**MINUTES OF AWJFC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT BRAMBLETYE HOTEL**

**22ND JUNE 2017**

**2.1 CHAIRMANS REPORT**

The Chairman opened the meeting by reporting that the fund raising evenings that we held, the quiz night, curry night, summer coaching bbq and grants were very successfully run and applied for which brought in much needed funds and he thanked those responsible for running these events.

Where the club, on the pitch had quite a successful year, the highlight was the under 13s reaching the cup final only to lose by the odd goal. The chairman would like to put on record that he was not only proud of the team but also their coach Ricky Leslie and his assistants especially the way they handled themselves and the team. Also the Under 11 Spears team won the sportsman award for their league. This is an extremely important award and one that the boys should be very proud of.

The club are now holding regular coaches meetings where we are trying to educate the coaches in many fields regarding football especially health and safety for the children. This is not part of the FA requirements but the club feels that educating our coaches can only help us to reach a better standard all round.

He stated that the club, as everyone is aware achieved FA Charter status this year and the exciting season carried on with an award by the Sussex sports association which some of the committee attended at the Grand Hotel Brighton.

The chairman reported that it is an uphill battle for any work to be carried out on the pitches by the council however, they have started to do small amounts which I think is to keep us quiet. We did go into negotiations regarding taking over the lease of the clubhouse at the Rec. but this was not viable as they came up with an absolutely ridiculous figure so the discussions came to an abrupt end. The chairman feels that the way forward in the future is to have our own ground.

He finished by asking for volunteers to join the committee and suggested that we should maybe encourage people who are just retiring as they are likely to have a little more time on their hands.

**2.3 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Chairman introduced the committee and asked for a show of hands for their re-election for the next season which was carried unanimously. He also put himself up for election which was also carried unanimously.

**2.4 TREASURERS REPORT**

The club has had another financially strong year, leaving us in a healthy position.

Member numbers have once again increased as reflected in the fees income.

Fundraising profits has been less this year due to less events as the need for additional funds have reduced.

Easter and Summer Coaching days have been very successful providing the club with further income.

Sale of hoodies is not profit just sales, the cost of these is included in kit and equipment costs.

Looking at expenses, the 3g hire remains a significant expense which is due to increase further again next season.

Although less than last year, many training courses have again been completed with a number already planned or booked to be completed next season as well to ensure we continue to comply with the increased regulations and safeguarding requirements.

Kit and Equipment has been a large part of this year’s additional spending, this includes team kits, of which most were sponsored, new goals at Cowden, Coaches Jackets, Respect Barriers, and team budget spending.

Team budgets still have over £700 of unspent budget which will carry forward to next season for those teams to spend.

Team spending budgets were increased this season by 66% and will again be increased next season to ensure all teams have the necessary funds to order what they require.

Included in other expenses was a £50 donation to Ashurst Wood Primary school to aid the year 6s fundraising for new goals, this was gratefully received and the new goals are in place and being enjoyed.

The club now has fully recovered and has healthy reserves. Earlier in the season we were hoping to take over the lease and control of the clubhouse and therefore thought we would require some of the reserves to do this, however it has now been established it is not a financially viable option and without any suitable land found we will therefore not need to hold the current level of reserves.

With this in mind, fees have remained at the same level for next season despite the knowledge that some of the running costs are expected to increase.

The mini goals at the rec are also in need of some attention which will be dealt with before the beginning of the season.

A spending plan for next season will be drawn up over the coming months and any suggestions of ideas and requirements should be put forward to the committee.

**2.5 CHILD WELFARE REPORT**

 **Last season** saw a big change in safeguarding policy from the FA. This meant we had strict instructions from the FA that all our coaches had to have completed the safeguarding workshop, Emergency First Aid and have a CRC check. Because of our Charter Standard achievement we were well on track with this and there were only a few coaches that hadn’t attended a safeguarding and first aid course. All current coaches had up to date CRC checks and I only need to make sure regular parent helpers were also CRC checked. Throughout last season, coaches were send on the courses they needed, as well as accepting new coaches into the club and sending them on the FA Level 1 course. So far I have had good feedback from the FA regarding this and they are happy with our safeguarding achievements. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our coaches and parent helpers for attending courses/completing CRC checks and allowing us to make sure we are full safeguarding our players - THANK YOU!!

**Next season** - we have a few new coaches coming into the club in the u7s and u12s hawks. These coaches are at this moment being CRC checked and have been enrolled onto safeguarding and first aid courses and some onto the FA Level 1. I look forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks when i verify your CRC checks - welcome aboard!

**New Welfare Officer** - Max Townsend is our new welfare officer. She and I will endeavour to be present at various matches across the age groups this coming season. If you have any welfare concerns or issues then please don’t hesitate to contact me or Max.

**Summer Coaching Sessions** - These are being organised at this time with huge help from Alexis and Ben. As soon as we have flyers and registration forms complete we will be emailing these out and marketing this. These holiday coaching sessions are proving very popular with players in the club and out. This summer we are hoping to as busy and able to raise a substantial amount again for the club. If there are any parents that would like to volunteer their time to help organise and be a safeguarding rep at the training sessions - we would love the help! - please email me on safeguardingawjfc@hotmail.com or call me on 07525028069.

I am looking forward to what next season will bring and being your Welfare Officer again.

 Cheers and apologies I cannot be with you tonight as my animal duty calls!

**2.6 VACANT POSITIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE**

It was reported that there are various openings on the committee such as grants manager, newsletter editor, future Horsham Secretary.

**2.7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was mentioned how we could improve the bbq next year and this will be on the agenda at the next committee meeting.

It was discussed what the club policy was for weaker players and it was generally agreed that maybe a training only membership should be offered for such children until they reach the required standard for matches.

The chairman closed the meeting by thanking all those that attended and also thanked Brambletye Hotel for making us very welcome.