

HOLME VALLEY CHESS CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH TUESDAY 3RD MAY 2011

Present: Neil Hardy, Peter Douglas, Norman Battye, John Harrison and Roger Keely.

1. Election of chairperson and minuting secretary:

Norman Battye was elected chairperson. Roger Keely was elected minuting secretary.

2. Apologies from Graham Hughes and Leo Keely.

3. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 4th May 2010 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

The Secretary Roger Keely reported that although no captain had been elected for the Examiner Handicap and Team Knockout sides at the last AGM Geoff Peake and others had stood in on a temporary basis during the early part of the 2010-11 season, and that then Neil Hardy had become available and had brought a new level of enthusiasm to the Captain's position.

The Secretary reported that the HDCA Secretary Geoff Peake's proposal for a new system of penalties to discourage team and individual defaults had been narrowly rejected at the subsequent Association AGM; but that he had succeeded in emphasising the problem, which diminished during the 2010-2011 season.

5. Secretary's Report

The secretary reported that the rent at Holy Trinity Church would be increasing for the 2011-2012 season to £22.00 per session. It was agreed that the venue should nevertheless remain at Holy Trinity Church and that Tuesday should remain the match and club night.

The Secretary reported that Geoff Peake had given notice that he was resigning as HDCA Secretary, having served for 5 years, and that Nick Edwards from West Bretton Club was reported to have expressed a willingness to take the role on. It was agreed that Holme Valley Club should thank Geoff for his efficiency and enthusiasm and for all the hard work which had gone into his informative, entertaining and educational website.

After a discussion of membership, recruitment and publicity, it was agreed that Neil Hardy should send to the press a notice of the Holme Valley Chess Club AGM and issue an appeal for new players of all abilities.

6. Report on Club individual competition and club nights

Roger Keely noted that after the first club night of the season there had been no club nights separate from team matches. Neil Hardy agreed to try to organise a club competition in order to encourage club night attendance.

7. Team captains's report on Watkinson Trophy (scratch league) and Bill Lumley Team Rapidplay competition

In the scratch league Roger Keely reported that we had come 5th out of 8, thus winning the Littlewood Shield for coming top of the lower half of the table.

In the Rapidplay we had come 4th =, the winners for the first time being Calderdale.

8. Team captain's report on Examiner Handicap team competition and the Team Knockout for the season 2010-2011

In the Handicap we had come 5th = out of 7 in a close competition which was won by Huddersfield Rooks.

In the Team Knockout we lost to Netherton in the first round. The competition was won by David Brown's.

Neil Hardy reported that it had been hard to raise a full side for every match but that we had succeeded in avoiding default on any of the matches. He particularly applauded the enthusiasm of the new players.

9. Norman Battye presented the Treasurers report. It showed a total balance of £361.09 with outstanding net debt of £75.00. The report was accepted with thanks.

The Treasurer reported that the match fee system agreed the previous year had not after all been successful: it had been too complicated and difficult to collect the different fees and to monitor players' participation. He recommended a return to the previous system of a simple subscription at the beginning of the season, with a match fee collected at each home match. Because of the forthcoming rent increase from £20.00 to 22.00 per session it was agreed that the match fee should be raised to £2.50, the annual subscription to remain at £10.00.

10. Other reports

Neil Hardy reported that the recent Congress in South Wales both Leo Keely and he had finished 4th in their respective sections.

11. Election of officers

Secretary: Roger Keely

Watkinson Captain and Rapidplay Team Captain: Roger Keely

Handicap and Team K.O captain: Neil Hardy, with John Harrison as deputy.

Treasurer: Neil Hardy. Norman Battye explained, to everyone else's disappointment, that he was thinking of not playing chess with us during the next season and therefore wished not to continue as Treasurer. For this reason Neil Hardy agreed to stand and was elected, with Roger Keely remaining as a signatory to the cheque book, and John Harrison also being agreed as a signatory.

Thanks were expressed to Norman for his work as treasurer and continued support for the club over many years.

12. Purchase of equipment

Neil Hardy agreed to donate 500 new scoresheets to the Club.

13. Any Other Business

Neil Hardy offered to organise on behalf of the Club a simultaneous exhibition by a leading player such as Nigel Davies. This was agreed with thanks.

The next AGM would be held on Tuesday 8th May 2012.

The meeting closed at 8.53pm.