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

 **Held On: Thursday 13th May, 2021**

Because of Covid restrictions all participating members contributed from their respective residences.

Current Membership: 46

Honorary Members: 1

Guests: None.

1. **Apologies** for absencewere duly noted.
2. **Minutes of the last AGM**

held on Thursday 9th May, 2019 were agreed as being a correct record, to be signed by the Chairman Mike Vandenburg.

1. **Matters Arising:** Items covered underthe headings below.
2. **Appointment of two Scrutineers for the Year End Accounts**:

Derek Morgan and Alan Howland were nominated and duly appointed as Scrutineers of the Year End Accounts 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

1. **Treasurer’s Report by Terry McCarthy: Year End Accounts 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.**

All members had received a copy of the comprehensive Year End Accounts 2019-2020

and 202 0-21 for review. The Accounts were accepted as presented and there were no additional questions raised by Muffin Club Members. In addition to all members receiving a copy of these Accounts by email, a further record of these accounts will be added to the “Members Zone” on the Battle Muffin Website.

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

The Chairman asked the Muffin Club Members to be upstanding and raise a glass for the Loyal Toast to The Queen.

1. **Outgoing Chairman’s Report by Mike Vandenburg.**

Mike started his report by stating that, due to Covid and the various restrictions evolving from this terrible virus, he served a two year term as Chairman instead of the traditional 12 months. All normal functions had ceased with the last Dining meeting held in March 2020. With grateful thanks to Alan Covall, the Muffin Club was able to continue with Committee Meetings via the Zoom facility throughout the Pandemic. Alan was also available to help the technically challenged amongst us to ensure inclusion. Alan also helped Bernard Spring and John Peters in arranging some excellent entertainment via Zoom meetings for the entire club and families during the difficult times of lockdown.

 This was much appreciated by the membership.

Despite all the restrictions, the club members raised over £9,000 in donations for the Charity Account. Mike said this was due to Dining refunds generously given by the members which enabled the Committee to continue to support worthy causes.

Mike was also very sad to note the passing of Dennis Campbell, a long time member and great supporter of the Muffin Club who would be sadly missed.

Crowhurst owner had stated the previous July that we could no longer use their premises for our monthly dining meetings. The White Hart in Catsfield was identified as a replacement venue, at least in the short term, as not considered ideal for inclusion of future Speakers who are an important part of the entertainment. Mike Saunders and the new Chairman would be tasked with finding a replacement venue for the majority of dining meetings each year.

Mike thanked Terry McCarthy for the excellent work he had done as the Honorary Treasurer over several years. Terry was now standing down as a member of the Committee. Mike also wanted to particularly thank Harry Pugh and John Hassell for their respective support of the club over the past couple of years.

Mike also stressed the importance of attracting new members to the club and asked the membership to help where they could in this regard.

Finally, Mike ended his report by wishing the new Chairman all the best for a successful year in office.

1. .**Election of Officers.**

The following members were duly elected to serve on the committee.

Pete Parry - Chairman

Alan Covall

James McArthur

Derek Morgan

Richard Palmer

John Peters

Mike Saunders

Geoff Sharman

Bernard Spring

Mike Vandenburg

1. **New Chairman’s Acceptance by Pete Parry.**

Pete thanked the membership very much for electing him to be the Chairman of the Battle Muffin Club for the next 12 months and looked forward to serving the club in this role again. Covid has made it very difficult to operate as a normal club but hopefully the situation would improve for everyone going forward.

1. **Any other business.**

John Hassell warmly thanked Mike V. on behalf of the membership for serving as Chairman so well for two consecutive years, particularly with very difficult times for the operation of the club over the past year due to the Pandemic.

John Hassell, Malcolm Gates and Jeff Mansfield were all very pleased that Pete was stepping up to the mark by agreeing to serve as our Chairman again.

Keith Foord raised the importance of continuing support for the Battle Food Bank during these very difficult times.

Bernard Spring thanked Mike and Pete for their great support as Club Chairmen.

Bernard was also pleased to confirm that a total of £1,000 had been unanimously agreed for the Battle Food Bank.

Harry Pugh had spoken to Leo Cacciatore who organises the Junior Park Run. The Committee are very pleased to support this community initiative for the youth of Battle and surrounding areas. Harry asked James if he could contact Leo to see if we can offer further support for the next event.

Bryan Godwin asked that we remember Tom Taylor, former member of Battle Muffin Club, a very keen supporter of the club and local community. Tom sadly passed away earlier this year.

28 members attended the Zoom meeting.

1. **Close of Zoom AGM.**

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.28 p.m.

**Signed by Chairman Date**