



Bookham Wine Club
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Old Barn Hall
14th October 2024

1. Welcome, Notices and Apologies

The Chairman, Kevin Forder, opened the AGM at 19.30. With 54 members in attendance, the requirement for one third of the membership to form a quorum was met. Seventeen apologies were received.

After providing safety instructions, Kevin paid tribute to David Yandell, who will be greatly missed by his friends at the club, and thanked Sue for attending.

He introduced the other officers present and advised that all of the documents relating to the AGM are available on the club's website.

2. Approval of the 2023 AGM Minutes

Acceptance of the 2023 AGM Minutes as an accurate record of the meeting was proposed by Ruth Blood and seconded by Malcolm Hill.

3. Chairman's Report

Kevin reflected on very successful year, with a 12-month programme of monthly tastings and enjoyable social events at Christmas and in the Summer. Our monthly meetings were well attended, averaging 62 members, and he had received a great deal of positive feedback throughout the year. Kevin took the opportunity to thank the committee and members for their hard work, in particular Kate and Claudio Ramponi (IT support), Paul Sanders (accounts examiner), Heather Dougherty, Ruth Blood and Sandra Buck.

He noted that Eric Martin was stepping down after supporting the committee for many years with spells as both Chairman and Treasurer. His role in organising wine pourers so efficiently is much appreciated. Frances Sanders has kindly agreed to (re)-join the committee and was warmly welcomed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Derek Buck provided a brief summary of the club's financial position, which shows a small surplus for the year (£240) and overall reserves at £2320 against a target of ~£2000. A more detailed breakdown can be found on the website.

Ian Robinson queried whether we should reduce our voluntary contribution to the BCA. He felt that, as the Old Barn Hall is a major asset and supports many village associations, there was a strong case to increase rather than decrease the sum. Ian proposed a figure of £300 given inflationary pressures. His proposal was put to a vote and accepted by a clear majority of attendees;

therefore, an additional £150 will be paid in October and £300 in 2025. Sue Yandell pointed out that inflation also applied to the reserve and that there was an argument to be made for increasing that as well.

Adoption of the Treasurer's report was proposed by Ian Robinson and seconded by Peter Clarke.

5. Annual Subscription

On the basis of the healthy financial report, Kevin proposed holding the subscription fee at £20 for another year, despite charges for the Old Barn Hall increasing in January 2025.

Maintaining the annual subscription at £20 was proposed by Gillian Wolstenholme and seconded by Annette Hockin.

6. Election of Officers & Committee Members

In compliance with the club's constitution, the following appointments were approved (all with effect from 14 October 2024):

- The Club's Officers, Kevin Forder, Derek Buck and David Read, to be re-appointed in their current roles. Proposed by Stevie Arnold and seconded by Tim Carroll.
- Frances Sanders to join and the remaining committee members to be re-appointed. Proposed by Ruth Blood and seconded by Patricia Robinson.
- Paul Sanders to be re-appointed as Accounts Examiner. Proposed by Gordon Marshall and seconded by Bill Arnold.

7. Ideas & Suggestions from Members

Malcolm Hill recommended Guy Boursot as a presenter. Roger Stafford will follow this up.

8. 2024 Programme

Kevin described the programme of monthly meetings planned for 2025, which includes a talk from one of our newer members, Andrew Melville, and Adam Hill of Majestic. There will also be a quiz night.

9. AOB

Finally, Kevin emphasised the need for people to volunteer for the committee, noting that two long-serving members would be stepping down next year.

The meeting closed at 20.00.

Minutes prepared by: David Read (Secretary)