

TESTON CLUB A.G.M. 27th February 2009

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING ADDRESS

To follow

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Peter also welcomed everyone to the meeting and duly read out tributes to those members who had passed away during 2008 and a minute silence was held in their honour. He then read out the apologies for absence.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Tony Edwards and Rick Williams

ADOPTION OF 2008 MINUTES

The President proceeded to say that he may be accused of nit picking but as there was no agenda posted on the notice board and that the 2008 AGM minutes were left on the table by the front door, along with the monthly minutes, instead of pinned to the notice board, he didn't feel that he could ask the members to adopt last year's minutes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

During 2008 your Committee was very much aware of the club's precarious financial position. The same position unfortunately that many other larger clubs and pubs have found themselves in. The need to bring new people into the club as well as to look after our existing members and to keep costs at an absolute minimum, have been our paramount objectives.

In an effort to encourage new people we have promoted the club in local village magazines. As well as our own monthly Tapestry entries and notices of special events, we now have monthly entries in the Rostrum and quarterly entries in the Barming News. Our blackboards inside and outside the club promote forthcoming events and also last minute events. During the year one of our members, Tim McGloughlin, drafted and printed a leaflet about the club and its objectives. He also helped deliver it, bringing Teston Club to all the houses in the village. Many thanks to Tim and Karen.

A further promotion has been introduced which is to offer Corporate memberships to clubs, groups and companies and Teston Cricket Club is now a corporate member. Also we are encouraging members to use the club premises for parties. Of course these would need to be arranged with prior notification and approval of the Committee, but we have had 4 or 5 gatherings during the year which have helped to boost our income.

Our cost cutting has seen our Entertainments committee being especially vigilant in organising cost effective events throughout the year to the extent of being virtually self funding. This I think you will agree is no mean feat when you think our budget a couple of years ago was something in the region of £2,000 to £2,500. So a big thank you to Ronnie, Nicky and Karen for some great, less expensive, entertainment during 2008.

Also our finances have been audited by Tony Edwards and Trevor Sidley, which has saved us approximately £3,000 and Rod has once again maintained our club building, both these services have been completely free for which we are truly indebted to them.

We also need to thank our volunteer bar staff, Trevor, Jim and Terry for manning the bar on at least 2 evenings and some Saturday lunch times, this together with closing on Mondays has been a great saving.

Our cleaning is now done by volunteers and we need to thank Bridget, Diane and Ronnie with help as and when required from Rick who is always there on a Sunday to help clear up after functions.

Finally, your committee has had a meeting with the Parish Council who have been most helpful with ideas on saving. Some of which will be pursued in the coming months.

With regard to membership figures we had 50 new members during 2008 with 68 members not renewing as at 31st January 2009. Consequently our membership now stands at 261, a drop of 17 on 2008. Our new membership is made up as follows 130 full members, 3 country members, 104 senior members and 24 life members. The good news is that I can tell you we had 17 members applications passed at our meeting on the 6th February so already we are back up to last years figures.

On a personal note I shall be standing down as Secretary as from today. I will not be accepting an honorarium for 2008 should it be offered, although I think given our circumstances this will not be the case. I would just like to say thank you to my fellow committee members for their help and support over the past six years and for all their hard work over the past year. I wish them all the best for the future of our club. Thank you to Dave for his computer skills without which I would not have been able to do the job at all.

Finally although our financial situation is not ideal, my own feeling and that of my fellow committee members is one of optimism and with your help I am sure we can keep our club going for present members and for future generations.

Thank you all for listening.
Bon Playford - Secretary.

The President asked if there were any questions of the Secretary's Report, and there were none.

TREASURERS REPORT.

To follow

Bob Harker - Treasurer

The President then said that as the balance sheets were not displayed on the board as the rules set out then he could not ask for a vote on the Treasurer's report.

There were some questions from members:- Mr. Underhay asked if the £2,000 transferred from the deposit account to the current account would be repaid to the deposit account if the club's finances continued to build up. The Treasurer said that he did not think this would be the case. The President then asked if Mr. Sidley had anything to add, as he was involved in the audit of the accounts for 2007. Mr. Sidley said that he was concerned at the length of time he and Mr. Edwards had had to wait for the books. He proceeded to outline the sequence of events leading up to the present time when through no fault of their own, he and Mr. Edwards had been unable to finalise the audit. He proposed that a Special General Meeting be held on 17th April 2009, when he, Mr. Edwards and the Treasurer will be able to submit accounts. This proposal was seconded by Mr. Underhay and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSER	SECONDER
SECRETARY	K. Worcester	R. Thornton	R. Williams
CHAIRMAN	J. Wood	P. Bond	R. Thornton
TREASURER	B. Harker	P. Bond	T. Vince

The President said he was unhappy about the nomination of K. Worcester for the position of Secretary on the grounds that she would be too young to take on this position and that it called for someone more experienced. His opinion of the situation was that when he had held the post many years previously it was viewed as a position of head of the committee, a lynch pin and leader as it were. It was pointed out from various members that this post had evolved over the past ten years with three past secretaries and there is no one member in control, but the elected committee decide on all issues as per the rules of the club. Kayleigh Worcester's father, Steve Worcester a member of the Committee assured members that his daughter would not be standing alone in this post, at the club or at home and would have his full support. T. Sidley also offered his support.

The President then called for a show of hands for the proposal by R. Thornton seconded by R. Williams that K. Worcester should become Secretary. This proposal was carried by a large majority.

The President then called for the re-instatement of tried and trusted members J. Wood as Chairman and B. Harker as Treasurer, proposed and seconded as above. By a show of hands these nominations were carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The nominee of committee members are as follows:-

MEMBERS	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
	T. Smith	P. Bond	T. Vince
	R. Pullen	P. Bond	T. Vince
	K. Loughlin	P. Bond	N. Wood
	S. Worcester	P. Bond	N. Wood

As there were no other nominees, the President proposed that members should be voted in en bloc, this was carried unanimously.

HONORARIA

The Treasurer asked that the honoraria be passed over this year. As the Secretary had said in her report that she did not intend to take an honoraria, the Treasurer was of the same mind, but warned that this may need to change in future years.

ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Ronnie thanked her fellow entertainments committee members for their help during last year and everyone who had contributed to the events and functions. She said that most of what she wanted to say had already been said but assured the members that she would continue to organise events in the same vein as last year, i.e. varied events at less expense.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

Peter said that the Teston Club Golf Society has had a good year and would award two Trophies as follows:-

Singles Golf Trophy – Henry Hughes
Pairs Golf Trophy – John Jarrett and Chris Murkin

PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED BUSINESS

The President re-iterated that as there was no agenda posted on the board there was no previously notified business, but he would accept questions provided they were brief and to the point.

A member said that he understood that the fruit machines were to be reduced to one, but asked if machines were changed regularly. The Treasurer assured him that machines were regularly changed and would continue to be so.

A member asked which brewers were used and the Treasurer answered In Brew and Scottish and Newcastle and that alternatives were considered regularly.

The President then reminded the members that unfinished business, particularly the audit of the 2007 and 2008 books, would be addressed at the Special General Meeting to be held on 17th April 2009 at 8pm.

The President prepared to close the meeting but the Chairman then thanked the outgoing Secretary for her valuable work during the past six years and presented her with a card and present from the Committee, thanking her for her dedication. The Secretary thanked the committee for their kind thoughts, she re-iterated what had been expressed by several members that her job had evolved over the years since the President held the post. She felt that the incoming Secretary would be fine and wished her the very best of luck.

The meeting was then closed at approximately 9.20pm