



Gloucestershire Cricket Foundation

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Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Gloucestershire Cricket Foundation held on Thursday 27th March via Teams

1. In Attendance

Andy Shield (AS), Steve Silk (SS), Phil Carter (PC), Nigel Hill (NH), Mark Lambert (ML), Sybil Ruscoe (SR), Razi Ahmed (RA), Jane Khawaja (JK), Rich Bernard (RB), Crispin Shingler (CS), & Pete Boorman (PB). In addition, the following clubs and organisations were also in attendance: Frenchay CC, Hawkesbury CC, Stroud CC, Down Hatherley CC, Frampton-on-Severn CC, Cheltenham CC, Carsons & Mangostfield CC, Golden Hill CC, Stinchcombe Stragglers CC, Ashton Keynes CC, Kingsholm CC, Eastcombe CC, Painswick CC, Rockhampton CC, Bristol Aces CC, Redmarley CC, Newent CC & Bourton Vale CC.

The number of people attending ensured that a quorum had been established

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Hilary Caudle (HC), Brian Woodcock & Cirencester CC

3. Minutes of Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 28th March 2024 via teams were approved and signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Reports

Reports from various elements of the GCF had been posted on the website prior to the meeting.

5.1 Chair Report – AS highlighted from his report the importance of people especially those volunteers within the club, the employees of GCF and the supported provided by Directors/Trustees.

5.2 CEO Report – SS placed emphasis on the following :-

- First County Board/Foundation to be recognised by the ECB as 'Leading' in 6 areas of the game (CPA1).
- Attainment of the ECB Gold Standard Governance Award, first County Board/Foundation across England & Wales to achieve this.
- Great growth in the club game and environment.
- Significant growth in the Women & Girls' game with 63 clubs now having a female section.
- Junior sections established at 96 of the 174 clubs affiliated to GCF

- All Stars/Dynamos: In terms of numbers attending, 4th largest in the country.
- Primary Schools: 53% of primary schools in Gloucestershire received delivery by GCF staff in academic year 2023/2024.
- Headcount will soon increase to 20 people, with more growth projected across 2025.
- Turnover has increased by 49% resulting in a full audit being required instead of an inspection as part of the regulations for operating as a charity.
- Pressure on Clubs stated a degree of empathy with clubs in terms of pressure about ground preparation, availability and the amount of information being cascaded from GCF/ECB.
- Phil Carter: SS recorded his personal thanks for the commitment of PC in his 29 years' service.

5.3 Finance and Adoption of Accounts – ML gave a brief overview of the accounts for the year ending 30th September 2024. The meeting formally adopted the accounts. NH also made reference to the Governance Report and the attainment of the ECB Gold Standard Governance Award.

5.3.1 Adoption of revised Articles of Association – The revised set of Articles of Association were distributed to members prior to the AGM, explanation was given for the updates, and members voted unanimously in favour of adopting the new set.

The following reports had also been made available prior to the meeting and no comments were recorded.

5.4 Youth League and Performance Group – Jim Donaldson

5.5 Womens and Girls Development Group – Charlotte Moore

5.6 Disability Group – Jeanette Tate

6. Elections

The following resignations, re-appointments and appointments were transacted.

6.1 Re-election of Trustees/Directors: Sybil Ruscoe and Peter Boorman - their terms as Directors/Trustees have concluded, both have expressed, with the support of the board, to remain in place and continue to Inspire Gloucestershire. Both appointments were ratified.

6.2 Resignation of Trustee/Director – Andy Parsons has stated his intention to retire as his term was now spent. AP was thanked for support to the GCF through a period of change especially from transition from Board to Charity. AP will remain as a co-opted member of the board leading a sub-group focusing on fund raising and particularly grants.

6.3 Resignation of Finance Director: Phil Carter has decided to resign from this position after 29 years' service in the role of finance with the organisation. Involved in all finance matters from being a board to its transition to a charity. PC commended for his commitment, management of and great knowledge of accounting procedures. Particularly relevant to account procedures applicable to operating as a charity in recent times. The GCF will acknowledge Phil's commitment in the appropriate manner in the very near future.

6.4 Appointment of Finance Director: Richard Bernard - the nomination for the position of Finance Director of the Foundation was duly elected to the post. RB gave a brief introduction to himself and his aspirations for the role moving forward.

7. Appointment of Auditors :

On the recommendation of the Finance, Risk, Audit & Governance Group (FRAG) BK Plus were appointed as the Auditors of the Gloucestershire Cricket Foundation.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 The Hundred: SS provided a brief insight into the positive impact of revenue being generated from the Hundred for both the professional and recreational games.

8.2 Club Mark Accreditation – The following clubs attained the ECB Clubmark Accreditation in 2024 bringing the total number in the county to 69.

Adlestrop CC, Daylesford & Oddington CC, Ashton Keynes CC, Birdlip & Brimpsfield CC, Bristol Pakistani's CC Frampton-on-Severn CC, Highnam Court CC, Ruardean Hill CC & Sherston Magna CC

Congratulations to all and thanks for their commitment to safeguarding.

8.3. Non-Turf Pitches(NTP'S): The meeting was presented with a question on the viability of the use of NTP'S in league recreational cricket. It was noted that in Division 9 of the recently established Gloucestershire Cricket League and Bristol & District divisions 9 – 3, such pitches were permissible. It was felt that in view of the challenges clubs face in terms of game space capacity, quality of certain grass pitches, cost of preparation, repair and renovation, volunteers with correct skills sets and the unpredictability of the weather, then as quality of NTP's improve that their use should be actively encouraged to provide a quality cricket surface. The GCF will where appropriate actively influence leagues and governing bodies to give the utmost consideration for their use.

There being no further business at 7.46pm the Chair thanked people for their attendance, the work they do as volunteers in the club space and wish them every success for the forthcoming 2025 season .