

# **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NEYLAND CRICKET CLUB HELD IN THE ATHLETIC CLUB ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2010 AT 7.45 PM.**

## **Present:**

R Bellerby, J P Edwards, P Hannon, S Hannon, S John, M C Jones, A Miller, P Miller, J Milne, P Murray, B Phelan., M J Rees & A L Smith

## **Apologies:**

At the commencement of the meeting the President asked for all those present to observe a minute silence as a mark of respect for those members of the Club who had passed away during the previous 12 months.

## **Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 10th December 2009 were read, confirmed and signed as a true record.

## **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **Treasurers Report**

In presenting what was his eighth balance sheet (copy attached) the Hon Treasurer expressed his gratitude to the Club's Auditor, Mrs Yvonne Jones for her kind assistance and offered thanks to all Sponsors & Vice Presidents for their financial support during the past season. He also thanked the Club Franchisees for their contribution which was not always evident on the balance sheet.

He advised those members present that the profit and loss account for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010 showed an operating loss of £[REDACTED]. The overall income derived from Sponsorship and Vice Presidents was increased substantially on 2009 and there had been a welcome increase in the sums derived from subscriptions, match fees and match day raffles although the latter was an area in which there was room for improvement. The introduction of junior subscriptions had also generated a welcome boost to club funds whilst the decision to abandon the bonus ball and replace it with a 60 club had proved a resounding success in terms of raising funds. .

Expenditure during 2010 had been significantly increased by the acquisition of covers albeit most of the major infrastructure improvements had been funded externally however the costs associated with ground maintenance, provision of teas, insurance etc inevitably continued to rise and a large proportion of the loan of £[REDACTED] received from the ECB remained to be paid albeit in instalments.

Although he indicated that he was reasonably satisfied with the Club's financial position and cautiously optimistic about the future the Hon Treasurer warned there was no room for

complacency particularly given the bleak economic forecast and the likely effects on external funding providers.

The President thanked Mr Bellerby for his efforts during the year in office and for submitting a well presented balance sheet. It was proposed by Paul Miller and seconded by Sean Hannon that the balance sheet should be accepted. This proposal was carried unanimously.

### **Secretary's Report**

The Hon Secretary gave a report on the activities of the Club both on and off the field during the 2010 season.

He indicated that he had concluded his report to the 2009 AGM by expressing the hope that both senior sides would enjoy successful seasons and that when we convened this evening we would be able to look back on 2010 with fond memories. To some extent that had proved to be the case in that whilst the 1st XI had been unable to repeat the heroics of 2009 by reaching the Harrison Allen Bowl Final they had secured a third place finish in the final league standings (possibly the club's highest finish since last winning the league) and the Club did taste success in 6 a side competitions both indoor and outdoor.

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI as has been indicated posted an encouraging 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in Division One and had the bold gamble to stage the penultimate league fixture against Cresselly gone in their favour then second place would likely have been secured. Somewhat unusually given the summer weather of recent seasons the 1<sup>st</sup> XI completed all 18 of their scheduled league fixtures finishing with a playing record of 8 wins, 6 draws and 4 losses. The number of wins was double that achieved in 2009 and the number of losses reduced from 6 in that same year.

In terms of individual accomplishments whilst Andrew Miller was understandably unable to repeat his stellar 2009 season he had nevertheless enjoyed a highly profitable time of it with both bat and ball. He recorded half centuries against St Ishmaels (66no) and Lawrenny (53no) but in terms of runs accumulated however it was Paul Murray who stole the honours with an aggregate of 499 runs in his 15 innings at an average of 35.64. His contributions included 75 in the season opener against Narberth, 82 not out against Saundersfoot and a third half century against Cresselly. In his 2009 report the Secretary had referred to the need to make up for the absence of Scott John and a number of individuals had done just that. Nick Koomen had enjoyed a highly successful first half to the season whilst Gareth Virgo had taken full advantage of his elevation from the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI to follow up a couple of cameo innings in his initial appearances with more substantial contributions against Lawrenny and Whitland respectively. In addition Sean Hannon had claimed a half century against Haverfordwest (54) whilst both Gregg Miller and Alex Kemp had suffered the agony of falling one run short of the half century mark against Narberth and St Ishmaels respectively. Patrick Bellerby had also made several extremely valuable contributions particularly in the wins at Herbrandston and Cresselly and with Gareth Virgo in saving the game against Lawrenny.

Andrew Miller's excellence was not confined to the bat as he was also the Club's leading wicket taker. He claimed 34 wickets at an average of 16.38. He claimed 4 wickets or more on 6 separate occasions including 5 wicket hauls against Whitland and Narberth. Patrick Hannon was his usual reliable self albeit that his figures seldom reflected accurately his efforts although he did claim 23 wickets at 19.56. There were several other notable and game winning performances including Henry Durrant's 4 for 16 at Herbrandston and Nick

Koomen's 4 for 38 against Lawrenny however the highlight of the season was undoubtedly the figures of 7 for 20 claimed by Gary Lloyd in the home victory over Herbrandston. Gary had enjoyed yet another fine season claiming a total of 26 league wickets at an average of 16.07. Indeed it was noteworthy that the side claimed 72 bowling points, the most in the section.

In terms of progress third place was obviously a step in the right direction however it is worth bearing in mind that had it not been for the defeat at the hands of Whitland and the losing draw against Narberth the league title may have been within their grasp.

Moving to the Cup competitions it was a case of after the Lord Mayor's show in the Harrison Allen as after securing an emphatic victory in what looked a potential banana skin in the 1<sup>st</sup> round tie at Saundersfoot, Neyland were comfortably swept aside by Carew in round 2. This was all the more disappointing as the previous week they had defeated Carew in round one of the Duggie Morris Cup Competition. That was to prove the sole cup success of the season however as the visit to Narberth in round 2 of that competition saw the home side prevail by 4 wickets. Finally, the Welsh Cup competition saw Neyland bow out at the hands of Ammanford in the early stages of the competition.

The season enjoyed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI was all too similar to those of previous seasons although it has to be accepted that the struggle to field teams was not just confined to the opening few weeks of the season as is usually the case but extended later into the season and indeed on one occasion resulted in being unable to raise a team for one fixture. Whilst when at full strength the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI were a match for any side in the section, as has been the case in most seasons of late, relegation rather than promotion was on the agenda although they did eventually record a seventh place finish (one place down on 2009) with a playing record of 5 wins, 2 draws and 8 losses in their 15 completed fixtures. Details of the total number of players who turned out for the side during the course of the season were not too hand however it was only due to the hard work and enthusiasm of team Captain Ian Milsom and his apparently inexhaustible production line of players that the club was able to honour all but one of the scheduled fixtures. As with the 1<sup>st</sup> XI there were several useful contributions with both bat and ball however pride of place must go to Patrick Hannon who due to work commitments turned out for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI in the final game of the season against Hook and enjoyed a remarkable afternoon in which he both claimed 5 for 37 and scored his maiden century (103 retired). Patrick was forced to retire on reaching three figures but left his team in an apparently unassailable position. The fact that we proceeded to lose that fixture perhaps describes the season in microcosm. Otherwise there were notable contributions with the bat from Gareth Virgo against St Ishmaels and Carew 3rds respectively, Alex Kemp against St Ishmaels and Lawrenny respectively, Phil Davies against Camrose and Spittal and Andrew Hansen against Lawrenny and against St Ishmaels. On the bowling front Mark Sutton obviously enjoyed playing against Camrose and Spittal as he took 4 for 14 in the first league meeting and 5 for 19 in the reverse fixture. Pride of place however went to Gareth Virgo for his 7 for 16 against Pembroke 2nds. Not surprisingly our Alec Colley Cup campaign once again faltered at the first round stage as Lawrenny 2nds recorded a comfortable 8 wicket victory.

This struggle to field a 2<sup>nd</sup> XI was a worrying trend and one which the Secretary felt the incoming committee should seek to address as a matter of the utmost importance.

For what seems the first time in living memory the Ladies found themselves without a trophy to their name in 2009.

As had been indicated earlier the Club had continued to experience considerable success in 6 a side cricket retaining the Pembrokeshire Indoor League Title. In addition Neyland had represented the County as 2009 winners in the Welsh Finals and were far from disgraced in finishing runners up to more experienced rivals.

Finally to illustrate that their expertise at 6 a side is not confined to indoors a Neyland side comprising of Greg Miller, Andrew Miller, Sean Hannon, Paul Murray, Paul Miller and Nick Kooman made it a successful conclusion to the season by winning the Steve James Six-a-side tournament at Haverforwest.

Sadly, due to insufficient numbers Neyland were unable to field a team in the Ormond Cup Competition. This was to some extent indicative of a general malaise in that in terms of junior cricket it was not the most successful season in terms of results. That said however the various sides had completed the majority of their fixtures and indeed this unwillingness to postpone fixtures when certain key players were unavailable had contributed to the indifferent statistics. In the event a young Under 15 side had lost all their fixtures whilst the Under 13 and Under 11 sides had both finished with 50/50 records, the latter having finished third in their group. The Under 9 side had enjoyed a successful season in tournament play particularly at Saundersfoot.

On the representative front Luke Ryan had been selected for the County less than 14 side whilst Scott Jones, Thomas Pritchard and George Williams were all selected at Under 12 level. In addition Phillip Llewellyn, Niall Hooper and Geraint Rees were selected for the County under 11 squad and Under 10 squads respectively.

Phillip Llewellyn and Scott Jones had also been selected for Wales at their respective age groups with the latter being leading wicket taker.

The Secretary repeated his thanks of previous years to all those who had assisted the youth section in any capacity during the season and as usual offered a special word of thanks to Martin Jones and his cohorts and in particular Sean Hannon, Ian Milsom, Lyn Rees & Chris Hooper for their efforts. The Secretary also offered his gratitude to Martin for continuing in his role as Club Child Welfare Officer.

The Secretary commented that off the field, Neyland had once again produced cricket wickets of an extremely high standard and for this the usual debt of gratitude was owed to Robert Bellerby and those who have assisted him in pitch preparation. In this regard he offered a special word of praise to Paul Miller who despite having to generally travel a considerable distance to be here at the weekend was invariably to be found on Saturday mornings cutting the outfield or working on the square. In addition to his unstinting work on the grounds Robert Bellerby of course also took good care of our finances and ensured that the club lived within its means. He also thanked all our sponsors for their support in the season.

The Secretary continued by thanking Debbie and Martin of the Athletic Club for continuing to provide the social base, which remained such an important part of the Club and for the other assistance and support, which they extended and which was tended to be taken for granted.

He also thanked his fellow Committee members for their support and forbearance during the season and to the respective Team Captains, Andrew Miller and Ian Milsom for their efforts. He added that although he had already made reference to the yeoman efforts of Ian Milsom in terms of getting a 2<sup>nd</sup> XI onto the field it warranted repeating as were it not for his efforts the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI may have ceased to exist. Congratulations were also extended to all award winners at both Junior and Senior levels on their accomplishments in 2010.

The Secretary pointed out that improvements to the Club's infrastructure had continued apace during 2010 and although the prevailing economic conditions had inevitably impacted on funding for sports clubs generally and had in particular prevented the club from addressing the lack of an outfield mower, covers which were the envy of the County had been acquired and had contributed significantly to the 1<sup>st</sup> XI completing all nine scheduled home league fixtures in 2010. In addition the construction of a new storage shed incorporating an electronic scoreboard had been completed on schedule.

The Secretary commented that given the circumstances he would go so far as to suggest that for the first time since the founding of the Athletic club and the construction of the stand/changing rooms Neyland, as a Club, if not boasting the best facilities in the league certainly compared favourably with some of our much more vaunted and wealthier rivals. He paid tribute to the efforts of Andrew Miller and in particular Paul Miller in transforming the club and making it unrecognisable to what it was even 5 years ago.

The Secretary concluded his address by offering his best wishes to all club sides for a successful and more importantly perhaps in what is an amateur game after all enjoyable 2011 and expressed the hope that at the next AGM those present would be able to look back on 2011 with fond memories and hopefully some more silverware to celebrate.

The President thanked the Secretary for his efforts during the year in office and for preparing such a comprehensive report.

### **Election of Officers**

President - J P Edwards  
Club Secretary – M J Rees  
Club Treasurer – R Bellerby  
Club Development Officer – Paul Miller  
Junior Cricket Organiser – M C Jones  
Child Welfare Officer – M C Jones  
Auditor – Mrs Y Jones

A notice of motion pursuant to the Club's constitution regarding the nomination of Officers had been made by the outgoing committee at their November Committee meeting and recommended that the above named Officers be elected to their posts en bloc. This was formally proposed on the night Brian Phelan and seconded by Andrew Smith and carried unanimously.

### **Election of Captains**

1<sup>st</sup> XI - Andrew Miller was proposed by Sean Hannon and seconded by Andrew Smith

2<sup>nd</sup> XI – Ian Milsom was proposed by Martyn Rees and seconded by Sean Hannon  
Both motions were carried unanimously.

### **Election of Committee**

In addition to the Officers, Captains, Club Youth Organiser/Child Protection Officer & Club Development Officer the following individuals were elected to serve on the committee:-

P Hannon, S Hannon, J Milne, P Murray, B Phelan, J Seaton & A L Smith.

### **Subscription fees**

It was proposed by the Hon Treasurer and seconded by Martyn Rees that subscriptions and match fees should remain unchanged i.e.

Seniors

Subscriptions - £20.00 per annum (£15.00 if paid before the end of May)

Match Fees - £3.00 per league match.

Under 17s

Subscriptions - £5.00

Match Fees - £1.50

Ladies - £10.00

The proposal went to a vote and was passed on a majority verdict, Paul Miller dissenting.

### **Affiliations**

It was properly proposed and seconded that the Club should continue to affiliate to the following bodies:-

1. Pembroke County Cricket Club.
2. Pembroke County 200 Club.
3. Indoor League
4. Welsh Cricket Association.

This was carried unanimously.

### **Junior Cricket**

Martin Jones expressed his gratitude to Sean Hannon and Scott John for their considerable assistance in 2010 adding that due to his unavailability due to work commitments it would continue to be difficult for him to attend training sessions and fixtures in 2011. In terms of coaching arrangements for 2011 it appeared likely that the position would be:

Under 9s –Ian Milsom

Under 11s –Lyn Rees & Chris Hooper

Under 13s & Under 15s – Martin Jones and Sean Hannon

**Any other business**

There being no further business accordingly the meeting was declared closed after a vote of thanks to the President for the expeditious manner in which he had conducted the proceedings.