

MARS AGM 11 April 23 @ QEII Pavilion, Chatwell Lane, Modbury

Present

Peter Watts (chair)
Paul Romney (treasurer)
Nicola Mitchell (secretary)
George Rosevear (parish council)
Kim Clifford (scouts)
Mike Marchant (tennis)
Steve Comley (walking football)
Tony Price (touch rugby)

Apologies

Kath Hope (scouts)
Jon Wiley (MRJFC)

Minutes of the last AGM

Minutes of 12 April 2022 approved. No business arising from last AGM

Chairperson report (PW)

PW thanked all volunteers for the past 12 months. A lot of hard work from the team maintaining the facilities and great to see another successful year. Field improvement project is entering its second phase of installing secondary drainage and should reach completion shortly. PW said he was looking forward to another successful year to come.

Treasurer's report (PR)

PR talked through the accounts for the year (see attached) and explained some of the field improvement work carried out in February 2022 was not invoiced and therefore paid until the 2022/23 financial year.

KC asked about general income ratios in a normal year which PR confirmed was c£8k from Pavilion usage, a further £1.2k from field users and £2.5k allocation from Parish Council towards maintenance of the outdoor community facilities.

Election of officers

All current officers agreed to stand again and were proposed by GR, seconded by MM and approved by all present.

KC agreed to stand as Deputy Chair as proposed by PW and seconded by GR. Approved by all present. GR agreed to remain as a member of the committee following council elections in May. Everyone agreed GR's financial expertise in accounting, knowledge of council procedures and regulations along with his general experience of sourcing and working with funding partners would be valuable to MARS. Proposed by PR, seconded by NM and approved by all present.

Reports from user groups

Tennis

MM reported a slight dip in numbers after Covid but strong on club sessions. Planning to put in a new visitor gate that's more accessible than the current gate in the event of an emergency. MM recommended user groups have access to an online form to be used for notifying MARS of all accidents occurring at the Recreation Ground. NJM and PR to arrange.

MM also confirmed the club had pulled back from the floodlighting project at this time as initial feasibility study suggested such a scheme was not sustainable. However, he is pleased the project will remain on the OSSR for consideration in future funding rounds.

Scouts

KC reported a significant change in leadership team with several longstanding leaders stepping down and a new team stepping up. Going through a period of change which includes reviewing how scouts use the Marley building and how they work with MARS especially in the winter months where the existing building is no longer fit for purpose.

Membership is buoyant and 8 young people are already on the waiting list for cubs and scouts which is KC said was frustrating but driven by the restriction of the existing facilities.

Walking football

55 members in total of which 36 actively participate (many from outside Modbury and as far afield as Ivybridge and Kingsbridge). Affiliated to the FA and now playing in competitions. Diverse membership age profile and some with vulnerabilities which means the Modbury playing surface is sometimes not suitable. When that happens the club use Ivybridge indoor tennis courts.

SC highlighted the need to install fencing on the small pitch to keep the balls within the field's boundary. PR confirmed MARS already have planning permission to install fencing. SC now investigating potential funding sources.

Touch rugby

TP advised this is the club's third season. First season was successful, faltered in the second and now getting back on track with renewed enthusiasm from both existing and new members. 42 people have shown and interest and the main focus now is to develop the game.

Cricket

PR reported very successful partnership between Modbury and Ermington clubs with Ugborough also regular users of the nets. Modbury CC membership numbers in high 20's and have played 15 games, winning over half of them

Great to see young people also playing cricket, respecting the facilities and making use of the nets outside of anything organised by the club.

Modbury and Ermington are considering amalgamating to play competitively using the ground in Ermington for games with training taking place in Modbury.

MRJFC

JW emailed ahead of the AGM to advise the U16s have now completed their season but will not continue next year as an U17 team due to lack of numbers. The U14 team has 2 home games left and will be actively promoting the club to encourage younger age groups at the Coronation celebrations on Mon 8th May.

PW confirmed MARS has been approached by an Ivybridge football team to play in Modbury which MRJFC has asked we put on hold until they have a better understanding of their requirements for the new season.

AGM closed at 8.15pm