

# **BENEDICTINE S C**

## **Minutes of General Meeting**

**Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Concert Room 8pm**

Dennis Patterson, Chair read the Notice convening the Meeting and introduced Ron Ray, Club Treasurer and Susan from Andrew Phillips & Co, Club auditor to the meeting.

Dennis Patterson read the Minutes of the last Meeting – minutes were approved and accepted.  
Proposed by Tommy Brechany and Seconded by Len Haigh.

Before moving to the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet Dennis presented the Half Year Accounts Summary, Appendix (i) attached and Susan then supported with commentary noting that the Club finances were in a stable position, under control with any cost increases moving in line with inflationary factors eg the Living Wage.

The Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet – Year Ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were approved and accepted.

Proposed by Tommy Brechany and Seconded by David Haigh.

Dennis Patterson asked the meeting for consent for The Committee to appoint 3 Scrutineers plus a Returning Officer, if required in any election process post the Annual General Meeting.

Accepted by a majority show of hands – no objections.

Dennis Patterson then addressed the meeting in terms of why change was required –

Over 17 years between 2006 & 2022 the Club had lost, before tax £330,000, representing an average of £19,000 per year with only two years of surplus in that period. The cash in bank, even though supported by the sale of land in 2007 had reduced by £230,000. If things do not change the result will not change and at the historical rates the Club would, at some point experience funding issues.

The focus of the Committee over the last six months has been to address areas of deficit under our control and implement change. Areas already addressed – Members Subscriptions, Members Pricing, Drink Prices, Cover Charges, Committee Meeting Costs, ½ Year Accounts stopped and two new high interest saving accounts have been introduced. With these changes the Committee is confident that the Club will see an Operating Surplus of £5,000+ in the November 2024 Statement of Accounts.

Financial stability and certainty will now allow the Club to focus on evolution, at a moderated and considered pace and to invest in buildings, facilities, Member benefits and activities to attract New Members which in turn will increase the annual till takings of the Club.

The meeting was asked to encourage member buy in to change and to help promote a friendly inviting atmosphere, culture and family environment to attract new members.

Following on from, and as committed in the ½ Year General Meeting the remaining Rule changes were presented to the meeting, Appendix (ii) attached representing 34 additional changes.

As the rule changes had been made available before the meeting it would be taken members had taken the time to read and understand the changes rather than each rule change being read out. The Chair proposed each rule would be referenced and if there was one or more objections a vote would be carried out.

Bob Simpson counter proposed that the meeting vote to accept all 34 rule changes – this was agreed unanimously so it was carried all rule changes were agreed and accepted.

**Any Other Business (AOB) – None**

**Meeting closed at 8.56pm.**

**To be displayed on Club Notice Board – Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 for two weeks until the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024.  
Please direct any observations to the Club Secretary in writing.**

**Dennis Patterson  
Club Secretary  
18<sup>th</sup> April 2024**