

## **TESTON CLUB A.G.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2006**

### **PRESIDENTS ADDRESS**

Our President was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Our Chairman, Jim Wood opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Viv Williams, Judy Moore, Shirley Jepson, Phil Bond, Chris Hare, Terry Smith, Cath Newick, Tony and Pat Roser and Peter Butchers.

### **CHAIRMANS ADDRESS**

Welcome to the Teston Club 2006 AGM. I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as Chairman and hope I have served this club well as it was a big step to fill the shoes of my predecessor Ken Ivey.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for all their hard work and spare time given up to do their duties throughout the year. They are of course, Rodney, Bonnie, Terry, Vicky, Ronnie, Philly and Bobby! Please can we give them a round of applause. Also I would like to thank Peter for his help and guidance. Last but by no means least you the members who make the club what it is.

It has been a very difficult trading year everywhere and we have been no exception, we have spent our money wisely and made some important decisions to continue the success of Teston Club.

We hope the introduction of hot snacks will send out a clear indication as to the direction we intend to take the club.

I would like to give a mention to our darts team who finished 4<sup>th</sup> in their league and also to our very strong snooker team who currently hold up three other divisions!

### **ADOPTION OF 2005 MINUTES**

Tony Edwards proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record, which was seconded by Rod Thornton and carried unanimously.

### **SECRETARYS REPORT**

Good Evening ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the Teston club's Annual General Meeting and thank you for attending.

Firstly I would like to thank the Committee for what they have done during 2005, particularly Jim – his first year as Chairman has proved that he is more than capable of carrying out the tasks of the job. Rod who once again has been really efficient on the House Committee, Phil who is continually updating our

website and in fact all the Committee who give freely of their time and effort in helping to keep the Club running efficiently and effectively for you.

I would like you to know that your committee has had a year of much contemplation and head scratching! We have been very aware of the need to cut costs and at the same time, to try wherever we can to make a little profit. To this end there was less major expenditure during 2005, although there have still been necessary improvements such as the repair of the drains, work on the electrical installation required as a result of the necessary inspection carried out. Carpet cleaning and floor sealing was carried out. A bingo machine and a new lawn mower were purchased and plaques commemorating 2 of our past members were placed on the trees in the front garden. Also our borders were planted up and looked lovely during the summer and Autumn months cared for by our faithful gardeners. This also helps encourage members to sit outside on warm summer evenings.

Every effort has been made by the Committee to inject some interest in the club, via our tapestry entries, our website which as I said before, is updated regularly by Phil. Circulars have been delivered to every Teston household via the tapestry and we are in the process of doing a leaflet drop to the new housing estates in Wateringbury.

Our entertainments committee has planned a budgeted year for 2006 with a very full, but less expensive list of events. All these events have proved in the past to be both enjoyable and well attended, so we hope you will all support these evenings as before. Our members hold Whist drives on Monday nights and a Bridge club on Thursday nights.

Recently we introduced hot food, via a lazer oven and already this is proving popular with some members. I am told that the bagettes and burgers are very tasty.

We are hoping to erect a pub type sign outside the club as we feel there are some newcomers to the village who still do not know that this is a club. It is hoped that the sign will be illuminated from the ground and if we have any artists amongst us who have ideas regarding a design would they please do a sketch and submit it to the committee for consideration at the next monthly meeting.

During the year we had numerous communications from a couple of members regarding smoking in the club. We duly arranged for questionnaires to be completed and club members voted for no change in our current arrangements. Of course all that is now irrelevant, as we shall have to comply with the new no smoking law as from the summer of 2007. Well at least it's made two members very happy.

Membership numbers are slightly up on last year when we had 291 total membership. New members in 2005 were 35 and 29 members did not renew, making the overall membership as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2006 – 297 that is 6 up on last year. Out of the 35 new members gained in 2005, 17, that is over half, became Seniors this year. The final breakdown of our overall membership of 297 is, 138 full members, 3 country members, 26 Life members and 130 Senior members.

Also during 2005 we had to apply for the new Premises Licence Certificate, under the Licensing Act 2003. This is, in effect a substitute for the old Club Registration Certificate, the difference being that we shall have to pay an annual fee instead of a 5 yearly fee. As directed the Summary of the Certificate is displayed on the wall by the bar. We made no changes when applying for the new license but the application was lengthy and I would like to thank Peter for his help in sifting through the forms.

Lastly, I would like to thank Dave for all his help in keeping me computer literate and thank you all for listening.

Thank you – Bon Playford

The Secretary's report was proposed by Rod Thornton, seconded by Steve Worcester and carried unanimously.

### **TREASURERS REPORT.**

Treasurers Report for Year ending 31.12.05

Good Evening, I can report, as usual our books have been audited, nothing untoward found and the figures I am going to talk about are, in our auditors opinion, a true reflection of the club's financial position. A draft copy of the years results have been on the notice board for the last week, so some of you are already warned.

Financially it has not been a good year, not all bad but I have to report we ended with a loss of £4,420.00. Last year we had a surplus of £3897.00. The committee controlled our expenditure with diligence, I was asked at every meeting the same question "can we afford it", and nothing was spent unless it was essential or considered cost effective and would assist in maintaining or encouraging trade. We did have a non routine but essential electrical work carried out costing £1,340.00 and we did have to sort out the drainage from our loos in the other bar at a cost of £900.00, all other expenditure was as expected.

Income:-

The bar traded very well, there was a slight downturn in volume but with careful pricing and good shopping we managed a better return than I had calculated for, up on last year by £3111.00. In the past it was the case that I priced everything we sold with the same percentage mark up, this and for reasons that will become obvious I have now slightly changed and there is an element of comparison

work done. Regardless of this, currently I think we still manage to offer the membership good value for money.

The problem is our income from the fruit machines, there has been a gradual decline in previous years, but this last year it became a serious down turn of £9840.00 from 2004.

We cannot any longer hope the situation will improve, it must be addressed, if the take from the machines remains at the current level and I see no reason for it to change, we must either cut costs or increase our take from the bar to avoid annual losses.

I must point out that for the bar to generate the funds at current prices to cover the current 'loss' from the machines we would have to increase turnover by approximately £20,000.00, nearly 40%.

This is a difficult task, we are a small club with limited facilities, we compete against the good local pub/restaurant trade, which in the main are now free from the shackles of the breweries and have the freedom to purchase at market prices, making it difficult for us with our low turnover to maintain the what was traditional price differential.

I know that to increase prices to clear the loss is a non starter, so I will conclude my report by stating that I do not believe we will be able to completely reverse the current financial position quickly, the committee's task next year will be to run a tight ship, to minimise the loss and to continue with their initiatives, to increase trade.

I do not want to take up any more of your drinking time, I think I have covered the important points. If anybody has any questions regarding the accounts I will do my best to answer them, either now or after the meeting.

Thank you for your attention – Bob Harker.

At this point the Treasurer asked if there were any questions regarding his report. Some members asked questions:-

Q – What is the reason for our present financial state.

A - The fruit machines have not made so much money, as we just do not have the amount of punters that we used to have.

Q – Do we really need two fruit machines, regarding the cost of hire.

A – Yes we do need these as we would be worse off with just one. Historically the machines have been most lucrative and although they are still making a profit, there has been a downturn in revenue from them, without them we probably would not survive.

Q - How long before our situation becomes untenable.

A – We have £15,500 on deposit at the moment, if we continue to make similar losses in the future – it is easily worked out as to how long we could survive.

The Treasurer re-iterated that the Committee will do their best to turn the current trend around this year.

The Treasurer's report was proposed by Roy Jepson, seconded by Trevor Sidley and carried unanimously.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The nominee for the position of club officers are as follows:-

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NOMINEE</b>	<b>PROPOSER</b>	<b>SECONDER</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>B. Playford</b>	<b>V. Williams</b>	<b>T. Smith</b>
<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	<b>J. Wood</b>	<b>M. Morgan</b>	<b>A. J. Roser</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>B. Harker</b>	<b>V. Williams</b>	<b>H. Hughes</b>

As there were no other nominees members were voted in en bloc unanimously.

### **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE**

The nominee of committee members are as follows:-

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>S. Worcester</b>	<b>V. Williams</b>	<b>M. Morgan</b>
	<b>P. Bond</b>	<b>V. Williams</b>	<b>T. Morgan</b>
	<b>R. Thornton</b>	<b>V. Williams</b>	<b>S. Worcester</b>
	<b>N. Wood</b>	<b>J. Wood</b>	<b>S. Morgan</b>

As there were no other nominees members were voted in en bloc unanimously.

## **HONORARIA**

Our Chairman asked the Secretary and Treasurer if the amount of honoraria was acceptable and both agreed they were happy with this.

It was therefore proposed that the Honoraria remain the same as last year seconded and carried unanimously.

## **ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jim Wood re-iterated previous comments from the Secretary and Treasurer, that the main aim for 2006 was to provide good entertainment at less expense and the Entertainments Committee has achieved this with their 2006 programme. This will cost some £700 less than last year. There will be more bingos, quizzes

and race nights and some mini function evenings of bingos, karaoke etc. Cutting down on more expensive bands, duos and discos. Having said that, there will be a band on New Years Eve, The Tour. It was agreed that it warranted splashing out more on that particular evening as it was always well attended and enjoyed by everyone.

Jim also wished to thank Rod and Phil for their great posters and Vicki and Ronnie for their help during 2005. Also a big thank you to the ladies who have provided food, throughout the year.

Please note that the function programmed for 18<sup>th</sup> March will be carried over to the following Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> as it clashes with the Testonites review.

### **PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES**

There were no trophies to present at this juncture

### **PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED BUSINESS**

There was no previously notified business.

The Chairman then gave a few words of thanks and closed the meeting at 8.55 p.m.