



Poulton Cricket Club

Founded 1891

Charity Number 1102682

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting for 2017 held on
Friday 3rd November at Poulton Cricket Club**

Present: DWD, Rosemarie Chapman, Nigel Dobbs, Claire Reeves, Andy James, Graham Clarke, Steve Willard, Liam James, Wayne Tinson, Mark Higgo, Robbie James, Clare Manning, Caroline Pattison, Rob Collins, Jenny Jones, Ross Cutts, Jody Lawrence, Jon Maunder, Neil Cheesewright, Mike Jones, Chris Thorn, James Newman, Oliver Newman, Emma O'Connor, Callum Higginson

Apologies sent: Claire Kilby, Philippa Dunn, Mark Chamberlain, Hugh Gunn, Charlie Austen, Toby Jupp, Georgie Shaw, Jayne Shaw, Jane James, Emma, Gay and Dom

1. Minutes of 2016 AGM were agreed and approved

2. Matters arising – none arising

3. Chairman's Report (DWD)

Well what a great season - 1sts promoted into Glos County Division 1; 2nds mid-table of CDCA Division 1. Well done to both teams. Poulton Ladies second in their league and I believe only by 3 points. The Youth Section is as strong as ever. Therefore so much to be proud of throughout the club.

Over the years Poulton have toured various parts of the country, so with much excitement and fresh new players we toured to Kent; back to the roots of Messrs Cutts & Burton. What a warm welcome, good games of cricket, super grounds and excellent hospitality and of course no more can be added as "what goes on tour stays on tour"

A massive thanks to all ground staff, Wayne Andy Neil, John Nunn, and those many extra helping hands throughout the season, and without their selfless work no cricket would be possible. A big thank you to all coaches who gave up time to support the kids, girls, ladies and senior sides throughout the season; every session where tips and support were given is a lifetime of knowledge. A further big thanks to all the tea ladies & men who gave time to provide great Poulton hospitality, we have a great reputation out there for the club's generous teas.

This year we dipped our toes into All Stars Cricket: big thanks to Mac, Dom and all the ladies and girls who supported me in this new adventure - it will carry on next year, so more willing helpers will be required and hopefully a leader to run this programme through for the 8 weeks.

Poulton may be in the sleepy back waters of the County, but we cut our teeth internationally this year with games against Afghanistan under 17s, an Australian schools touring team, and the Ladies played a French Ladies touring team; all of which brought lots of excitement, joy and new friends through the power of our great game.

Thank you Neil for organising the end of season Youth awards, while the Chairman took time out after a minor op; great feedback from many families who enjoyed the event for the simplicity of the day and their children's natural enthusiasm and energy.

But please do not go to sleep through the winter as the main committees meet monthly, we are looking at new players, if you are at work ask around if a new person pops up in your office. If they are new to the area, they might love the chance for a social outlet. Ask friends and neighbours, tell families that our children's section is the envy of so many clubs. If you could help support the club through personal, or company sponsorship we would love to talk to you. If you fancy helping as a coach, we would put you through a course and we would pay for this. If you or a family member may like to umpire or score we can help again, pay for a course.

Here's dreaming of another great season bring on 2018.

4. Treasurers Report (Steve Willard)

Our club has enjoyed a good year financially in 2017. Whilst much quieter than the previous year which included the 125th anniversary celebrations, we have still managed to make surplus of £1,586. This figure should have been even higher but I am yet to submit the HMRC Gift Aid return for 2016. This will be worth almost another £1,000 and will appear in the club's 2018 accounts. The club currently holds £17,850 in the bank and continues to be in the healthiest position it has been throughout its history. Here are the main items of club income and expenditure;

INCOME

Player Membership and Gift Aid: I'm pleased to report that all senior players were fully paid up members by the end of this season. On the junior side, thanks goes to Caroline Pattison for her superb efforts in collecting youth memberships. There are a small number who slipped through the net but we are getting round to them during the off-season.

Match fees and teas:

This was again a steady contributor to the club's income. A big thank you to all involved in collecting the money over the season.

Fund raising: Our BBQs made some good profit over the summer and we also received a further £250 from the Charities Trust for our Cricket Force day held pre-season.

All Stars Cricket: This made £250 for the club and more importantly introduced lots of new youngsters to cricket at Poulton.

Club kit: We managed to shift another £670 of shirts, caps, etc, this year and I would hope that we can continue to sell the remainder as new players continue to join the club or old kit wears out.

Ladies Sponsorship: Poulton Ladies were sponsored to the tune of £750 this year which enabled them to purchase some new kit.

EXPENDITURE

Cricket coaching and winter nets: We have continued to employ Gecko Cricket for winter and summer nets training. Some good work was put in during pre-season and this bore fruit in the results of our weekend teams, resulting promotion for the 1sts.

Marquee: We purchased the marquee for £730 at the start of the season and the idea is for this to pay for itself over the next few years through being able to hold additional events at the club.

Outdoor Nets: Wayne expertly crafted some new outdoor nets with curtains this year to improve our practice facilities.

Poulton Sports Committee (Englands Management):

We make a regular monthly contribution of £50 to the running of the pavilion and grounds. This was supplemented by a further payment of £800 in 2017 to aid a shortfall in the Sports Committee's 2016 accounts. It is likely that another one-off payment will be required to help with the 2017 Sports Committee accounts and it may be prudent to investigate upping our monthly contribution on a consistent basis going forward.

We will go into next season as one of the most solvent clubs in Gloucestershire, if not England, but I would love to see even more club fundraising take place throughout the year.

It's just left for me to say thanks once again to all our members for putting in so much effort over the year and helping to ensure the financial stability of the club!

5. 1st team review (Ross Cutts)

What a fantastic season we have had and congratulations to every member of Poulton Cricket Club who contributed towards the success of this year for all the sides.

From a club point of view, we have an excellent group of players for men's, women's and junior cricket upon which we can base future success. It was especially pleasing for me to see so many young players out at England's on a Sunday morning and I applaud all those volunteer coaches who make this happen – because frankly without new players being brought through the age groups we will not be able to have sustained success.

At times the senior men's sides were short of players and especially I commend the 2's and initially Callum "Chiggo" Higginson then Graham "Gramps" Clarke for enabling Jody to claim his much-deserved place in the first team and for supporting the first team. It's easy to overlook how much a successful second team pushes the first team to work hard and perform and this is something we plan to ensure continues next season.

We have discussed player recruitment and this is going to be key to ensuring we can continue to strengthen all sides so I would encourage all Poulton members to help with this. I am also hoping some of our fragile – crocked – thoroughbreds will make it back from the knacker's yard!

I want to congratulate Philippa and her ladies too for another successful season. I have no doubt next year you will go from strength to strength.

And so on to my boys

Our season started in the worst possible fashion – cancelled friendly warm ups – and a loss away to Cinderford on one of the worst pitches I've had the displeasure of playing on. All excuses aside we must learn from that for next year - it's so important to start a league campaign as you mean to go on!! Sure, enough we did learn from that – we made England's a fortress (until we lost to Cam on the last game of the season) – that same home form carried into next year will stand us in very good stead.

The team spirit that we developed was awesome and epitomised by the display of our infamous huddles at the fall of a wicket – and unfortunately if you want to know what goes on in that huddle you'd better try and get selected for the first team The most pleasing thing about this season for me as Captain though was everybody in the team contributed – and I mean everyone – too many for to mention individually – and I am pleased I haven't been asked to choose a single MVP because honestly, I couldn't. We didn't have a single passenger and truly made memories. There were runs galore – terrific bowling spells – scintillating

catches in front of and behind the sticks (VC) – comedy misfields (your truly) – and only a single disciplinary event to deal with.....

I have had the fortune and pleasure to play with some great teams and players over the last 26 years but the genuine talent I have seen on the cricket field playing in Poulton CC shirts excites me to keep my renaissance going. My challenge to anyone who wants to represent the first team is to turn Talent into Performance – it's no longer good enough to simply turn up and go through the motions – you the players determined that last year NOT me – my challenge to you is to turn potential into Success. I believe in you or I wouldn't be spending my time away from my girls – the committee and senior members of the club believe in you by listening to your requests for sustained and consistent coaching – BUT most importantly our mums, wives, girlfriends, daughters, sons, grandmothers, dogs, tortoises and neighbours (ok maybe not) believe in us – so let's make next year another amazing success for everyone.

Successful teams talk about creating Legacies – this has a feeling much like the dreaded Class of '92 – Alan Hansen was famously heard saying “you can't win anything with kids”. Finally, I would like to thank everyone for supporting my Captaincy year and getting on board with me – if I'm lucky to be voted in again then it is my goal to work towards our “Legacy”.

However, I must finish with three massive thank you.

Jon Maunder – my principal VC – who does his best to help me balance this full-time job with my other full time jobs. Thanks Bro x

Family Cutts – Do, Girlies, Mum and Dad – thank you all for the support in letting me have fun with this motley crew all over Gloucestershire on a Saturday – instead of being a Dads taxi I get to play a sport I have fallen back in love with.

Finally – Poulton CC members – for embracing Family Cutts into your fold and putting up with me in only my third season.

Let's Make Season 2018 even better than 2017 – it's going to be difficult but I know you've got it in you.

6. 2nd team review (Graham Clarke)

It would be easy to regard a mid-table finish in our 1st season in the 1st Division (played 15 won 7) as a good achievement however with 2 emphatic wins to end a nervous season ...relegation was more than a threat ... this result is a testament to the strength and ability within the club. 27 players represented the 2nd XI demonstrating the difficulties experienced in regular availability and the continuous contribution and support necessary for a successful Club 1st XI.

Well-deserved promotion to the One's for Scott Meredith and skipper Jody Lawrence - contributing nearly 1000 runs to the 1st XI's League run tally - demonstrates the main purpose of the 2nd XI. Youngsters, (Cal, Felix and Dan D were regularly considered for promotion and along with Dan C, George, Emma, Bengy, Phoebe and Jack,) will continue to develop and are expected to be increasingly influential in the Two's next year.

It would be fair to say that results were inconsistent; but such is the nature of the League structure and this team will need continuous improvement if it is to challenge for promotion in 2018.

Quick memorable highlights are valuable, Autumnal reminisces and who didn't expect the evergreen Big Higgs to bag 500 runs? (541 to finish 5th in the League!) His 116, in a partnership with Jodie (114) of 239 against Sherston, resulted in the season's highest score of 301. Meanwhile Cal was having a mixed season but showed his ability and maturity in an

undefeated 80, whilst batting with Coley (55 not out) - one of the most committed innings witnessed – in beating the dangerous Barnsley 1st XI.

New arrival Graeme Hilditch will strengthen the middle order next year and he and Dan C, Jack and Bengy all showed that they can hold their own in the game against Tetbury. ‘Thanks’ too, for the Old Guard and all others unnamed here.

Our change bowling is an area for improvement next year; several opposition teams carry powerful batting line-ups that need to be stopped and we will need to work on this. However, Dan C picked up a creditable 11 wickets in backing up Big Higgo (21 wickets at 12) and, in dismissing Longborough and Seizingcote for 30 at the end of the season, this team proved that they can be clinical in the field. Muzzer’s hands and Neil’s off spin are invaluable too!! Impressive behind the sticks buddy!!

Only 2 games were lost at home; perhaps we need to take the same confidence and strength to the away games. Looking for a young scorer to travel with us next year! We have the ability. We have the focus. But do we have the commitment to make ourselves available a little more during 2018? I do hope so.

7. Ladies Cricket Team Review (Philippa Dunn)

Again another successful season from Poulton Ladies. With a raid on the captain's hockey club approximately half of the regular attendees and players were cricketing novices, eager to learn the game. The pre-season objective was to finish mid table due to the developmental status of the season. With dedicated coaching, and a brilliant level of commitment from the ladies, and an abundance of natural talent they were soon fighting out first place in the league with Charlton Kings within the early stages of the season. Unfortunately a classic Poulton batting collapse ensued during an early home fixture against their rivals, but despite losing one more game than Charlton Kings, the ladies were league runners up by only 3 points meaning they won their games in a more convincing fashion.

The ladies have booked their winter nets, and already raring to go for next season where they should once again be challenging for the title.

A big thanks to Jody Lawrence and Callum Higginson for their unwavering support at both training and matches; thank you to Stella Voaden for her support at training and matches, thank you to Wayne Tinson and the ground staff for supplying us with the best pitch in the league; further thanks to Wayne for his general help on match days; and finally thank you to our loyal supporters (Claire Reeves, Rachael Mundy et al) for supporting with teas and admin.

8. Junior Cricket Review (Neil Cheesewright)

A hugely encouraging family turnout at the end of season awards reflected the generally positive 2017 season enjoyed by all age groups for both boys and girls cricket.

The winter indoor nets programme at Fairford led to a new influx of junior cricketers and meant that many ‘hit the ground running’ at the start of the outdoor season with their newly acquired skills.

We are lucky to have so many talented young cricketers at our club and we have seen more than ever the promotion of youth into our senior league and friendly teams which can only bode well for our future. It has to be said that we have seen the juniors outshining the seniors on several occasions!!

The enthusiasm showed by all involved with the new 'All Stars' initiative was a sheer delight to see on the outfield at the clubhouse on a Sunday morning. So many boys & girls enjoying the game, ably supported by the lead coaches, parent helpers and older siblings – so important in maintaining our ethos of 'Cricket for All.'

Special mention to all our coaches and parent supports:

U9's - Scott Meredith

U11's - Mike Jones & David Dunn

U13's - Chris Thorn & Jim Woodcock

U15's - Rob Collins & Nigel Dodds

Girls' team – Philippa Dunn & Claire Reeves

All Stars – David Dunn, David McKinnon

Also, a huge thank you to Caroline Pattison for her hard work behind the scenes as junior membership coordinator. All coaches must help pave the way for a smoother transactional element of junior membership payments for 2018.

Lastly, it has to be noted that we have faced difficulties at times with number participation across the ages. In many fixtures this season we have had opposing teams not being able to field a side. It is an important reminder to all involved at the club that whilst we must promote talent and endeavour to do our very best for their progression, we have a duty to promote the game as a whole and must nurture all young cricketers involved in order not to lose them as players, coaches or supporters of our club in the future.

With so many positives to build upon however, not least the emergence of 5 newly qualified club coaches within our youth set up, I am confident that we have the tools and enthusiasm to keep growing a vibrant and talented youth section that we can all be proud of.

U7's/U9's (Scott Meredith)

Another great year for the U7&U9 age group. Numbers were impressive throughout the season, with a core of 25-30 for most sessions. We focused on building on the base skills already established through winter nets. Establishing simple concepts like using a full face of the bat through to being tall & aligned when bowling. The boys & girls really showed tremendous engagement and development throughout the summer. The U9s were unbeaten in normal matches, which is the second year in succession. They also performed brilliantly in the Cirencester Festival winning 5 games unbeaten to get to the final. They were then involved in a match of great tension against Cheltenham in the final before finishing as Runners Up after a great day of hard fought and fun cricket. Overall, a really pleasing season, building on the momentum from last year.

Under 11s: (Mike Jones)

A mixed season sums it all up! A promising squad, good fixture list and very well-attended, enthusiastic training sessions versus lots of bad weather, rugby/football in May and holidays in August (not to mention District teams) affecting availability, resulting in not as much cricket played as one would have liked. In the end, the under 11s played nine matches with another seven games postponed. There were six teams that we never got to play as we couldn't reschedule for one reason or another, including one team (Oaksey), who had themselves withdrawn from all fixtures due to low numbers.

We won two of the nine games, one against Lechlade in the CDCA cup - which led to the 'epic' on-off-on-off semi-final against Bourton Vale! Other games went very close and there were some very good performances from many of the players.

We had 22 players in the squad (not including the U9s), and 13 of those played five games or more. At least ten of the twenty-two will be moving up to the U13s next season. As coach, I will also be moving up with Leo to the U13s and will assist Neil wherever he needs me.

U13's Report (Neil Cheesewright)

A pleasing season with some stand out results with an impressive win at home to a strong Bourton Vale side and away victories at Lechlade and at Great Rissington in the cup. Some strong attendances for training nights where fielding, running in between wickets and fitness were very much the focus in order to complement the boys' game management. I was impressed how some of the older boys nurtured the u11's when called upon to bolster the ranks of the u13's on match days.

Very rewarding to see so many contributions with the bat and ball by the whole squad on a match day. 4 boys included in District/County Squads.

Girl's Report (Claire Reeves)

The girls formed a strong "13 and under" squad to participate in a CDCA run pairs tournament culminating over 20 games of cricket across 4 half day events. A great effort throughout by all the girls and clear win for Poulton at the Cirencester event. This tournament is planned again for next season with what is becoming a good solid base for younger girls at Poulton. Our older U13 girls played both in the tournaments and with the U15 girls regularly trained and played with the ladies team and also got involved with the boys junior teams.

U15's (Rob Collins)

The U15s struggled for numbers at times but drew on talented younger aged group players - both boys and girls. Whilst the league was in a friendly format the team won all its 5 fixtures against Cirencester, Bourton Vale and Sherston Magna respectively with the games against Lechlade falling foul of the weather. The best performance of the season was the win against a strong Bourton Vale side where the team fielded superbly and won the game with a couple of overs to spare. Unfortunately, Bourton Vale upped their game two weeks later and comfortably won our cup semi-final against them.

9. Club Development Plan

The club has continued to develop well on all fronts; facilities, playing and community. The club did not renew its ClubMark accreditation when this was due in 2014 but SGW will be reviewing this year with Neil Cheesewright in order to reapply to the GCB.

10. The election of officers:

The following were elected:

President	Rosemarie Chapman	p Andy J, s Jody L
Chairman	David Dunn	p Ross C s Rob C
Club Secretary	Simon Gordon-Walker	p Wayne T s Olly N
Treasurer	Steve Willard	p Jon M s Andy J
Youth Development Officer	Neil Cheesewright	p Rob C s Chris T
Youth Development Membership	Caroline Pattinson	p SGW s DWD
Child Welfare Officer	Neil Cheesewright	p Chris T s Caroline P
1 st XI Captain	Ross Cutts	p Rob C s Jody L
2 nd XI Captain	Graham Clarke	p Ross C s Liam J
Ladies Captain	Philippa Dunn	

Sunday XI Captain	Jody Lawrence	p Neil C s Emma O'C
Fixtures Secretary	Jody Lawrence	p Emma O'C s Ross C
T20 Captain	Liam James	p Olly N, Robbie J
Ground Committee	Wayne Tinson, Andy James, Neil Shaw	
Other committee members	Sam Denning, Mark Higginson, Jon Maunder, Emma O' Connor, Andy James, Mark Burton	

The secretary will go through the lists of Hon Life Members and Hon Vice Presidents and prepare a list for the committee and the Club President: and here it is...

Our Hon Vice Presidents are:

Mr R W Butt, Mrs A Shaw, Mr J Tinson, Mrs M Edwards, Mrs J P Nunn, Mr J F Nunn, Mr & Mrs D Higginson, Mr D Fowles, Mrs V Gardiner, Mrs M Thorn

Sadly we heard of the death this year of Lt Col Lord (Neville) Wigram one of our long standing Vice Presidents

No additional VPs were added

Our club Life Members are:

Mr A J Ayres, Mrs J Lomas, Mr D Morrison, Miss J Nunn, Mr M Smith

No additional Life Members were added

11. Subscriptions and Membership for 2018:

- After much discussion it was considered by the meeting to keep annual subs same as 2017
- **2018 fees will be £60 for all senior players.**
- U15s, U13s & U11s - £50,
- U9, U7 & Women and girls - £30
- Juniors will have sibling discounts
- Match fees are £5 and payable by anyone representing the club at senior level.
- For those players who are only around for a couple of games, it was agreed to charge a £5 playing fee as well as the £5 teas fee.
- Club will pay for 1st XI umpires
- Weekly emails to be shared with captains of the non-paying members.
- One off standing order of £60 or 12 payments of £5 per month. All to be paid by BACS please

12. Fund raising activities for 2018

- White Party is May 5th 2018, going for 230 people
- Ladies have set up a fund raising committee: race nights etc.
- Fund raising committee also set up – AJ, MB, JC, SGW - ground boards: Important that this will be concentrated on this year.

13. Any other business

- Andy J mentioned his thoughts that the logo seemed outdated, mentioned that he will be putting out some designs for comment.

- Wayne T – will need some volunteers next year for Marquee installation etc.
Please respond when requested.
- Winter nets organised – 5th Feb onwards at Rendcomb
- Need to look at recruiting an umpire.
- SGW thanked literati Charlie Buse, Jody, Graham for doing the respective league senior team reports; very important for club visibility in local area
- Coaching: members expressing interest, if they attend the course and then support the club with coaching, they will be refunded their course fee.
- Winter dinner/dance & presentation evening will be on 18th Nov – 89 people attending

The meeting closed at 9.10pm