



## Cheshire Association of Groundsmen

### Chairman

Brian Huxley  
Rothesey  
Church Road  
Saugall Chester  
CH1 6EP

### Secretary

Dave Twiney  
31 Clay Lane  
Timperley  
Cheshire  
WA15 7 AF

### Treasurer

Minutes of AGM held at Timperley Sports Club on Thursday 7/Nov at 7.30 p.m.

### Present

Richard Cragg( Bramhall), Dave Twiney(Timperley), Andy Horsfield(Timperley), Mike Cook (Oulton Park), Mike Samaru(Toft), Chris Burnett(Cheadle Hulme Ladybridge), Steve Guest(Hyde),A.Burns(Widnes), M Burns(Widnes), Stan Aspinall(Stockport Trinity), L.Hart(Wilmslow),J.Herriott(Wilmslow), Rick Gleave(Kerridge), Andy Pickles(Cheadle Hulme), Paul Agar(Warrington), Alex Kegg(Chester BH), Paul Fairclough(Macclesfield)

### Apologies:

Brian Birtles, John Bygate, Gareth Moorhouse, Tony Collard, Colin Wilkes, Ian Mather-Brewster, Gavin Graham, Ian Schora, Bren Connolly

### Minutes of last AGM

Were agreed

### Chairman's Report

Richard welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said it had been a bad year with many games lost due to bad weather.

Over the year we had said farewell to Brian Huxley and Nick James with bad health and move to Yorkshire respectively also sadly Brian Jarrard a most popular groundsman who had transformed Tattenhall and had died earlier this year..

Our new committee members had been busy, Ian Schora arranged an open day at Hale Barns and as a result was awarded an OSCAR by the 4Cs and went to Lords. Andy had been active on social media and arranged our speaker for the night - a major coup.

We have two new Pitch Advisors (PAs), Mark Samaru and Alex Kegg. Our other longstanding PA, Paul Agar has been busy this year leading both the level 1 courses as well as joining in with an ECB arranged course for young cricketers.

The CAG have been asked to come up with a Mission Statement and 5 year plan. A first draft has been done. Richard asked the meeting to come up with ideas – to be emailed to the secretary. A part of this will be to change our relationship with the Pitch Advisors as we plan to subsidise their work, so any CAG club can ask for their advice free of charge.

### Treasurer and Secretary's Report

Dave was pleased to announce we had money in the bank. Currently a little over £10,000. This capital was accumulated over the last few years as we sold off the machinery.

Dave reminded the meeting that CAG's income is roughly £2000 pa from the Cheshire clubs and that prior to this year we had run two level 1 courses provided by the IOG. They charge £170 per head so if we had 6 attendees at each course that pretty well took all our income. However this year we found it difficult to guarantee the minimum 6 on each course and the IOG are becoming less flexible – so we asked our PAs to run the courses. This was very successful so we plan to do it again.

This meant we had an excess of income over outgoing – so we decided to use this to subsidise the work of PA's – which has already started with visits and reports on 3 clubs.

Dave hopes to arrange a level 2 course from the IOG over the winter.

Election of Officers

The committee was re-elected by the absence of any alternative from the meeting, so it remains –

Richard Cragg – Chair

Paul Agar – Vice Chair

Dave Twiney – Treasurer and (acting) Secretary

Ian Schora and Andy Horsfield - Members

AOB

Stan Aspinall asked that the draft CAG Mission Statement and plan be publicised via email – action DT

The meeting agreed that the role of groundsmen needs to be publicised and recognised by the clubs. It was thought an annual award and presence at the league end of season dinners would be good – but there was no agreement on how to choose a “most improved” or other winner as the Umpire’s pitch markings were generally thought to be rubbish.

Draw

We then drew lots to distribute the goods Andy had been able to get from companies at SALTEX.

Speaker

Richard then introduced our speaker – the excellent Gary Barwell – Head Groundsman at Edgbaston – who told us how he came to the job and then described his typical year. Gary agreed with a number of points raised during the meeting – need to raise the profile of the industry especially as this might get more young people involved.

Date .....

Signed .....