

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023-2024  
TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2024**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Mr Chris Woodrow       | Chairman             |
| Mr Mark Herbert        | Membership Secretary |
| Mr Tariq Salman        | Executive Secretary  |
| Mr James Watchorn      | Honorary Treasurer   |
| Mr Jon Davies          | House Member No.1    |
| Mr Ali Aziz Al-Arayedh | Sports Member        |
| Ms Lorraine Maginnis   | Family Member        |
| Mr Mohamed Salih       | Entertainment Member |
| Mr Iain Gardner        | General Duties       |

Apologies: Mr Jassim Hassan

The quorum for the first call at 7pm and the second call at 7.15pm was not achieved. At the third call 122 members were present and the meeting therefore commenced at 7.35pm. The representative from the Ministry of Social Development sent their apologies and gave approval for the meeting to go ahead and sent their wishes.

**ITEM 1 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER 2023**

The minutes of last year's meeting were approved.

Proposed: Tony Hughes (H0064)

Seconded: Mustapha Musa Awalhe (A1016)

**ITEM 2 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman welcomed all the members, summarised his report and made special thanks to the Club Manager and the staff.

**ITEM 3 REPORT OF THE TREASURER AND APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

The Treasurer summarised his report.

Hatem Jerad (R1012A) Queried the figures. Further explanation was given by the Treasurer and the Club Manager.

Arjun Burman (A0275A) asked for the financial figures to be reported in a simpler manner. The Chairman thanked the members for their comments and advised that it would be looked into.

Grant Thornton Abdulaal as auditors confirmed that the financial statements and financial performance were in order.

Proposed: Prajaya Patel (P1049)

Seconded: Jon Lorenz (L1013)

**ITEM 4 APPROVAL OF OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR OCTOBER 2024 – SEPTEMBER 2025**

Proposed: Thomas Hill (H1051)

Seconded: Jon Lorenz (L1013)

**ITEM 5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROPOSAL**

To change Constitution to read ‘The Executive Committee shall meet once a month to transact such business as may be specified by the agendas for the meetings’

Rauf Saqib (R1049) asked why the proposal had been made. Iain Gardner (G1021 & EC Member) - explained that the constitution was written when the Club was run solely by a Committee. The Club now has a manager and management team to run day to day operations making fortnightly meetings unnecessary and that the management team and committee members were in regular communication.

Gurleen Arora (A0275) asked if that would delay membership applications being considered. Mark Herbert (H0152 & EC Member) confirmed that it would not and that there were procedures in place for the Committee to view and approve the applications outside of the meeting dates.

A written vote took place and the proposal was approved by 106 votes for and 12 against.

**ITEM 6 MEMBERS’ PROPOSALS**

No members’ proposals

**ITEM 7 ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**7.1 Chairman**

There were two nominees: Mark Herbert (H0152) and Jon Davies (D0049) After a speech by each nominee, a written ballot was held and Mark Herbert was duly elected.

**7.2 Executive Secretary**

There being no other nominee Tariq Salman (S0124) was duly elected.

**7.3 Treasurer**

There were two nominees: Simon Thomson (T1013) and James Watchorn (W0907) After a speech by each nominee, a written ballot was held and Simon Thomson was duly elected.

**7.4 Membership Secretary**

There were two nominees: Iain Gardner (G1021) and Rasha Ebrahim (E1003) After a speech by each nominee, a written ballot was held and Rasha Ebrahim was duly elected.

**7.5 House Member (1)**

There were two nominees: Peter Walker (W1012) and Neil Dawson (D0030) After a speech by each nominee, a written ballot was held and Peter Walker was duly elected.

**7.6 House Member (2)**

There were two nominees: James Langdale (L0039) and Mark Collins (C1035) After a speech by each nominee, a written ballot was held and Mark Collins was duly elected.

**7.7. Entertainment Member**

There were two nominees: Jamie Marshall (M1122) and Reema Karaja (K0024) Reema Karaja was unable to attend and her statement was read by Tariq Salman (S0124) After a speech by the other nominee, a written ballot was held and Jamie Marshall was duly elected.

**7.8. Sports Member**

There being no other nominee Ali Aziz Al-Orrayedh (A0087A) was duly elected.

**7.9. Family Member**

There being no other nominee Lorraine Maginnis (M0214) was duly elected.

**7.10. General Duties Member**

There being no other nominee Mohamed Salih (S0153) was duly elected.

**7.11. Deputy Chairman**

The Chairman explained that the Deputy Chairman could not be one of the three Senior Committee Executives – (Chairman, Executive Secretary & Treasurer)

- Peter Walker (W1012) was nominated by Gurleen Arora (A0275) and seconded by Lynn Al-Mahal (A0023)
- Ali Aziz Al-Orrayedh (A0087A) was nominated by Tony Hughes (H0064) and seconded by Lababa Zaman (A1081A)
- Lorraine Maginnis (M0214) was nominated by Carol Woodrow (W0298A) and seconded by Debbie Herbert (H0152A)
- Rasha Ebrahim (E1003) was nominated by Fatima Shafea (S0408) and seconded by Lababa Zaman (A1081A)
- Mohamed Salih (S0153) was nominated by Eathar Alaqueel (S0124A) and seconded by Debbie Cochrane (L0039A)

A written ballot was held and Peter Walker was duly elected as Deputy Chairman.

**ITEM 8 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

The appointment of Grant Thornton Abdulaal as Auditors was approved by the Assembly.

**ITEM 9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Arjun Burman (A0275A) asked the Committee to look at food wastage as this impacted on profits.

Lynn Al-Mahal (A0023) asked for there to be a better way of communicating complaints or suggestions than the current book in reception. The Club Manager advised that any comments could be emailed to the secretary who would pass on the comments to the manager or relevant Committee Member. A request was made for a dedicated email address to be set up.

Mark Herbert commented that the Club welcomed feedback and encouraged members to send in their comments, he asked members to get more involved particularly when surveys were sent out.

Tareq Al-Tajer (L0875A) commented that emails should not be filtered and all should go to all of the Committee. It was explained that all emails were dealt with by appropriate person and it was not practical to go to all the committee members The management team would deal with daily operations and pass anything to the Committee that was required.

Jackie Rafia (R1012) Asked if the Club would share the results of surveys when done. Mark Herbert replied that they would.

Mark Collins (C1035) praised the staff and commented that they do not get all the credit they deserve and suggested that maybe there could be a staff member representative on the Committee.

Fatima Shafea (S0408) asked why the minutes of the Committee Meetings were not published. It was explained that they are posted on two notice boards and available on the website.

Jon Lorenz (L1013) Asked for members to have the chance to give opinions and solutions instead of problems.

Lynn Al-Mahal (A0023) Asked for the management Structure to be published in a similar way to the Committee.

Daniel Harrison (H0077) Commented that the Ramadan fees were too high for visiting family members who only wanted to come a few times. Mark Herbert replied that visiting family could apply for Temporary Membership as usual and that the fee remained the same during Ramadan. The daily Ramadan fee for visiting immediate family (parents and siblings) will be discussed at a future committee meeting.

Tedrick Karam (K0032) asked if communications could be through Whatsapp. Mark Herbert said it can be looked at.

Tedrick Karam (K0032) commented that, although a great event, the Christmas Tree lighting was far too busy and the staff couldn't cope and the kitchen couldn't keep up. Mohamed Ali (A1023) asked if there was a cap on number when the Club was open to all. Karim Al-Mahal (A0023A) asked if there was a safety number.

Mark Herbert and Club Manager replied that yes there are restrictions which we were well within but admitted that we underestimated the volume of numbers and that sometimes it is difficult to gauge.

Tedrick Karam (K0032) asked why complaints were not dealt with when they have been made. The Club Manager advised that the Club is constantly gathering data, comments cards and suggestions and adjustments are made accordingly. He also highlighted that the cost of ingredients has increased dramatically and we have no option but to pass on to the members to keep within the margins and not run at a loss.

Arjun Burman (A0275A) commented that it was the Club Managers job to balance out value for money or members would not come back. He also commented that there was a need for more for children, particularly teenagers.

Thomas Hill (H1051) Thanked the Club and members for making him welcome and asked that members give solutions not problems.

Hannah Lynch(L0019) also thanked the Committee and staff and reminded the meeting that the Committee Members were volunteers.

Tariq Salman closed the meeting by thanking Chris Woodrow for his service on the Committee and as Chairman for the last 10 years.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.55pm.



Chairman  
Mark Herbert



Executive Secretary  
Tariq Salman



Honorary Treasurer  
Simon Thomson