

DANEHILL AND CHELWOOD GATE SOCIAL CLUB LIMITED

MINUTES OF THE 52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CLUB ON 12 JULY 2023 AT 8:00 PM. 11 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE.

K Usher (Chairman) took the chair and opened the meeting at 8:27pm by welcoming members to the club's 52nd AGM and thanked them for coming.

Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Paul Thornton, Julie Wright, Sophie Wright.

Adoption of minutes of 51st Annual General Meeting.

K Usher explained that we could not adopt the minutes for the 51st AGM as they were not prepared in time due to P Thornton's absence. He advised that an EGM would be called later this year to adopt the minutes.

Matters Arising

As the minutes were not presented, discussion of matters arising will be delayed until the subsequent EGM.

Treasurer's Report

M Cottenham gave the treasurer's report, and presented the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022.

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|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Turnover | £ 38,066 | (Up 37.2% on previous year) |
| Gross surplus | £ 32,933 | (Up 37.1% on previous year) |
| Admin. Expenses | £ 36,936 | (Up 58.8% on previous year) |
| Surplus/Defecit | £ - 4,003 | |

Of the deficit of £4,003, the sum of £4,698 was attributed to depreciation so the effective trading surplus for the year was £695.

Gross profit on the bar takings was 49.5%.

Sales of refreshments up 40.6% compared to the previous year.

Subscriptions down 12.9% compared to the previous year.

Fruit machines up 94.5% compared to the previous year.

Juke box down 6.5 % compared to the previous year. Juke box has since been removed.

The Club received two grants in 2022: Government grant of £6,667 and a parish council grant of £4,500.

The repairs and renewals figure in the administrative expenses includes the cost of window replacement that the parish council grant of £4,500 supported.

Wages have increased as the Club was able to be open more in 2022 than 2021 as COVID restrictions were lifted. Electricity costs increased dramatically, from £3,065 in 2021 to £8,207 in 2022. It should go down in 2023 as we have been able to fix a figure (approx. half of the 2022 amount). In hot weather we consume more electricity due to chillers.

M Cottenham remarked that this was going to be another difficult year, and in both 2021 and 2022 the Club received government COVID grants. In the current year we will not receive any similar grant. He advised that increased events should offset the loss of the grants.

M Cottenham explained that the insurance premium figure decreased due to no claims.

He went on to state that the Club needed to take around £1,200 a week to break even and that we were not currently hitting that figure, currently averaging around half of that.

There was a general discussion surrounding the financial issues of both the Club and all social clubs. All establishments are suffering from low footfall and poor sales. We are operating hand-to-mouth which makes any kind of long-term planning difficult. The Club is funding a lot of day-to-day operation from loans from members which cannot continue indefinitely. Whilst the Club could borrow against the building for capital expenditure, it would be difficult to obtain a mortgage due to the Club's current profitability.

M Cottenham confirmed that the only debts the Club had totalled £11,000 due to himself and P Thornton. These are classed as long-term loans in the accounts. For any additional expenditure, such as any significant maintenance, the Club is reliant on members to provide either loans or act as guarantor.

K Usher asked the meeting about calling an EGM later in the year to discuss the potential closure of the Club. There was unanimous agreement to do this.

There was a discussion about the notice for the AGM. Members were not aware of this meeting: K Usher did state that the notification of the AGM had been posted on the noticeboard for the past month.

Secretary's Report

P Thornton was not at the meeting, and thus the secretary's report was skipped.

Chairman's Report

K Usher skipped a formal report, him having covered most of the topics during the discussion following on from the financial report.

Election of Officers

The following officers were elected unopposed by the members present:

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Chairman | Keith Usher |
| Vice Chairman | Julie Wright |
| Secretary | Paul Thornton |
| Treasurer | Murray Cottenham |

The officers were elected unanimously on a show of hands at the meeting.

Election of Committee

The following have indicated that they are willing to stand on the committee: Gary Richardson, Sophie Wright, Ed Fountain, Ben Corkett, Paul Thornton (who appears here as the secretary role does not automatically place him on the committee).

The committee was elected unanimously on a show of hands at the meeting.

Re-Appointment of Auditors

The current auditors are DMC Partnership in Forest Row. They are very good value, with the price not increasing in the past ten years. B Corkett asked if there was any benefit in looking for a cheaper option.

M Simmons proposed, and N Clark seconded re-appointing DMC Partnership as auditors. This was unanimously approved by the members present.

Any other business

There was no other formal business submitted in advance of the AGM.

It was agreed that the 'open floor' section of AoB had already been discussed earlier in the meeting.

Closing Remarks

K Usher advised that should we have an AGM in 2024, it will move back to its pre-COVID date of March.

K Usher thanked everyone for coming and expressed that he did not wish to be the chairman that closes the Club but things are very difficult.

K Usher closed the meeting at 9:29pm

Signed as a true record:

K Usher – Chairman

Date