

8 Sep 2022

DRAFT

(Subject to approval at 2023 AGM)

## **PAINSWICK PROBUS CLUB AGM 2022**

### **Introduction**

To set the scene Henry Hall reported on the response to the questions sent to members in the last newsletter. The questions were designed to inform the AGM and the Treasurer in particular about the likely numbers of members who:

- a. Would like to visit Caldecote Castle by coach followed by a St Pierre Country Club lunch.
- b. Would be willing to pay in full well before the event.
- c. Intend to renew their membership.

The results showed that all 19 respondents intended to renew, but only 6 members (plus guests) were interested in the coach trip, and 8 members said they would be content to pay well in advance of events in future.

### **Minutes of the Club's Thirtieth Annual General Meeting held at the Painswick Centre on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**

Seventeen members attended the meeting.

#### **1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from the following members: Ian Breckels, Jeff Clarke, Peter Davies, Edward Elgar, Colin Moss, Graham Tilt.

#### **2 Approval of Minutes of the Twenty-ninth AGM held at the Painswick Centre on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021.**

Members had been sent by e-mail the minutes of the twenty-ninth AGM prior to the meeting. It was noted that under Item 4 John Courts' name was incorrectly spelled. There being no other comments, the minutes were approved by a show of hands.

#### **3 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the 2021 AGM that required further discussion.

#### **4 President's Report (Mike Steed)**

The President outlined his year in office and thanked the Club Committee and all the Club members for their support and fellowship. He had very much enjoyed being the President for the past year after the disruption caused by covid 19 to his previous term which itself had started prematurely with the sad loss of Somerset Moore.

Mike summarised the past programme of events and the range of subjects covered by guest speakers during his extended time in office. The Club had gained 4 but lost 7 members. Attendances at routine meetings were typically 20, rather fewer than before the pandemic. Sadly, Ken Kensington had passed away.

Mike observed that the cost of engaging speakers was rising and more of them were requiring their fuel cost to be met in addition to their fee.

The Christmas dinner with ladies at Bowden Hall was judged to be a success, as were the Spring cheese & wine buffet held at the Painswick Centre and the Summer luncheon with ladies held at The Waypoint.

While praising the small committee for their sterling work for the benefit of members, Mike stressed the pressing need for fresh faces to step up and share the committee's work. Several members undoubtedly were well-qualified to succeed Mike, but none was ready to be nominated yet. Under the circumstances Mike intended to take his title of immediate past-president while holding the fort until a volunteer came forward in the near future.

Mike warned that rising costs of energy and motor fuel were starting to impact the Club's finances.

At the annual skittles friendly match with the Yew Trees WI the Club retained the trophy in a close match. It would be necessary to revisit the basis for sharing the event costs with the WI.

#### **5 Treasurer's Report**

The accounts had been prepared using an automated process called Lloyds Banking Assistant, simplifying the task of the Treasurer and reducing the risk of human error. The Income & Expenditure

account for the period 30 Apr 2021 to 1 Sep 2022 and the budget and comments for the forthcoming year 2022-23 were presented and discussed. The balance in the current account as at 1 Sep 2022 stood at £1082.20. This was significantly less the balance on 30 Apr 2021 of £1698.51, caused by the reducing number of paid up members following the covid 19 peak, and steadily increasing speaker fees plus their fuel expenses.

Highly desirable expenditure on the President's retiring gift to a charity (£100) had been cut, and the Poppy Appeal wreath contribution had been reduced to £50. Now the Club had to face the choice of either increasing the number of members, or increasing the subscription from £50, or reducing the number of external speakers, or of course a combination of these measures. The meeting agreed with the Treasurer's recommendation to increase subscriptions to £60 per year, with immediate effect. Depending on the number of renewals it may be necessary rebalance the speaker programme to keep it within our means. The Treasurer's Report was approved by a show of hands.

## **6 Appointment of Auditor**

Because the accounts had not yet been examined independently. Mike Houghton offered to perform the examination. The appointment was proposed by Basil Butler and seconded by Russ Herbert, and approved by a show of hands.

## **7 Appointment of Committee**

The following unopposed appointments were considered:

<b>Role</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Vote</b>
President	Vacant			
Vice-President	Vacant			
Secretary	Ian Eastwood	Phil Morris	Russ Herbert	Approved
Treasurer	John Rohrbeck	Mike Houghton	Simon Graesser	Approved
Speakers Sec	Henry Hall	Russ Herbert	Simon Graesser	Approved
Committee Member	Phil Morris	Simon Graesser	Mike Houghton	Approved

In the absence of an elected President and vice-president, Mike Steed continued to chair the meeting in his new capacity as Immediate Past-President.

## **8 Any Other Matters**

### Annual Outing

Past efforts to arrange a trip to Hereford's Mappa Mundi, the Chained Library and the Three Choirs Vineyard for lunch in 2021 had proved to be impracticable. A proposal to visit Caldecote Castle for a free guided tour and to have lunch at St Pierre Country Club had also not found sufficient support. Mike therefore investigated a self-driven visit to the Severn & Wye Smokery for lunch on Wed 5 Oct 2022. This was warmly welcomed by members present, with a high proportion indicating their willingness to convey passengers.

### Vote of Thanks

Russ Herbert proposed a special vote of thanks to Mike Steed for his continuing service to the Club, which was supported wholeheartedly by all present.

Henry Hall

A/Secretary