



High Wycombe Gateway Club

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 24th October 2023 at 7.30pm

Wrights Meadow Centre

Present: Steve Sanders (Chairman)
Jackie Boyce and Penny Checker (Club Leaders)
Viv Hale (Treasurer)
Guy Oltmann-Reeve (Secretary and Trustee)
Club Members & Volunteers

Apologies: Mike Owen-Evans – Trustee
David Willans - Trustee

1. Steve Sanders welcomed the club members, volunteers, and committee members to the AGM. Special thanks were given to the staff of the Wrights Meadow Centre for their support throughout the year. He also referred to the new High Wycombe Gateway Club website, explaining its purpose and producing a flyer giving details of how to access it. Any suggestions for additions to the site would be welcomed.

1.1 The Minutes of the previous AGM held on 27th September 2022 were considered and accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report:

Viv Hale noted that donations for the year, excluding funds received for the sponsored walk, reached £2,000 with £860 collected for the pub quiz and raffle, and £200 from the Christmas raffle.

Subscription receipts indicate a slow return of membership numbers after Covid and the lockdown. Club membership is now back to pre-covid numbers and increasing.

In terms of expenditure, it was noted that the Greatest Showman Ball cost £5,000 with half recouped through ticket sales. We also enjoyed a museum trip which cost in the region of £1,000. Other expenditures included a visit to the pantomime, bowling, the trip to Brighton, insurance, visitors, Christmas presents and general supplies.

The annual expenditure was £22,000 offset by receipts of £19,000.

3. Club Leader's Report:

Once again, we have had a very busy year, with the help of all our members and volunteers we have planned some fun events and activities.

We have enjoyed some of our favourite activities such as Deal or No deal, Brenda, Jill and Andrea were our bankers, and they were a bit mean so Dave A stood in and was much more generous.

One of our mystery guests was Scott a local drummer who brought along buckets and wooden spoons, didn't we make a right racket but it was a fun evening.

We have had film nights with popcorn, you chose Peter Rabbit and Clifford the Big Red dog as films you wanted to see.

In May we celebrated the Kings Coronation with a Street party. We dressed in red, white and blue and kings and queens. Ifti was winner of our most royal fancy dress competition he looked very regal with the crown he had made himself.

A huge thank you to WM who decorated the room and provided us with a banquet of delicious party food.

We also celebrated the Eurovision song contest with an evening of song and dance. We have a lot of talent at our club.

We have had opportunities to dance with Helen visiting us for some line dancing and John Johnnie teaching us some dance moves.

The Great Gateway Bake Off organised by Brenda and Andrea was so much fun. We were challenged to make a trifle, decorate a cake and to make a double decker sandwich. We had so much delicious food and a big thank you to Brenda and Andrea for the home-made cakes.

Our Barbie Party was full of pink costumes and pink food. We had a Barbie versus Ken sing and dance off and a fancy-dress parade. Julia was our Barbie winner wearing pink clothes, pink hair and pink jewellery.

We have offered sports activities in the big hall including archery, Bocca, exercise classes and indoor cricket. We are going to be working with High Wycombe cricket club who will be visiting us once a month for some cricket skills, indoor cricket and keep fit sessions.

We enjoyed a trip to Milestones Museum and to Brighton and we have the Panto to look forward to.

We would like to thank WM and all the staff and volunteers who welcome us on a Tuesday evening and help us out with setting up the room and joining in with our activities. We are pleased that you are part of our Gateway family.

4. Fundraising:

In the past year the Valentine's Disco raised £396 and the Quiz Night raised £835. The sponsored walk on the Rye raised, so far, an astounding £6,500 which included £536 from Wrights Meadow, £735 from The Friends of All Saints Church Coleshill and £3,590 from a Just Giving page set up by Ifti's sister Parveen.

5. Member's Committee Election:

An election was held for six club members to form the Member's Committee. The successful candidates are:

Habib Ismail
Nick McStay
Tom Perks
Melissa Arnold
Stephen Smith
Paul Chapman

6. Election of Executive Committee

The previously existing Executive Committee Members were duly re-elected.

7. Any Other Business

Jon Todd was wished a happy birthday and there being no further business the members and volunteers in attendance were thanked and the Annual General Meeting closed at 8:35pm.