Minutes of Capel CC EGM on 14h March 2025

1. Apologies for Absence

Norman Walke, Wendy Walke, Fiona Pengelley, Patrick Ferguson

2. Chairman's Welcome and Update

Homemade gala pie, scotch eggs, chocolate cake offered

An update on pitch maintenance – meeting with Pete Bamford re continuing maintenance is planned, it wax noted that pitch care costs are likely to increase in the coming year.

3. Treasurer's Update

Grant Cooper presented the accounts for the year. It was noted that 44% of revenue for the year was bar profit.

The club made an overall £2000 profit last year.
Sponsorsip was 25% of revenue, but is likely to be down in the coming year, with the bulk os some multi-year agreements having already been received.
As noted by the chairman, pitch care costs are expected to increase.
The club received an unexpectedly large electricity bill, this is to be confirmed with the parish council in case we are being charged for some of their usage.

The club should expect to make a loss in the coming year, and so might need to raise fees in 2026.

Chris Parker issued a call to arms re recruiting new members, congratulated the Ladies' section on their efforts.
Julie Sanders mentioned that the ECB are offering grants to upgrade facilities for Ladies' sections.
Will Wright announced that he will be resigning from his fund raising role.
Tim Sanderson asked if we have any prepared e presentation for sponsors showing their options, the committee agreed to develop these.
Jon Stronell suggested holding a social night for new members ; in the subsequent discussion Chris Parker raised possibkle security issues, Nicole Ruegsegger raised the quality of the pavilion facilities, Michelle Archer commented on the club's options for summer events.
May 4th suggested and agreed as the date for a club open day ; the club need to publicise this better, and also be more present on FOG friends web forum – Martin Storey to explore options for our social media presence,
Pauline Parker suggested a 'bring a new member' event with prizes.

4. Election of Officers

Nominations for the posts of Vice Chair – Alex Stevenson - approved

PR Officer – Martin Storey – approved

Safguarding – Ewan MacKenzie to continue in this role, but not as a committee member.

It was noted by the chairman that thecommittee can second members for additional assistance ; the current committee size will remain for now.

5. Vote on Proposed Change to AGM Date

Proposal made by Chris Parker and seconded by Mark Banfield to move AGM date from October to March, starting in March 2026. Fwill be made in financial reports in January, and the AGM should be separate from end-of-season awards. This change approved by the meeting.

6. Presentation of Fixture List for 2025 season

HP confirmed home fixtures every Sunday except fete weekend ; there will be 11 home and away development team fixtures. The club is waiting on confirmation of dates for June ladies' softball fixture, and 2 home softball festivals, with 6 teams expected at the friendly festival. Ladies' softball bash T20 league fixtures are also pending, most of these will be against local teams.
President's day agrred for Saturday in mid September, this will also be the day of the Zutphen match if they tour here again.

Help will be needed with teas – Nicole Ruegsegger suggested posting a sign-up sheet in the pavilion for this Chris Parker pointed out that the club does pay tea costs ; Julie Sanders suggested a rota for players to provide teas. No final decisions made.

Martin Storey provided printed copies of the fixture list as it currently stands.

7. AOB

i. Change to the constitution, proposed by Patrick Ferguson and seconded by Chris Parker,
Change item 8, 3rd sentence to
Members are asked to advise the secretary, in writing, of any business for the Annual General or Extraordinary General meetings at least 14 days before a meeting. Other business can be raised at these meetings at the discretion of the chairman.

ii. Update from the Secretary regarding first aid training for club members.
Mark Banfield confirmed that the club will pay for a course which will be run in June for club first aiders.

iii. Request for help from members in finding additional sponsors for the club.
Chris Parker mentioned reduction of Oak Tree Barn sponsorship in the coming year, and uncertainty about the continuation of the Capel Groundcare sponsorship, so any suggestions welcome. Sums required can be quite small ; suggestions to be made to Richard Morgan.

iv. Survey of members re opening of bar for Rugby on 15th
This did not receive enough support, so won't happen.

v. The club golf day will now be held on 5th of April after the earlier washout.

vi. A question was asked about the club's junior section for the coming season. Jon Stronell confirmed we will attempt to run an U13 side ; the club will run some recruitment sessions at Putlands (in the next 6 weeks, onsunday afternoons) ; a leaflet drop to publicise these is planned. Michelle Archer offered to leaflet Paddock Wood, also tdiscussedf that the club should contact Scouts/Guide troops and check in at the Paddock Woodcommunity centre – Pauline Parker suggested that the Easter weekend would be a good opportunity for club events.
Pembury have contacted the club re taking our U15 players for a couple of years ? – it was agreed that U14s will instead go into our development team.

Meeting closed 20:08.