving the club as Chairman and thanked the club for electing him. He went on to thank Harry for all his efforts and time to lead the club during the past 12 months in his role as Chairman. Mike then welcomed Alan and James as new members of the committee and thanked them for volunteering. He reminded the membership that the committee always put in a lot of hard work behind the scenes to make the club so successful but the committee would always appreciate suggestions and support at any time to help make the club even better.

Mike confirmed the roles of the committee members would be agreed at the next committee meeting followed by notification to all club members next month.

Finally, Mike advised the Bell collection totalled £198 and he thanked the members for their generosity.

1. **Any other business:**

There was no other business declared.

1. **Close of AGM**

The meeting duly closed at 9.37pm.

**Signed by Chairman Date:**