



## Minutes of AGM held on 14.06.17

(revised post 2018 AGM)

### Present:

Ken Winchester (KW)	HSBA Chair
Ying Lee (YL)	HSBA Treasurer
Kevin Maughan (KM)	HSBA Secretary
Barbara Lewczynska (BL)	HSBA Welfare Officer /Closed (HSBA) Tournament Secretary
Adrian Leung (AL)	HSBA U12 Squad Manager / HSBA Publicity Officer
Mike Newlove (MN)	HSBA U14 Manager/Open Tournament Secretary
Hitesh Shah (HS)	HSBA U16 Manager
Becky White (BW)	HSBA U18 Squad Manager
Graham Clarke (GC)	HSBA U14 Assistant Manager / HSBA Website Coordinator / Stanstead Abbots BC
Joanne Trerise-Clark (JC)	HSBA Newsletter Editor
Marjorie Dixon (MDi)	HSBA Committee Member
Carolyn Windebank (CW)	HSBA U12 Parent Rep
Joseph James (JJ)	HSBA U12 Parent Rep
Cristina Di Gesaro (CG)	HSBA U14 Parent Rep
Jackie Ward (JW)	HSBA U18 Parent Rep
Steven Aitken (SA)	U14 Squad Parent
Ali Baker (AB)	U18 Squad Parent
Sue Clarke (SC)	Much Hadham BC / East Herts Community Badminton Network
Neil Clarke (NC)	Much Hadham BC / East Herts Community Badminton Network
Melissa Davey (MDa)	The Highfield School / DKWay Academy BC
Graham Hall (GH)	Little Heath School
Stephen Willis (SW)	DKWay Academy BC
Daniel Jennings (DJ)	Player (Parmiter's School)
Daniel Davey (DD)	Player (North Herts College)
Lia Di Gesaro (LG)	Player

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Marion Conway, Christine Adey, Dave Bartlett</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Minutes of AGM 2016 (09.6.2016)</b></p> <p>The minutes of last year's AGM were accepted unanimously.</p> <p>Proposed - Mike Newlove Seconded - Ying Lee.</p>



## 3 Young Volunteer/ Young Coach of the Year Awards

It was noted that this year we have had a number of high standard nominations and that selection of the winners has been remarkably difficult.

### a. Young Coach of the Year Award

Young Coach of the Year – **Sam Newlove**

Sam has been assisting every week at the County's U16 Squad sessions for the last year. He is always punctual, organised and practices what he preaches.

He has demonstrated excellent 1 to 1 skills and earns the attention and respect of the players. He has taken on various coaching styles to help with the players' progress and is always willing to adapt to different coaching styles.

Sam's commitment to get the players on court even extends to lending the players his own shoes!

Sam also works with John Stobo at after schools clubs in Welwyn and Hatfield and has also been regularly working with Phil Adams on Thursdays and Saturdays.

He has now applied to gain his level 2 coaching qualification, further demonstrating his commitment to the sport.

A special mention was made of **Charlie Cork** and **Daniel Davey**.

### b. Young Volunteer of the Year Award

Young Volunteer of the Year – **Lia Di Gesaro**

Lia has successfully started a badminton club at Queenswood School, which she runs single-handedly.

Not only has this lifted Queenswood in recent National Schools competitions but Lia has given belief and confidence to players who had not previously thought themselves so capable.

She is always confident and patient, which makes it easy for those around her to accept her as a teacher.

Lia has also been assisting with Saturday morning Smash Up Sessions at Hatfield, where she is happy to integrate with many of the younger players.

She has completed a Badminton Young Leaders Award and qualified as a young Leader as well as achieving top GCSE marks for Badminton Coaching.

A special mention was made of **Amelia Thorpe** and **Joe Moore**



<b>4</b>	<b>Tribute to Joan Walters (KW)</b> <p>It is very sad to record the loss of Joan Walters in March this year.</p> <p>Joan became Treasurer of the Association back in 1977, when her own children were in the county squad. In the subsequent years, she proved herself to be the backbone of HSBA, enacting a number of different roles, whilst remaining Hon. Treasurer for almost 20 years. She even stepped in as Chairman when the Association was in danger of collapse.</p> <p>Her guidance and assistance culminated in Hertfordshire winning the English Schools Badminton Association Inter Counties Championship in 1997, the premier junior county team event in the year.</p> <p>In the role of Tournament Secretary, she also successfully ran our Open Tournaments for many years, which was widely recognised as probably the best managed in the country.</p> <p>The funds that she raised helped sustain the Association and allowed a greater number of children to play competitive badminton both in this County and beyond.</p> <p>Although she never sought any personal credit for her enormous contribution, Joan's determination is the reason for our strength today.</p> <p>In 2010, she was awarded Badminton England's highest award for services to badminton, which was presented by her dear friends, Bill Andrew and Eric Brown.</p> <p>Because of her enormous experience, Joan became a great mentor to the HSBA Committee and was determined to ensure fairness for all young players, irrespective of their ability or backgrounds.</p> <p>Joan will be sadly missed both by her family and friends alike.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Updated Badminton England General Disciplinary Regulations</b> <p>It was agreed that HSBA would adopt these regulations, add a link to them from the web site and that KW will continue to be designated as our Disciplinary Officer.</p> <p>Proposed - Mike Newlove Seconded - Cristina Di Gesaro</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Committee Reports</b> <p>Written reports were presented to the meeting (available for download from the website).</p>



## 7 Treasurer's Report and presentation and adoption of Accounts

This season, HSBA's reserves increased by £1k; it was noted that without the profit made by our volunteers running our open tournaments, this would have been a £4k loss.

The committee had discussed at length the level at which to recommend setting the squad fees for next season. A number of factors had been considered:

- Court cost increases
- Shuttle cost increases (weak pound)
- Uncertain tournament revenue (no guarantee of profitability and uncertainty of the effect of competition from other local tournaments).
- A review of previous years accounts (some years showing us hardly breaking even)

Based on this, the committee had agreed that a modest increase of £10 was justified and should be put to the AGM, so £275, with £235 for the final year players. The season will run from September to June, apart from the final year players, whose squad sessions will end at Easter (In future years, if the U20 squad is a success, this may be reviewed). This also fits with the extended tournament season.

The proposal to increase the squad fees by £10 generated much heated discussion.

GH was heavily critical of the committee for proposing an increase when there were significant funds within the association and no plans to spend them. It was explained that the committee felt that HSBA should not be using reserves built up over many years to subsidise current squad players. There had also been a recent meeting to identify possible areas of significant investment, and that these funds would be needed for those projects; the plans would be put to the new committee for approval. It was also noted that a significant problem in spending funds is having volunteers/coaches available to deliver the projects. This season has seen an increase in the number of requests for funding at all levels (e.g. AIM project / U10 development group / CBN funding and a future U20 squad) which match with the objectives in the HSBA constitution and it is hoped that this will increase next season.

GH also claimed that there was confusion over the proposal as he had been given a copy of an email, with an incorrect figure. KM accepted that there had been an internal committee email circulated with a typo error, but this had been quickly corrected, once CG had noticed it. KM also noted that he would have expected internal email communications within the committee to remain within the committee to avoid this sort of misunderstanding – it was unclear from where GH had received his copy.

MDa and AB were also very critical of the increase, asking for the justification to be repeated.

With the discussion becoming increasingly heated, and being aware of almost running out of time at the 2016 AGM due to similar extensive discussions on finance, Ken closed down this discussion and moved to a vote.

Proposed – Mike Newlove

Seconded – Barbara Lewczynska

For:	6
Against:	3
Abstentions:	12



## 8 Election of Officers

All the 2016 officers were prepared to stand for re-election:

Chairman – Ken Winchester (nominated KM / seconded MN)

Secretary – Kevin Maughan (nominated BL / seconded YL) – elected unopposed

Treasurer – Ying Lee (nominated HS / seconded MN) – elected unopposed

Welfare Officer – Barbara Lewczynska (nominated SC / seconded CG) – elected unopposed

GH was put forward at the meeting to stand for Chair.

Nominated - Melissa Davey

Seconded - Jo Clarke

After a request from JW to GH to explain his background, both candidates were invited to address the meeting.

GH presented his strongly held opinions that:

- past and current committees had been financially mismanaging the funds
- past and current committees had been incompetent in their handling of the affairs of Association
- the committee wanted to keep control on the running of the Association to themselves and this was reflected in the way that the constitution had been set up.

Unfortunately, his presentation had to be stopped at one point after he claimed that Malcolm Fraser (a respected founder member of HSBA and ex-chair of HBA) had been 'discredited'; KW intervened to correct the matter, as Malcolm was not present to defend his reputation.

**Note: at the 2018 AGM, GH contested the wording in this section and agreed to provide a revised version to the committee for review and, if found acceptable, for this section to be updated. A revised wording has yet to be received (19/06/19).**

KW then addressed the meeting, summarising the reasons that he felt that he should be re-elected in the role of chair:

- he was keen to continue to build on the work of the association to which he had dedicated many years of his life, the last 17 years as chair.
- he has a proven commitment to the development of all levels of junior badminton, from grass root to elite.
- he has a proven record of steering HSBA through difficult situations

As the nomination was not received prior to the meeting, no preparation had been made for a secret ballot and it took some discussion as to who at the meeting was eligible to vote. KW queried GH's entitlement to vote and the latter indicated that he was acting on behalf of Little Heath school, where he had a football involvement.

Once voting eligibility had been established, with reference to the constitution, NC kindly organised distribution, collection and counting of the voting papers as an independent member of the meeting.

The result of the ballot was:

KW: 11 votes

GH: 10 votes

MDa then pointed out that the position of Vice-Chair was vacant and GH agreed to be put forward for that role. JC seconded the nomination and, there being no other candidate, GH was elected to the role.



<b>9</b>	<p><b>Election of Committee</b></p> <p>The following Committee members were elected unopposed to serve for a further year:</p> <p>Open Tournaments – Mike Newlove Publicity – Joanne Trerise-Clark</p> <p>Proposed en bloc – Cristina Di Gesaro Seconded en bloc – Adrian Leung</p> <p>Christine Adey had stepped down from her role as fixtures secretary. Thanks were expressed for all the hard work that she had put into HSBA over a number of years. Joseph James had volunteered to take over the role and was elected unopposed.</p> <p>Fixtures Secretary – Joseph James</p> <p>Proposed – Cristina Di Gesaro Seconded– Adrian Leung</p> <p>Marjorie Dixon had held a general committee member position for the 2016 season and was prepared to stand again in that role. Marjorie was elected unopposed.</p> <p>Proposed – Ali Baker Seconded– Melissa Davey</p> <p>Melissa Davey then asked for all the vacant committee positions to be listed, and volunteered for the vacant role of Junior Club Representative. There being no other candidate, Melissa was elected to this role.</p> <p>Proposed – Graham Hall Seconded– Marjorie Dixon</p> <p>There followed a brief discussion about the position of parent reps on the committee between the AGM and the election of new parent reps from the new season's squads. The constitution makes it clear that following the AGM the previous year's parent reps are no longer committee members. There were several reasons that this was adopted originally, but the main one was that the squad reps would be representing a set of players &amp; parents that no longer existed as a squad as the squads disband after the summer sessions. CW proposed that the parent reps should be co-opted onto the committee until new reps were elected for the new season, as they may have a valuable contribution to make to the committee over the summer. This was seconded by JC and accepted by the meeting without a vote.</p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>The meeting was declared closed at 21:55</p>

K Maughan  
HSBA Secretary