

**NORTH DOWN PÉTANQUE CLUB  
MINUTES OF THE 14<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2006  
AT PICKIE BOWLING CLUB, BROADWAY, BANGOR**

**Present :** Norman Glover (President)  
George Davidson (Secretary)  
Wilma Dunbar (Treasurer)  
John Angus (Committee Member)  
Pat McCarthy (Committee Member)  
Humberto Tavares (Committee Member)  
Alex Mornin (Committee Member)

**Members:**

John Hennessy, Peggy Hennessy, Brenda McHenry, David McHenry, Geraldine Glover, Paul Maidment, Ian Smyth.

**Apologies:**

Denis Nightingale, Margaret Cardwell, John Whitlaw, Carole Castles, Anne Mornin, John and Carmel Hennessy.

**1. Welcome by President**

Norman Glover opened the meeting by welcoming all and thanking them for making the effort to attend. He made mention of our sadness at the deaths during the year of Billy Boal and Linda Weir, both well liked and respected members of the Club.

**2. Minutes of Previous AGM**

The minutes of the AGM held on 27 January 2005 were accepted as a true record of proceedings, with no amendment required.

**3. Matters arising**

The only matter arising was our relationship with Pickie Bowling Club. Norman Glover took the lead in reporting on the outcome of a recent meeting between North Down Committee members and Pickie BC officials to discuss the annual fee situation. The main points were:

(a) North Down's position that a figure of around £750 pa, rather than the current £1500, would be more realistic against the background of our present finances and projected membership;

(b) Pickie's non-negotiable demand for the full £1500 which, in their opinion, was good value for the facilities available to North Down members;

- (c) Pickie's willingness to assist with any North Down fund raising efforts;
- (d) Pickie's view that North Down's presence and contribution were not essential to the future well-being of the former; and
- (e) That it was for North Down club members to decide if they were prepared to continue playing at Pickie under current arrangements.

Further discussion centred around:

- (f) The fact that Pickie had received Lottery funding based on its 'promotion' of a minority sport ( Paul Maidment ) although it was generally accepted that both the finance involved and any associated obligations were probably exhausted;
- (g) The possibility of local Council funding, although the long 'lead' time was recognised ( John Angus/Paul Maidment );
- (h) Maximising the benefits of both the availability of Pickie's facilities and value for money from our annual contribution, in terms of full membership/ associate membership/ special category status ( David McHenry/Norman Glover )
- (i) More 'open' competitions to encourage external interest and additional income ( Paul Maidment );
- (j) Possible revenue from those using the piste on club nights ( Paul Maidment ); and
- (k) new revenue streams generally ( Pat McCarthy )

**It was finally agreed that:**

- (l) The full £1500 would be paid for the current year, but in so doing, the Club would seek to maximise full/associate etc status available for this amount, and notify Pickie accordingly;
- (m) The incoming Committee would examine both the opportunities for better co-operation with Pickie with a view to raising finances for North Down, and the potential under (g) (i) (j) and (k) above;

#### **4. Secretary's General Report**

In his report, the Secretary highlighted:

- (a) The continued drop in membership numbers and the main reasons for this, which were largely outside the control or influence of the Club;
- (b) Disappointing attendance on Club nights and competitions which can have a discouraging effect on more regular attendees and competition organisers, and is not a good platform from which to attract new members;
- (c) The need for full support from the membership in response to any fund raising and other initiatives by the incoming Committee;
- (d) Success in terms of internal and external competitions;
- (e) The Inter-Club competition, which featured in the IPA 2006 programme, and the hope that North Down would participate, as had been the case in the inaugural event in 2005.
- (f) The enjoyable evening dinner event, and the hope that this would become a regular feature, as had been the case in the past; and
- (g) The deaths of 2 members, as recorded by the President in his opening remarks.

Thanks from the President and other attendees were offered to the Secretary for his work during the year and for his comprehensive report.

## 5. Financial Report

The summary for the year was as follows:

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Receipts:                 | £ 1,129.00  |
| Payments:                 | £ 1,641.62  |
| Deficit for the year:     | £ 512.62    |
| Balance B/F:              | £ 1,962.40  |
| Balance at Bank 31 Dec'05 | £ 1,449.78* |

\* Cheques outstanding for £ 30.04

David McHenry noted that no individual prizes had been presented in a few competitions, and suggested that, although main trophies were awarded, competition organisers should try to ensure some additional tangible acknowledgement of success.

The useful extra income from the ballots, which were now an attendant part of most competitions, was noted.

## 6. Auditor's Report

John Angus reported favourably on the maintenance of the financial records by the Treasurer, and confirmed that the accounts as presented were a full and complete reflection of the Club's financial transactions.

Thanks from the President and other attendees were offered to the Treasurer for her work during the year, and for the comprehensive records presented.

## 7. President's Report

Despite the previously voiced difficulties which had faced the Club during the year, the President commended all those who had given of their time and efforts at Committee level, on normal Club nights, or had supported or organised competitions and other events. He encouraged all to continue to do so.

Norman commented that attendance on club night and at competitions should concern us all and that we must all keep working to attract new members and encourage those who may have drifted away for one reason or another to return.

## 8. Election of Officers

**Election** - George Davidson conducted the election which delivered the following outcome:

|                  | <u>Nominated</u> | <u>Proposed</u> | <u>Seconded</u>  |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>President</b> | Norman Glover    | Peggy Hennessy  | Humberto Tavares |

As there were no other nominations Norman Glover was re-elected as President

|                  | <u>Nominated</u> | <u>Proposed</u> | <u>Seconded</u> |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Secretary</b> | George Davidson  | David McHenry   | Alex Mornin     |

As there were no other nominations George Davidson was elected Secretary

|                  | <u>Nominated</u> | <u>Proposed</u> | <u>Seconded</u> |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Treasurer</b> | Wilma Dunbar     | John Angus      | Norman Glover   |

As there were no other nominations Wilma Dunbar was elected as Treasurer

|                  | <u>Nominated</u>  | <u>Proposed</u>  | <u>Seconded</u>   |
|------------------|---|--|---|
| <b>Committee</b> | David McHenry<br>Ian Smyth<br>Alex Mornin<br>Humberto Tavares | Pat McCarthy<br>Peggy Hennessy<br>John Hennessy<br>George Davidson | Humberto Tavares<br>Pat McCarthy<br>Brenda McHenry<br>Ian Smyth |

|                     | <u>Nominated</u> | <u>Proposed</u> | <u>Seconded</u> |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Hon. Auditor</b> | John Angus       | Norman Glover   | Alex Mornin     |

## **9. Any Other Business**

- (a) David McHenry proposed, and Paul Maidment seconded, that all Club competitions should be 'open'. Following general discussion, it was agreed that the first competition, which was a 'Changing Partners' format being designed and organised by Paul, should be 'open', and the success or otherwise of this would be a consideration for the Committee in determining if this 'open' nature should be extended to other, or all, competitions;
- (b) Members were asked to consider the whereabouts of the Bell trophy ( silver plate ) which, due to its unknown location, had not been played for in the past year.

There being no further business, the President thanked John Angus and Pat McCarthy, out-going members of the Committee, for their work, help and support during their tenure and declared the meeting closed.