

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NEYLAND
CRICKET CLUB HELD IN THE ATHLETIC CLUB ON THURSDAY
14TH DECEMBER 2006**

Present:

R Bellerby
J P Edwards
A Hanson Snr
M C Jones
N Kooman
A Miller
G Milller
M J Rees

Apologies:

P Davies
P Miller
M Tennick

At the commencement of the meeting the President asked for all those present to observe a minute silence as a mark of respect for those members of the Club who had passed away during the previous 12 months.

Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 8th December 2005 were read, confirmed and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In presenting what was his fourth balance sheet (copy attached) the Hon Treasurer expressed his gratitude to the Club's Auditor, Mrs Yvonne Jones for her kind assistance and offered thanks to all Sponsors & Vice Presidents for their financial support during the past season. He also thanked the Club Franchisees for their contribution which was not always evident on the balance sheet.

The President thanked Mr Bellerby for his efforts during the year in office and for submitting a well presented balance sheet. It was proposed that the balance sheet should be accepted. This proposal was carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report

The Hon Secretary gave a report on the activities of the Club both on and off the field during the 2006 season (see attached).

He indicated that he had concluded his report to the 2006 AGM by setting two aims for the 2006 season i.e. that the 1st XI should seek to improve upon their fifth place finish and that the 2nd XI should seek to consolidate their place in Division 3.

Where the latter was concerned it had been mission accomplished although at the half way-point in the season it appeared somewhat unlikely that that ambition would be realised however the 1st XI had been unable to match those expectations and indeed the season saw our position in Division 1 drop a place to 6th. Overall team performances did not match those of 2005 and during certain months of the season relegation had appeared a possibility. In the event however a playing record of 4 wins, 4 draws and 7 losses in 15 completed league fixtures (there were 2 partially completed fixtures and 1 cancellation) proved sufficient to garner that 6th placed finish.

Looking back on the season the 1st XI had hit the ground running by claiming maximum points in the opening fixture against Pembroke. Thereafter however our form was inconsistent to say the least with a welcome victory at St. Ishmaels and a battling draw at home to Carew, rare causes for optimism in a period which saw the side suffer five league defeats.

Although the plight of Pembroke and to a greater extent Hook suggested that relegation was unlikely there was nevertheless some cause for concern but the second half of the season proved more successful as although during that period league doubles were conceded to both Haverfordwest and Narberth, important victories were recorded over Hook and Lawrenny and winning draws secured against Pembroke and St Ishmaels. The points tally was completed by a losing draw albeit with no draw points gained at Narberth and those points gained from the fixtures at home to Cresselly and at Carew which were brought to a premature conclusion by bad weather.

Once again, perhaps the most pleasing aspect of the performances of the 1st XI during what was at times a difficult season was that there was no obvious decline in team spirit. Andrew and Gregg Miller both made significant contributions with the bat as indeed did several other players including John Jones and Paul Murray. If overall the batting was not as consistent as in 2005 it nevertheless remained the principal strength of the team.

As in 2005 however we struggled to contain and on occasions finish odd sides and although that is no reflection on the efforts of the bowlers it is nevertheless apparent that we lack penetration particularly with the new ball. The retirement of Ian Charles and absence for most of the season of Jeremy Charles did not assist matters but it was an area of concern although Gary Lloyd and Phil Davies continued to represent one of the best slow bowling combinations in the Division which as the season progressed both Patrick Hannon and Henry Durrant put in several promising performances.

The Cup competitions and in particular the Harrison-Allen Bowl once again proved to be a source of some disappointment. After the controversies of 2005 it was almost inevitable that fate would decree that we should meet Carew in this season's competition. Despite a splendid effort in the field which confined Carew to what appeared a modest total and a positive start to the subsequent run chase we sadly contrived to lose a tie which we should have won. To complete our woes Carew also proved to be our nemesis in the Duggie Morris Cup when despite Andrew Miller's heroics with the bat we narrowly failed to chase down a formidable total. The Secretary indicated that one of the ambitions for 2007 should be to remove the Carew monkey from off our backs. Our run in this season's Welsh Cup also came to a premature end at the hands of Gorseinon where we transpired to lose a game which appeared to be well within our grasp.

Turning to the 2nd XI, performances in the opening weeks of the season had been extremely disappointing and as the season reached the half way mark relegation seemed to beckon. In the event however the 2nd XI staged a magnificent revival and their strong performance in the second half propelled them to 7th position in the final league table with a playing record of 3 wins, 4 draws and 6 losses in their 13 completed fixtures.

Unlike in 2005 the team albeit a much weakened one enjoyed a disastrous opening few weeks of the season during which points of any description were hard to come by. To their immense credit they continued to battle and as the season developed and more players became available their fortunes improved.

The side was again a blend of youth and considerable experience and although in the second half of the season they undoubtedly benefited from the presence of Philip Sutton and on occasions Jay Dunsford, the presence when injury allowed of old heads in Peter Burton, Mike Tennick and Martin Jones once more stood the team in good stead as did the continued emergence of Nicholas Koomen and Ashley Sutton.

The Alec Colley Cup campaign came to an early conclusion at the hands of Burton.

The Secretary offered his congratulations to the Ladies on capturing their fourth consecutive league title and for once again securing another league and cup double commenting that they were without doubts the Kings/Queens of Ladies Cricket in the County.

After the disappointment of 2005 when for the first time in several seasons our indoor league squad failed to secure a top two finish, Neyland responded by not only entering two sides in this season's competition but by pulling off a one two finish. Due to the vagaries of the fixtures the two sides were not to meet but to win 10 out of 11 possible fixtures was a remarkable effort on the part of all concerned.

In terms of Youth Cricket it had proved necessary once again to combine with Johnston in the two senior age groups. In the Ormond Cup a combined side overcame Saundersfoot before succumbing in the next round. The Under 15 side reached the play-offs, eventually securing third place overall and although inclement weather had severely curtailed the scheduled programme of Under 13 fixtures, the fledgling Under 11 squad had enjoyed an excellent season in finishing runners-up to Haverfordwest.

The Secretary thanked all those who assisted the youth section in any capacity during the season and as usual a special word of thanks to Martin Jones and his cohorts for their efforts

with the Under 11s and on a personal note expressing his gratitude to Martin for continuing in his role as Club Child Welfare Officer.

Off the field, he paid tribute to the work of Robert Bellerby, who quite apart from looking after the Club's finances so ably and also preparing the grounds. He added that over the years the Neyland square had acquired a reputation for being unreliable but that the statistics for recent seasons suggested that this reputation was thoroughly undeserved. Given the circumstances the fact that Neyland had been chosen to host one or two representative games was particularly encouraging. It had been pleasing to note that during the season and indeed in both pre and post season a greater number of players and in particular the younger ones seemed prepared to assist in ground preparation. This was a welcome trend and the Secretary hoped that it would continue.

The Secretary offered his thanks to the Club's sponsors for their support in the season and commented that he was of the view that there were other businesses and indeed individuals who would be prepared to support the Club but have to be asked. He therefore urged all members and playing members to spread the word in this regard and in addition to support the Club's fund raising efforts in the months ahead. He commented that although much had been done in recent years to upgrade equipment and facilities, much remained to be done

The Secretary thanked Debbie and Martin of the Athletic Club for continuing to provide the social base, which is such an important part of the Club and for the other assistance and support, which they extend and which often takes place behind the scenes.

He thanked his fellow Committee members for their support and forbearance during the season and the respective Team Captains, Andrew and Mike for their efforts and congratulated all award winners at both Junior and Senior levels on their accomplishments in 2006.

He indicated that the Club Committee were badly in need of an injection of new blood and whilst the attendance at Committee meetings on a regular basis of several players had been a welcome development, the addition of more players or indeed any interested party would be greatly appreciated.

He concluded by stressing that the Committee were naturally anxious to improve the Club both on and off the field and that the 2007 season would be no different in this regard in that the new Committee would continue in their efforts to improve the Club's infrastructure. He expressed the hope that these ambitions would be complemented on the playing field and that as a result the Neyland Club would join the Pembrokeshire cricketing elite.

The President thanked the Secretary for preparing such a thorough report and for his efforts during the previous twelve months. It was proposed and seconded that the report should be adopted. This proposal was carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

J P Edwards - President

Club Secretary – M J Rees

Club Treasurer – R Bellerby

A notice of motion pursuant to the Club's constitution regarding the nomination of Officers had been made by the outgoing committee at their November Committee meeting and recommended that the above named Officers be elected to their posts en bloc. This was seconded on the night by Gregg Miller and carried unanimously.

Election of Captains

1st XI - Andrew Miller was proposed by Martyn Rees and seconded by Martin Jones

2nd XI – Mike Tennick was proposed by Martyn Rees and seconded by Martin Jones.

Both motions were carried unanimously.

Election of Committee

In addition to the Officers and Captains the following individuals were elected to serve on the committee:-

A Hanson, M C Jones, G Miller, P Hannon, S Hannon, P Davies & N Koomen.

Youth Organiser

Mr M C Jones agreed to continue in this role and the proposal that he should continue to do so was carried unanimously.

Appointment of Child Welfare Officer

Mr M C Jones agreed to continue in this role and the proposal that he should continue to do so was carried unanimously.

Subscriptions and Affiliation fees

It was proposed by the Hon Treasurer and seconded by M C Jones that whilst membership fees should remain the same subscription fees (including match fees) should be as follows in 2007:

Seniors

Subscriptions - £12.00 per annum

Match Fees - £2.50

Juniors

Subscriptions - £6.00

Match Fees - £1.00

In response however it was proposed by Andrew Miller and seconded by Gregg Miller that the proposal be amended so that the subscriptions and match fees for senior players should instead be £10.00 and £2.00 respectively.

After a vote the amendment was carried.

Affiliation fees

It was properly proposed and seconded that the Club should continue to affiliate to the following bodies:-

1. Pembroke County Cricket Club.
2. Pembroke County 200 Club
3. Pembrokeshire Sports Council.
4. Indoor League
5. Welsh Cricket Association.

This was carried unanimously.

Appointment of an Auditor

Mrs Yvonne Jones was proposed by R Bellerby and seconded by A Hansen. This was carried unanimously.

Any other business

There was no further business therefore the meeting was declared closed at 8.88pm after a vote of thanks to the President for the expeditious manner in which he had conducted the proceedings.

Signed.....

Dated.....