

## Minutes of AGM for Ewshot Riding Club 2016/17

Apologies received from James Alcroft and Laura Watkin

The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked Mr & Mrs Watts for allowing the club to use their grounds once again this year. Thanks were also passed on for all the help and support we have received from them throughout the year. The Chairman also pointed out how privileged we are to have such a beautiful place to hold our events.

It was noted that 2016 had been another good year for the club despite a slight drop in the year end bank balance. This was accounted for by the number of charity events held this year and donations made to The British Heart Foundation, The Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and MacMillan cancer support. The club Treasurer went on to explain this year accounts and show that all was in order financially. He went on to explain that the accounts were slightly different this year due to the increased use of the PayPal account when paying for membership and for events like Dressage & ShowCross.

Events were mostly well attended this year although the ShowCross would benefit from an increase in advertising to ensure more pre-entries. The club introduced a new event to the ShowCross calendar this year with the addition of our Team challenge against the Allstars team from Sussex. It was a great day, enjoyed by all and although we sadly lost the trophy this time we will be back to try again.

Our Showjumping and Dressage Captain, Kate, spoke a few words regarding these 2 competitions. Both were well attended again this year. She remarked that running both as qualifiers for the Sunshine Tour was still working was a popular attraction and we will be running more in 2017. We encouraged Bitless entries to Dressage again this year and we also included Lead Rein in the Intro tests.

Members only events this year included XC practice days at Mini Mattingley, Beach Rides and Show Jumping clinics. More will be arranged in 2017 as they proved to be popular. The XC practice day will change venue next time.

It was pointed out that our XC course had some much need repairs done on it and that this was ongoing. During the new season some of the older jumps will be replaced and others re-discovered from under bracken. The work party, despite the offer of bacon rolls, turned out to be just the committee once again but we will persevere at the next one.

The club purchased and had embroidered, a number of polo shirts and saddle pads following requests from members this year. The take-up has been slow but may increase as the weather improves and new members join.

The clubs 2 newest committee members – Sue and James- have both fitted in really well and have been a huge help.

The Chairman passed her thanks on to Kevin, our resident photographer for his time and great pictures. However, as Kevin had seen an increase in other commitments, it was decided that the club should purchase a camera to cover the times when he couldn't be with us. This proved to work well and our thanks were passed to Dave for filling in behind the camera.

It was note that the Xmas Gymkhana had gone well with lots of amazing costumes which made it very hard for our judge, Mrs Watts, to choose winners in the Junior and Senior division. Our end of year awards were also given out before the games started but the ShowJumping Trophies have yet to be awarded due to postponement of the last competition. They will be awarded at the

end of the next SJ competition in March.

The Chairman then went on to thank all the members who have helped behind the scenes this year, putting up jumps, building courses, time keeping etc. The committee were also thanked for their help during the year making sure events are organised and run well. The social media feedback has once again shown that we are doing well.

At this point, the Chairman moved on to the Club Constitution and that an update had been required to keep up with current Club practices. The use of social media and change of membership fees and options were the main changes along with the new Safety hat guidelines. The latest version was passed around and a show of hands was given to approve the amendments.

As written in the Clubs constitution, one quarter of the Committee are required to stand down for re-election, at the AGM. This year the two standing down were:-

Mrs Anne Watkin ... re-elected.

Proposed by Kate Dineen

Seconded by Raychell Langan

&

Mrs Linda Boman ... re-elected

Proposed by Dave Watkin

Seconded by Tony Boman

Our membership secretary, Linda Boman, explained the membership numbers for 2016. We had had a good year with 26 senior members, 15 junior members and 2 honorary members. We are hoping for another good year in 2017.

The meeting then moved on to AOB

Mr Dave Watkin made a toast to the Club Chairman for all the work she puts in to the club on a daily basis whether it be arranging events, ordering rosettes, paying bills or liaising with BRC and other clubs. Her work is always much appreciated.

No questions were raised from the floor.

Next Year's AGM date set for 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2018

Meeting closed at 7.45 pm.