

**MINUTES OF A CRICKET WALES AGM HELD AT 7-00pm ON MONDAY 25th OCTOBER 2021**

**BY TELECONFERENCE**

**Present: Rod Jones (RJ) (Chair); Jennifer Owen Adams (JOA); Tony Moss (TM); Leshia Hawkins (CEO); Colin John (CJ); Hugh Morris (HM); Sue Phelps (SP); Richard Penney (RP); Huw Morgan (DHM); Sian Webber (SW); Gareth Lanagan (GL); Richard Penney (RP); Kerry Lloyd (KL); Mark Frost (MF); Matt Thompson (MT); Ieuan Watkins (IW); Andrew Fairbairn (AF); Paul Morgan; Peter Williams; Robin Varley; Sue Wells; Mark White:**

1. **Welcome from Chair:** RJ welcomed all to the meeting, his last as Chair of Cricket Wales.
2. **Apologies for absence:**  Apologies for absence were received from Martin Jones and Meilyr Harries.
3. **Approval of minutes of Cricket Wales AGM held on 20th September 2020:** The minutes of the 20th September 2020 AGM meeting (distributed previously) were accepted as a true record and were signed accordingly by the Chair.
4. **In memoriam:** The Chair asked all to reflect on those we have lost this year:

Jeff Bird – Cowbridge CC, Director of Cricket Wales and former committee member of Glamorgan CCC

David Williams – Pembroke CC

Michael Scourfield and Tony Pidgeon – Carew CC

Maqsood Anwar – Sully Centurions CC

1. **Chair’s Report:** RJ reflected on some of the success stories during his time as Chair.

**5.1.** RJ said that Safeguarding had now become a focal point in all Cricket Wales activities and praised the work of IW and his team.

**5.2.** RJ commented that the continuing development of a robust governance structure was something he and the Board were very proud of, and the positive feedback from ECB and Sport Wales was testament to this work.

**5.3.** RJ said that the relationship between Cricket Wales and Glamorgan CC which, having gone through some difficult times was now as good as it has ever been. A view expressed by both parties who now fully recognise the Value of working closely with each other to the benefit of cricket in Wales.

**5.4.** RJ expressed his admiration of the reach and numbers of the various national programmes such as All Stars, Dynamos and Women & Girls. He also congratulated the Wales National Counties team on its progress and achievements during the past season.

**5.5.** RJ thanked LH for guiding the company through a very difficult year and her staff and the volunteer network for their fantastic work and continued commitment to Cricket Wales.

**5.6.** Finally, RJ expressed his gratitude to our funding partners, ECB, Sport Wales and Chance to Shine for their continued support.

**5.7.** Paul Morgan of SWPL said that he would like to congratulate RJ on his achievements throughout his tenue as Chair saying that the support received by the SWPL and its’ clubs had been truly outstanding during challenging times. Similar sentiments were expressed by Peter Williams (WACO) and Robin Varley (WWCC).

1. **Chief Executive Officer’s Report:** Prior to the meeting LH had distributed a copy of her CEO report.

**6.1.** LH said that while her report was taken as read, she would like to express how proud she was of the Board, her staff, and the volunteer network in what has been achieved this year in the face of unprecedented challenges. LH also thanked our funding partners for their continued support during these difficult economic times.

**6.2**. LH reiterated the 5 pillars of the new strategy and stated that, while the aims of the Inspiring Generations were those of growth, especially junior activity and women’s and girls’ cricket, Cricket Wales recognises the need to continue to sustain core adult Saturday league cricket and ensure there are sufficient volunteers, coaches and officials to support the growth in playing numbers.

**6.3**. LH thanked the Board members for their support and how she had enjoyed her close working relationship with RJ during these challenging times. LH also thanked club, league and association volunteers for keeping the game going under coronavirus conditions and their commitment to the game, which has allowed the sport to be played more, and grow more than any of the other major team sports in Wales over the last 18 months.

1. **Finance and Accounts:** Prior to the meeting, CJ had distributed a copy of the Audited accounts for year ending 31st March 2021.

**7.1** CJ gave a verbal summary of the figures and an explanation of the challenges faced by not being able to spend a significant amount of the £1.5m income from our funding partners due to the impact on activities of the on-going pandemic. He expressed his gratitude to our funding partners in allowing us to defer £0.5m of this year’s income, and also the fact that it had been possible to benefit from the Government’s furlough scheme to safeguard staff roles. These unique set of circumstances had resulted in a surplus of £188k (prior Year £29k) and an increase in reserves from £234k to £423k.

**7.2**. CJ said that the legacy of the pandemic and the potential changes to future funding will mean that the additional reserves are likely be required to support any future reductions in funding levels.

**7.3.** The proposal to re-appoint Azets Auditors (formally known as Baldwins) for the 2021/22 financial year was accepted.

1. **Ratification of appointment of Chair of Cricket Wales:**

**8.1.** RJ asked AF to confirm the results of the votes cast for the position of Chair of Cricket Wales. AF confirmed that the nomination of Jennifer Owen Adams had been unanimously carried. RJ congratulated JOA on her appointment.

1. **Ratification of new Board Directors for Cricket Wales:**

**9.1.** RP gave a brief explanation of the process involved in the newly formed Nominations Committee arriving at its final shortlist of candidates for the vacant positions on the Cricket Wales Board.

**9.2.** RJ asked AF to confirm the results of the votes cast for the 6 candidates. AF confirmed the results as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| Sue Phelps | Majority vote in favour |
| Tony Moss | Unanimous vote in favour |
| Gethin Jenkins | Majority vote in favour |
| Dr Tim Masters | Unanimous vote in favour |
| Dr Samara Afzal | Majority vote in favour |
| Gareth Rees | Unanimous vote in favour |
|  |  |

**9.3.** RJ offered his congratulations to all the newly appointed Directors.

1. **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:**

**10.1.** MF gave a verbal report using a video presentation to highlight the work to date in this area and how we are working with Glamorgan CCC on projects involving Diverse Communities, Women’s & Girls’ Cricket, Disability Cricket and Deprived Communities.

1. **ECB Presentation:** AF gave a brief verbal presentation which gave an insight in to how the ECB views the work being carried out by Cricket Wales.

**11.1.** AF thanked the volunteers within Wales for their support in growing the game in Wales. He also thanked the clubs for their efforts especially in the area of Women’s and Girls’ cricket where the growth has been exceptional. He commented on the work of the groundstaff and officials throughout the game as well as the work of the Senior and Junior Leagues.

**11.2.** AF said that the Board of ECB was very impressed with the progress being made by Cricket Wales in the areas of Safeguarding and Governance as well as its performance in delivering national programmes stating that Cricket Wales were currently held up as a ‘beacons for best practice’ at ECB.

**11.3.** AF commented on the success of the joint strategy between Cricket Wales and Glamorgan CCC particularly in respect of EDI Planning, Facilities Planning, support of the Hundred and the Communities Programme.

**11.4**. Finally, AF thanked the Cricket Wales management team and the Board for their support with a special thanks and best wishes to RJ as his term of office comes to an end.

1. **Innovation Groups:** MF gave a brief presentation to explain the role and aims of the proposed new Senior and Junior Innovation Groups and how they will support the Board and Executive of Cricket Wales.
2. **AOB:**

**13.1.** Paul Morgan (SWPL) said that the election of new Board members had been difficult because the voting bodies did not know some of the candidates apart from the written biography. Peter Williams said that this was the reason there were some abstentions on the voting papers. Paul Morgan said he would therefore like to extend and invitation to JOA and the new Board members to attend some SWPL games on an accompanied basis to help us engage together. RJ said that this was a good suggestion because connectivity to the Board had always been a topic of conversation throughout his tenure as Chair. JOA agreed and thanked Paul Morgan for the invitation.

 **The meeting closed at 8-05pm**

SIGNED: Date:

**Chair Cricket Wales**