



**LINCOLN ARCHERS
AGM
5th April 2023 @ 19.15
Washingborough Pavillion**

Minutes

Attendees:

Ian Prescott (IP) – Chair
Nicki Clarkson (NC) – Club Secretary
Dave Clarkson (DC) – Treasurer and Membership Secretary
Mike Croft (MC)
Denis Robson (DR)
Peter Wade (PW)
Jamie Plummer (JP)
Andrew Plummer (AP)

Apologies

Paul Dunning (PD)

1. Minutes of last AGM

- All agreed and minutes accepted as true record and signed off

2. Matters Arising

- Nothing arising from previous AGM's minutes

3. Reports

3.1 Chair

- IP – Mine will be brief, as you know I've had very little to do with the club over the last few years and as I'm letting you know now it is my last year and I'm no longer going to stand for Chairman. I feel I can't give it the effort it requires and it needs someone else to take it on and take it to the next step if possible. I feel it slipping, rightly or wrongly I'm lacking in enthusiasm so it's not getting my best attention so I will be looking for a replacement. I won't leave you in the lurch and if we can't get a volunteer tonight, obviously only a few of us here tonight, it will have to go out, I will not leave it unattended as obviously the club cannot run with it. In our constitution we've got to have a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer are the three members we

do need at all times, the rest of the voluntary positions don't actually need to run, but the top three we have to have in place at all times, and I won't see it unattended and see the club fold as that is what would happen if we can't get a replacement. But I will be stepping down as chair and I'd like to thank everybody, and I do mean everybody, it's not just the committee members who've worked hard as well, but it's everybody whose turned up to shoot, helped set up, keep the club going as I've not been there. On the beginners side, DR and PW, I know they've been struggling as we've not got an organiser so struggling to get beginners through as they should do, so the club needs a lot of work unfortunately to catch up, we are struggling at the moment, lack of volunteers unfortunately on some points, other than that just want to thank everybody whose taken a role, whether it's a small or big role in keeping this club going. It's been hard times with Covid, we all know that, it's not been easy, and we've got to think of ways of maybe trying to make it easier for people to get to us in some way or another. Whether it means relaxing a little but what we're doing, I don't know, this is something we need to discuss tonight – it will be my last meeting to be chairing so I'd hopefully like to leave it in a forward motion and thank you.

DR – Appreciated all of Ian's efforts

IP – Not 100% sure think I took over in 2002 or 2003 so 20 years or thereabouts

*IP is also standing down as the club Tournament Organiser and Equipment Officer

3.2 **Secretary**

- NC – Another quiet year, predominantly because the beginners course has spent most of the year closed, but there is an appetite out there for the number of people who want to do archery. The number of people I'm having to turn away because the course is closed and the list is closed on the website, but there is an appetite out there and I don't know if it's the Covid factor or people are just looking for a new interest but there is a lot of interest out there. We're something around the 40ish mark on a 90+ waiting list so we've got a lot of people to get through and there's absolutely a lot of appetite out there. I know we're going to get to it because one of the vacant positions is the Beginners Course Organiser but MC emailed and said he'd be interested in taking it on again, which means we'll be able to open it and be able to get the numbers coming back through
- IP – That's very good news, as obviously that's then going to bring in more members to the club automatically even if only 50% take up from the beginners course. It's surprising as we normally get more than that who join the club after the beginners course and that will start to swell numbers as we need new people coming in. We've got to have new faces, new blood, to keep the club moving forward.
- DR – Very good news

3.3 **Treasurer – (see Appendix A below) and Membership combined**

- DC – Not a quiet job for me and the job is made more difficult as to be blunt people aren't following the rules. The majority of people are, which is you pay on the day either during the session or after – not before as we don't want payments in advance and you book on Picktime. This time last year someone was controlling Picktime and someone

was marking those attending as complete, unfortunately that's not happening, so I've got to go through trying to match payments to bookings. Yet even when I go back as far as April, May, June 2022 even when it's marked as confirmed there's not necessarily a corresponding payment so that throws that into disrepute. Picktime is a good system, we must have a list of attendees for every session, it is a requirement. It wasn't difficult pre Covid when I was stood there with a cash box.

- Income –
Membership fees from the current year £534

Target fees £2499 (back to the day after last AGM 17th Feb 22)

Competition Income £0 as not yet finalised

Beginners Course Fees £1120 (thank you DR and PW) – that could have been a lot more because as NC said as PD had to step down due to pressures of work DR has managed to get a few people trickling through which is good but if we'd got through the waiting list, or half of it, we'd have had a lot more.

LCAS Coaching 19th Feb 22 - £78 for Boss Hire and £160 for Dean's rental

Total Income £4391.00

Expenditure –

Yarborough Hire Fee - £4100
Deans Hire Fee - £500
Deans Storage - £163
Washingborough 22-23 - £432
Equipment Purchases - £337.62
Zurich Insurance - £540.59

Total Expenditure £6073.21

Other creditors –

Custom Built Archery - £73
AGB - £8
LCAS and EMAS - £120
Washingborough 23-24 - £432

Income versus Expenditure = Minus £2315.21

Good news is we're still solvent, but we are going down,

- 59 members, a few more than last year but pre Covid we had 107 members and a lot turned up on Sunday's. Not sure message is getting out to members what system is so thinking of setting up a welcome email and reminding parents that juniors not just need to be accompanied but that parent/guardian/adult needs to book in on the visits. Easy done and I'll get that done and get NC to send it out or send it to new members

Washingborough – Fees have gone down £432 for the period 1.4.22 – 31.3.23 so expecting a bill via IP shortly. Washingborough have changed their charging, before we use to pay for the field and Pavillion, now each field is a separate charge so we now the field outside the Pavillion what is classed by the Parish Council as the small field. If we'd paid for both fields it would be crippling.

IP – we don't need both fields, we've not used both for years – think we've only ever used both once for the Thorsby Trophy

JP – last time we used the other field was when they had the big community fair.

IP – That's a different thing but they'd still only bill us for one field. Costs are for a year so nothing stopping you using the field for all year round.

4. **Election of Officers**

4.1 Elected Positions

Committee Position	2023/24	Proposed	Seconded	Carried on Vote
Chair	Mike Croft	Nicki Clarkson	Ian Prescott	Yes
Secretary	Nicki Clarkson	Ian Prescott	Jamie Plummer	Yes
Treasurer and Membership Secretary	David Clarkson *	Ian Prescott	Jamie Plummer	Yes

*DC confirmed he'll continue for another year but it is starting to get time consuming and more difficult to tie things up

5. **Volunteer Positions**

Position	2022/23
Junior Representative	Harry Grimshaw * Nominated by DR
Beginners Course Organiser	Mike Croft
Webmaster	Paul Dunning
Equipment Officer	Denis Robson / Peter Wade
Child Protection Officer	Paul Dunning
Records Officer	Jamie Plummer

6. **Auditors and Trustee**

Auditor – the club will continue to be self-audited as there are still two approvals needed for any payment or money leaving the clubs accounts.

Trustees –

Paul Dunning – one year remaining
Jamie Plummer – two years remaining

7. **Subscription and Target Fees for next year**

- IP – As you all heard we have a shortfall and have had for 3 years now
- DC – yes, the first year was Covid related
- IP – I know it's been exceptional circumstances but we can't keep going on like this, there's no way the club can keep chipping away or eventually you're going to end up with nothing, and not something the club would relish. We do have commitments on the field, containers if they need replacing as they are owned by us not the Parish Council, so if it gets to the point where we have to replace one at some point it has to come out of our funds so we do need a nucleus. Not saying we need £8,000 like we've got, we're still in a healthy position, but it's better to do a little bit now than leave it to the last minute and have to increase by doubling everything to cover what's needed. So not saying a lot but even if we start with 50p per fee and a little on the subscriptions. I know it's going to be hard as I know times aren't good for everybody but if we need the club to keep going then this is what we need to look at unfortunately
- MC – LCAS are reducing their fees by 10% for 23/24 so it might not be as bad for archers but I know it seems bad. Reduce is circa 90p.
- DC – LCAS is £7 and EMAS is £5 LA is £13 and the rest is AGB which is disgusting and they'll put their fees up. Yarbrough have put their fees up every year that I've been treasurer
- NC/IP – they always put it up by inflation
- DC – so we're going to see a big jump
- NC – The cost of living crisis everything has gone up, gas, electricity, water, petrol, food etc. As a proposal 50p on targets fees wef 1st May 2023 and from the next membership year, bearing in mind we've not changed our fees since 2008 (they came down from £14.50 as we cushioned one of the AGB increases) and on the basis we're half way through the membership year, and we've not increased them, and then beginners course is about to restart and we've got a lot of people on the waiting list and a lot more than want to join it, how does everyone feel about a £2 increase on the membership fees?
- DC – so for seniors it puts ours up to £15
- IP – so it's only a little bit but don't forget you'll have a little but more as AGB will be putting theirs up I'd guarantee
- NC – They've already said they are but haven't said by how much, think it's the end of this month they're going to confirm what they will be
- IP – how does everyone feel about this? I know it's been a tough year and would have been nice to have had some of the family members here with children as obviously that means it's a bit of an increase for them. But at the end of the day it hasn't gone up for a long time
- DR – I think if it's explained people will accept that

- IP – It's not going to critically impact I would hope but obviously if people are really struggling maybe they should come and have a word with us but I agree and increase target fees by 50p and £2 on club membership and AGB on top
- All agreed - Membership fees to increase by £2 in each category for the new membership year from 1st October 2023 and target fees to increase by 50 pence in all categories with effect from 1st May 2023
- DC – Visitors fees, we don't get many, but at current rate the club will still be subsidising and on Tuesday's at more than 50% and sometimes at 100%. I don't think it's fair on the members to just charge a visitor an extra £1
- IP – It's a difficult one, we don't get many, we used to get a regular supply at one time, as used to have members from other clubs at Uni but told them it was cheaper to join the club than pay the extra
- DC – we do have 3 club members from the Uni Society
- NC – if we're going to put our target fees up by 50P why don't we increase visitors to £4 (senior visitor)
- JP – think £1 is reasonable as I shoot with Newark as a paid associate and they charge their visitors £1 more than their members
- IP - £1 above and do you know how much they charges
- JP – think visitors it's £4 or £5
- NC – Sleaford is £5 as I was on their website the other day
- IP – let's do the same then and put our visitors fee to £5 if that's a fairly standard fee
- NC - £5 rings a bell from when people were shooting with Newark Castle
- All agreed to increase to £5
- Agreed that any increase or changes in fees for AGB, LCAS and EMAS (either all or any) would be passed to club members for 2023/24

8. Indoor Venues Winter 2022/23

- NC - We only have Yarborough as an indoor venue following changes at Deans and them no longer being able to support/accommodate Archery. In line with Yarborough's booking process NC has booked the club's sessions for the winter 2023/24 season to ensure we continue to have these – there's no financial impact on the club at this time and if we decide not to use Yarborough we can cancel without any financial impact one month prior to the bookings starting.
- IP – We've got no choice unless someone can come up with another venue which is hard

9. Diary

- 16th April 2023 – Denis Robson and Peter Wade supervising the Disabled Rotary Games (Archery Rules of Shooting apply)
- May – County Coaching dates

- JP – asked IP if LCAS could use the field to organise the WA (May) and FITA (August) IP – Revenue to the club and no objections but need to know dates as it needs to be booked with the Parish Council and they may be pushing it to get it registered with AGB as think it needs to be registered 6 months prior to the date but if AGB want it to go ahead that goes out of the window. The fields there, the equipments there, but not just a bit of paperwork and need to organising everything, food for the judges etc NC – maybe it's a case of not this year but plan for next year
 - IP – may struggle for May but may get the August one
 - JP – demand for those kind of shoots is as high as it's ever been
 - MC – they may struggle for May because of County Coaching but we can feed back
 - IP – the field's there, yes we will charge obviously, boss hire etc

10. Any other business

- **2022 Rotary Games** – DR summarised the Games from last year – 46 people took part, mainly people with physical disabilities, 1 young man scored 49 points with 6 arrows and DR and PW got several plaudits for taking part
- **Picktime** – IP asked if Picktime was stopping us from being more open turning it into a planned event rather than “I'll go shoot”? It was brought in because of Covid rules and we had to have it and I understand that we needed a different method because of what was going on but things are relaxing now and people are much more open with how they live life now – maybe it's trying a different method I don't know something we need to discuss. Do we try and make it a little more open?

There was a lot of discussion and debate and we will trial removing Picktime and reverting to sign in sheets on the day for both those shooting and those attending as a non-shooter e.g. parent/guardian accompanying a junior but everyone must sign in as we must have a list of who attended each shoot but remain with target fees being paid by bank transfer – date for this move to be confirmed once sign in sheets are ready and at Washingborough and will be notified to all club members via club email

- **County After Beginner Events** – IP good ideas NC – Asked MC to feed back to LCAS Secretary that maybe the timeline for this since ending beginners course might not be right as if you think back a lot of people finished a beginners course before Covid and the couldn't shoot, came back and outside the window for the course but still need it so if the window was extended might get a lot more interest
- **Dan Godfrey Fun Shoot** – DR and PW attended Dan Godfrey's funeral who was very keen on field shooting. We have 3D animals in the containers and Dan's idea was to have one Sunday as a field shoot. DR asked to resurrect this in Dan's memory with a

couple of prospective dates in the middle of the season to avoid it being cancelled due to the weather. All agreed as it was good to have different archery.

- **Pavillion** – DC raised the email from the Parish Council about the property being left open and the fine confirming this had been sent out to all members
- **Setting up the range** – MC raised that we need to change our culture of setting the range up and encouraging people how we set up and having some instructions. Personal experience and for other members quite frustrating being the only one setting up the range while other people are setting their bows up.
NC – we've tried many times
IP – Can't remember how many times we've had an issue with this. Ever since I've been a club member back in 1998 this has always raised it's head and you'll always get the few that do, those that turn up a few minutes later and leave a few minutes early, it's a hard one. At one point we said that nobody was allowed to set up their bow until the range was set up but it's drifted away again.
MC – Tuesday's are a bit more rogue but on Sunday's been trying to encourage it. Suggested a board that people write their distance on so we know what we're setting up and changing then mind set to get involved
IP – You'll always get the few that sit there and wait
MC – if we can reduce that number
NC – Why don't you build it into the beginners course so their very first session after that the first period of time at the session shows them this is how we set up, these are the jobs that need doing and this is what you need to get involved in as a brand new club member
IP – helped a little when we said no one could set up their box until the range was set up and helped get some more people involved but it is a difficulty one to keep on top of
DC – the other thing we did at Yarborough when people were packing up we asked them to pack their boss away and "shamed" them into it. I've shouted out asking that when the only committee member.
IP – it's an ongoing thing but you feel like you're always being the bad one. Last time I was at Yarborough was surprised by how many people helped
MC – think it's down to knowledge as NC said and the beginners course and confidence and not knowing what their doing
NC – pair them up with an existing member who knows what they're doing so that way they also get to know the other members and breaks those barriers down so they'll ask but someone knows who they are and can ask for them to give them a hand
DC – and getting across it's a self help club and we don't employ people to do it and Yarborough certainly don't do it for us so it's self help
- **Organising Coaching** – MC raised organising this a bit as new Level 1 coach and don't mind helping out

NC – question has been raised recently about where all the coaches are as without DR and PW who do the beginners course but other coaches aren't visible and don't help and without DR and PW the beginners that have been through in the last 6-12 months wouldn't have been

IP – Coaches are dropping out rapidly – LCAS have lost circa half their coaches

MC – wasn't sure if it was just a Sunday thing

IP – Coaching goes on all the time and still enjoy the coaching and we've organised sessions in the Pavilion for basic bow set up, tuning etc

Coaches are – IP, DR, PW, MC and PD

MC – LCAS are looking for more coaches

- **Competition Terminology** – NC raised that as a beginner struggled with the terminology around competitions, WA, FITA etc maybe once a month we look at a mock competition within the club to make people aware of what each competition is, what the terminology is, give it a go and potentially encourage more club members to go into the competition circuit

MC – Was speaking to JP as be good to see more of our club shirts in the room

JP – also pointing out that not every competition needs to be the distance and you can ask the organisers for a shorter distance

IP – I used to do that even for a record status shoot, they just didn't shoot as a record status

JP – just think some members might see WA70, 70 meters, or 50 or 1440 and think too long

NC – but definitely the one thing I struggled with, I didn't understand the terminology and didn't know what any of it meant

IP – AGB only ever produced it once but they did a laminated sheet that came with your magazine or membership that had all the shoot on, WA on one side and British rounds on the other, age groups, distance it was, how many arrows.

NC – something for us to think about, help to integrate the beginners and help break down those barriers but also continues from the beginners course into the world of archery bridging the gap

JP – good idea

MC – Think we need to do that and maybe have some experienced shorts shoot in the middle of the line

Appendix A - Treasurer's Report (see below)

Lincoln Archers Summary of Accounts
As at 5 Apr 23