

The 2024 West Ewell Social Club AGM

The AGM opened on Sunday 30th June at 11:07 a.m.

In attendance 92 members;

Messrs: K Austin (014), R Ball (327), S Bell (581), B Bisland (004), L Bond (051), M Bond (395), S Borley (089), R Breeding (083), R Bristoll (24), M Broderick (221), P Brown (647), T Brown (912), J Burns (779), R Burns (043), P Carslake (012), I. Cheeseman (046), P Cooper (537), M Craven (104), J Earl-King (320), N Enright (034), D Fitzgerald (895), P Harris (274), B Holmes (909), T Holmes (206), A. Hughes (055), L Hughes (036), T Hughes (147), R. Hutchings (150), G. Jacobs (001), S Jerrom (741), D Jobson (220), C King (222), I Lacey (458), D Lockyer (092), R Lockyer (826), T Lockyer (444), S Martin (065), M McKen (529), H McKillop (221), G Merritt (278), D Morris (482), R Morris (797), P Nunes (134), P O'Donovan (154), T Oliver (625), N Pepe (893), K. Roberts (299), A Robinson (882), C Sharpe (059), K Shepherd (855), T Simpson (113), B Smith (128), S Spelling (531), J Walker (767), D Watkins (060), D Watkins (194), I Wheeler (256), F Whitefoot (532), S Wood (438).
59 male members

Ms: S. Bellingham (083L), J Bisland (041L), B Bond (362L), J Bower (092L), H Bray (298L), J Burns (023L), J Butler (442L), K Clark (173L), N Clayton (426L), N Cooper (134L), D Correia (032L), L Craven (183L), A Earl-King (356L), C Griffiths (379L), M Harris (067L), K Henderson (314L), M Hughes (025L), A Jacobs (373L), P Jennison (122L), T King (263L), J Lord (436L), L McAulay (027L), V Moody (167L), C Morris (407L), D Oliver (214L), J Page (323L), S Rackham (050L), B Smith (129L), T Smith (065L), V Smith (186L), M Spelling (164L), L. Walker (414L), B Wheeler (184L).
33 female members

Apologies None

Secretary, Roger Bellingham took the Minutes of the meeting.

Geoff Jacobs, (Club President) opened the 2024 AGM. He welcomed the ladies and gentlemen members present to the meeting and apologised for the lateness of this year's AGM which was due to the Club's auditors' delay in their return of the financial statements.

1. To confirm the 2023 AGM Minutes

Proposed by Kevin Austin and seconded by Maggie Hughes. Minutes confirmed

2. Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters arising

3. Adoption of Accounts for January – December 2022

Members had copies of the accounts available prior to the AGM. There were no matters arising and no comments. Proposed by Ray Ball and seconded by Paul Cooper. Accounts adopted.

4. President's Report

Welcome and thank you for your attendance here today.

In the audit you can see that our finances remain in a very comfortable position and that's thanks to all our regular members for your constant support. I'm pleased to see the younger generation are gaining numbers, especially young local families and I'm hopeful they will continue to increase in number as they are the future of our club. The Club has again maintained its membership numbers; it currently stands at 1,213. We all continue to remember past members and friends of the Club who are no longer here with us.

The time has come to review our brewers with both Heineken and Carlsberg out of contract with us. We are looking very closely at renewals with either our existing brewers or take this opportunity for a change. The agreements or contracts will be based on many conditions, such as their competitive market price to us, delivery and stock reliability and how favourable or generous they can be towards the Club with their stock and merchandise.

As I reported last year, our brewers are increasing their prices throughout the year with very short notice. At times, the prices are absorbed by the Club. Whilst we always keep our bar prices as low as possible, staff wage rises, brewery costs, business rates, TV subscriptions and utility prices increasing, our bar prices needed to increase by 10p across all products sold to maintain our 50% GP, in turn giving you equally short notice but still good value for money. Going forward by whomever supplies us, we expect them to exceed the Club Management Committee's high expectations.

I give great thanks to all the active members of the Management Committee for their loyal commitment in their constant ongoing hard work, mostly, if not always, behind closed doors, in their own free time in different guises keeping our Club open in its ongoing repair and maintenance programs, also arranging entertainment for the young and not so young.

If you would like, and can contribute to our successful management team, the committee application sheets are displayed on the notice boards. Put your name and membership number followed by your proposer and seconder, each with their membership number.

5. Club Elections

The Secretary announced that there are currently two nominations for President and one for Vice-President. The Management Committee, in accordance with CIU instructions, is to comprise of between six and twelve members. There have, so far, been thirteen nominations for Management Committee membership. The nomination paper is taken down tomorrow night at ten o'clock so elections would be required for the President and the Committee, and they would be held next weekend between six p.m. and eight p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with the result being announced on Sunday night. The Secretary asked for three scrutineers for the three days. Only Ann Jacobs, Carol Griffiths and Susan Bellingham volunteered for particular sessions so there might be a need on a night for volunteers to be sought from the present membership.

6. Motions from the Floor

The President read two motions for proposed byelaw changes:

- a) Tony Lockyer (444) proposed a motion to allow well-behaved dogs into the Club. This had been rejected at last year's AGM. Tony had provided detailed guidelines to allow dogs into the Club or Club Garden up to 6.00 p.m. during Club opening hours. Arguments for and against the motion were put and discussed.

Arguments against the motion included 1) a concern for blind or partially sighted people having accidents due to contact with dogs, 2) wet dogs in the Club might be smelly, 3) a risk to children getting an infection from faeces, 4) cleaning charges would increase due to wet dogs/dog hair and 5) that the Club is not a pub so having dogs in the Club is not conducive to social clubs.

Arguments for the motion included 1) that the dogs would be well behaved, 2) kept on a short lead while in the Club, 3) only Club members would be allowed to bring a dog into the Club, 4) if a member left the dog to go to the bar, etc., it would be kept with another member, 5) dogs would be taken out of the Club before 6.00 each evening and 6) the Club should have public liability insurance to cover any incidents.

When put to the vote a hand count showed 43 members in favour and 28 members against, therefore the motion was referred to the Management Committee for consideration.

- b) Ray Bristoll proposed to move Bingo from Sunday evening to a midweek starting at 6.00 p.m. A discussion ensued.

Ray Breeding proposed an amendment that Bingo should still be held on Sundays but cancelled on Bank Holiday weekends. On being put to the vote, 34 voted for the amendment and 48 against, therefore the amendment was lost.

The proposal was then voted-on with 44 members in favour of the motion and 32 members against, therefore the motion was referred to the Management Committee for consideration.

The President thanked attendees for giving up their time then closed the AGM and invited them to the bar for a free drink.

Meeting closed at 12.02 hours.