**PARLEY CRICKET CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**13th November 2016 19.00 Parley Sports Club**

PRESENT: Graham Stickland, Mark Barber, Jonathan Rake, Mark Randall – Turner, Dean Ayres, Andy Neil Roger Mandale of the committee and 17 members of Parley CC

1. APOLOGIES: Lesley Randall Turner, Alan Graham, Clive Matthews, Charlotte Mandale
2. MINUTES OF AGM (07/02/2016): Accepted as accurate. Proposer Steve Roe, Seconder Keith Clarke – carried unanimously
3. MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising
4. CHAIR'S REPORT:

When putting together this report I am acutely aware that it is my last one as Chairman of the Club. After ten years, it is time to pass on this responsibility to someone else. Accordingly, I would like to reflect not only on the events of the last nine months as, in fact, it was only in February this year that we held our delayed 2015 AGM, but also to offer some reflections on where we have got to as a Club and what are the challenges I see looking forward.

This report is not the place to repeat the content of our two recent Presentation Evenings. Those of you who attended will recall there was our usual celebration of some excellent achievements at youth and adult levels. For the Club as a whole, the most important achievement was undoubtedly the unbeaten season of our Hampshire 1st X1 who gained promotion. We are now only two promotions away from the Southern League. Given our goal of achieving Southern League status, this represents another huge step. I would like to express the appreciation of the Committee to Alex Nippard and the players for the commitment and hard work they put in. The decision to prioritise this team did mean, however, that our DPL team was challenged by the standard of cricket in that league. Under Jon Rake’s fantastic example the players showed enormous commitment to keep going in the face of some heavy defeats.

What we learnt this season, though, is that we are probably trying to offer too much cricket to too many people. This is proving more and more challenging as availability generally is becoming more of an issue. Recreational cricket, like the professional game, is under pressure to create formats and structures that work in a society where speed, time poverty and leisure competition are increasing. A positive from this was seeing many youth players do well in adult cricket, but the flip side of this, I believe, is the impact it can have on the competitiveness of our adult cricket especially if it becomes too reliant on youth players. Making sure that our top teams are as competitive as possible, managing well the transition from youth to adult cricket with clearer grades between our adult teams, I believe, are going to be more and more important tasks as the Club nears the Southern League.

Off the field you will hear shortly about our financial position from Andy and I will not steal his thunder, but I do need to report on the continuing struggle that we have in securing for the longer term a ground that is ours. If there is one regret that I have as I step down from this office, it is that I didn’t from day one aggressively start a push to secure a permanent home for the Club. Who knows what position we’d be in now had we done that!

We finally had to close the door on Dean Park in April when it became obvious that the Park School had plans and financial expectations that were simply not appropriate for the future of club cricket at the ground. At Parley Country Club we continue to see uncertainty and prevarication from the Parish Council. With Mick Callaghan in situ and the best alignment there has been for years between the football and cricket clubs, there is an opportunity now to strike a different deal and break free of the “ball and chain legacy” that we all know only too well.

What is important though this time is to change the model here at Parley to one that meets the needs of the future and the interests of all concerned along the lines that I know are being discussed. We cannot acquiesce again and rely on the generosity or interest of individuals because we know from experience that this is always temporary and leaves us worse off in the end. The amount of time and energy that members of this Committee have put in to issues involving grounds is enormous and I would like to thank Mark Randell-Turner, Mark Barber, Todd Govan and others for going beyond the call of duty when it has come to attending meetings and reading and writing documents. I genuinely wish the new Chair and Committee well with the discussions that will continue over the next few months.

Acting as a volunteer and putting your hand up to support a club like this is becoming increasingly needed and increasingly challenging. The bar continues to be raised both by the ECB, other stakeholders and agencies and the general expectations that people have of clubs and societies. The need for compliance, standards and due process are becoming more and more inter-twined with what we all love which is the game of cricket.

To conclude I would like to thank everyone on the Committee and all our sponsors, managers, coaches, captains, umpires, scorers, parents and players for their valued contributions and support. I would also like to thank those Committee members who are standing down, Todd Govan and Mark and Lesley Randell-Turner as well as Paul Hendy as he steps down from the role of President. Paul, in addition to sponsoring the Club, has been an enormous source of support and guidance for me and I am very grateful for his advice and time, which he has so willingly given.

Finally, I would like to thank you for letting me play my part in helping the Club over the last ten years and I wish Parley Cricket Club every success in the future.

1. TREASURER'S REPORT: Andy Neil presented financial accounts for the year ending September 30th 2016 and the following report

We finished the year with a small deficit which considering that match fees were £2,600 lower than 2015, this was a decent position in the end. Match fees were down primarily because there were less youth teams and for the adults there were more games lost to the weather. Paid up Memberships fell from 125 in 2015 to 113 this year.

Our fundraising has been poor, with the 100 Club disappointingly only gaining 21 members. This is clearly something we need to get better at.

We invested £1,440 in equipment from Dean Park, including the boundary rope and the scorehut and also received a very generous donation from Keith Clarke.

Proposer Roger Mandale, Seconder Colin Tilley – adopted unanimously

1. MATCH FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS: Match fees and subscriptions will remain unchanged
2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE: Mark Randall Turner, Leslie Randall Turner, Alex Nippard, Todd Govan, Graham Stickland would be standing down from the committee. In addition Paul Hendy would be resigning from Club President and had sent the following email – Further to you advising that you are due to stand down as Chairman of Parley CC, I have given a lot of thought to my own position as President, and feel it is the right time to stand down too, allowing the new chairman and his team, to seek a new President to continue to build on the solid foundations and keep taking the club forward.

The following committee was decided:

Chairman Mark Barber Proposed Jonathan Rake Seconded Graham Stickland

Secretary Jonathan Rake Proposed Mark Barber Seconded Clive Matthews

Treasurer Andy Neil Proposed Mark Randall Turner Seconded Mark Luther

In addition to Dean Ayres and Roger Mandale continuing as ordinary committee members, Damien Farney and Rob Deem were added to the committee Proposed Mark Barber Seconded Jonathan Rake

All Carried Unanimously

\*Graham Stickland then handed over to Mark Barber to finish the AGM

1. APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR CAPTAINS: Currently only two captains decided and other positions are in talks. Dorset 1 Jonathan Rake, Hants 2 Mark Luther

Carried Unanimously

1. OTHER MOTIONS AS NOTIFIED – There were no other motions submitted