

Eastbourne Borough Walking Football Club

Annual General Meeting 24th November 2022

Minutes

Present: Dave Blackledge, Richard Brook, Phil Cousens, Terry Bellamy, Terry Stubbings, Ray Richards, Dave Atkins, Ken Eason, Paul Sutton, Judith Hawes, Anita Pickles, Mike Bridger, Paul Lockwood, Adam Wood, Mike Gonnella, Alan Walmsley, Ahmad Lalmahomed, Jesse Birdsall, Chris Smith, Andrew Dixon, John Daly, Les Ward, Tony Edwards, John Bartlett, Richard Dodman, Steve Benterman, Antonio Forte, Michael Brady, Gary Farthing, Brian LeGrove

1. **Apologies for absence:** Tom Chapman, Carl Hodgkinson, Roy Fouracres, Mike Richardson
2. **Minutes of last AGM 25th November 2021:** Agreed with no amendments
3. **Matters arising:**
 - a. Item 7a Selecting teams for tours and tournaments: Those taking part in this year's tour to Spain agreed to field a First Team and Second Team, with the Second Team supplemented by players from the local club as necessary. In the event the games were played in 3 different formats (6-a-side, 7-a-side and 8-a-side) and there was a lot of mixing and matching of both teams especially on the third matchday. This didn't detract from our enjoyment of the tour and neither team disgraced itself.
 - b. Item 7b Organisation of Tuesday and Thursday sessions:
 - Coaching sessions have been organised and run by Tony Edwards every Tuesday and there is a feeling that this has improved our skills. Our thanks to Tony for his energy and enthusiasm, also to Les Ward and Gary Farthing for supporting Tony.
 - We offered to hold sessions in the cage for those wishing to play in a gentler environment but demand was insufficient to make this viable.
 - Lawn Court have been regular visitors every two months or so and we have been told that their members greatly appreciate taking part in the sessions.
 - c. Item 7c Referee Coordinator: Phil Cousens has taken on this role and we are most grateful to him for his help and advice.

- d. Item 8a Foreign Tournaments: In the event the expected tournament in Portugal did not materialise and our tour to Spain was organised instead by Stuart Callf, to whom the Committee extends our thanks.
- e. Item 8b Bank surplus: As approved by the AGM the Committee decided to give £250 to Eastbourne Food Bank, £250 to a Homeless charity and also to buy our own portable defibrillator. It was further decided to offer visiting teams changing facilities and refreshments, to support club social events and members involved in club tours.
- f. Item 8c Limiting the number of members: The Committee examined this and agreed to limit the number of members taking part in sessions to 42 on the main pitch but in practice we have never had this number of players at a session.
- g. Item 8d Kim Monroe asked for a number of ideas to be considered by the Committee:
 - Incentivising trainee referees: The Committee decided that there is no need to incentivise people to become referees at present as we now have 12 qualified referees associated with the club.
 - Code of Conduct / Induction of New Members / Suspension of members: The Committee decided that the current membership form gives sufficient details of the club's code of conduct and potential sanctions.
 - Under-age players (children): The Committee agreed that there is no harm in children/grandchildren of members playing occasionally as long as they are invited. However the Committee changed their mind later in the year as some referees were not happy with the original decision.

4. Committee Reports:

- a. Chair's report – Terry Bellamy
- b. Secretary's report - Dave Blackledge
- c. Club Captain report – Andy Dixon
- d. Treasurer's report – Ian Nisbet
- e. Social secretary's report – Mike Richardson
- f. Press and PR report - Terry Stubbings

The reports were approved *en bloc* with no questions being raised.

5. **Election of committee and non-committee posts:** All nominees were elected unanimously.

Position	Nomination	Proposed	Seconded	Elected
Chair	Terry Bellamy	Dave Blackledge	Paul Sutton	✓
Secretary	David Blackledge	Andy Dixon	Phil Cousens	✓
Treasurer	Ian Nisbet	Dave Blackledge	Mike Richardson	✓
Club Captain	Mike Bridger	Dave Blackledge	Andy Dixon	✓
Press & PR Officer	Terry Stubbings	Dave Blackledge	Steve Benterman	✓
Social secretary	Andy Dixon	Dave Blackledge	Terry Bellamy	✓
Membership secretary*	Paul Sutton	Andy Dixon	Ian Nisbet	✓
Vice club Captain*	Andy Dixon	Dave Blackledge	Phil Cousens	✓

*Non-Committee positions

6. **Resolutions:** None.

7. **Items for Discussion:**

- a. Practice for the League Squad on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays - Terry Bellamy lead a lively debate. It was agreed that Tony and Les can pick a team of their choice to play together in one of the regular sessions in advance of league matches. This will be trialled for the next 3 league games and then reviewed by the Committee. ACTION: Tony Edwards, Les Ward, Mike Bridger and Andy Dixon.
- b. Tours and Tournaments 2023 – Dave Blackledge invited members to express their interest in possible tournaments and/or tours in 2023. Most interest was shown in tours but it was agreed that forthcoming opportunities will be publicised to members as they arise.
ACTION: Dave Blackledge
- c. Eastbourne Tournament Thursday 15th June 2023 10am - 4pm
Andy Dixon invited volunteers to help with the event. Members should speak to Andy if they are interested.
ACTION: All members
- d. Regular Walking Football Sessions – Switch from Tuesday to Monday and/or Thursday to Friday? Ken Eason put forward a proposal but only 2 members were in favour of changing the current arrangements.
- e. Regular Sessions – Rules for players not signed in and just turning up. Gary Farthing had raised the matter but had to leave the meeting before it was discussed. It was agreed that Gary should be invited to discuss this with the Committee.
ACTION: Committee
- f. Charitable donations: John Daly explained that Acorn Charitable Trust is the charitable arm of EBFC. He proposed that some of the club's income be given to charities that Acorn supports once or twice a year. Richard Dodman proposed that the committee be mandated to give up to 50% of the club's funds to charities as it

sees fit, with a prime focus on supporting Acorn. This was approved unanimously.

ACTION: Committee.

- g. Disciplinary Committee - Terry Bellamy said that the Committee has decided to appoint a Disciplinary Committee to deal with sanctions for red cards and other disciplinary matters. The Committee will be chaired by the Referee Coordinator (Phil Cousens). Other members will be the Club Captain (Mike Bridger) and Paul Sutton, who was elected by the members attending the AGM.

ACTION: Phil Cousens

- 8. **Any other business:** Terry Bellamy thanked Roy Fouracres for his long service as Club Captain. He also thanked those members who help to open up and mark out the pitches for every session.

- 9. **Date and time of next AGM:** 30/11/23 at 12.30