Minutes of the

Essex CPSA AGM

Held Tuesday, 24th March 2015

At

The Royal Oak

Great Stambridge, Rochford, SS4 2AX

Committee Members in Attendance:

                Dave Bignell (Chairman)

                Luke Riddington (Treasurer)

                Richard Boutcher (acting secretary)

                Paul Burrows

                Billy Logan

Members in attendance:

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| William Logan Jnr | Shane Maynard | Lee Byard | Roy Petherbridge |
| Alan Lazell | Sue Merrin | Ray Bridger | Tracey Riddington |
| Scott Greenfield | Zach Palmer | Lawrence Bobin | Charlie Hyde |
| Tony Paddon | Hugh Walton | Mark Burrows | Malcolm Clarke |
| Pam Clarke | S Ruffly | Kevin Walsh | Johnny Johnson |
| John Offord | Diane Boutcher | Fred Robinson |   |

Apologies received from:

                Patrick McCloughlan, Terry Greenfield

1.Matters Arising

Malcolm Clarke asked why there had been no side-by-side championship in 2014 and no evidence that there would be one in 2015. The response from the floor was that no grounds were keen to run this event, but the committee would investigate whether it could be reinstated, even if this were in combination with another event.

2.Election of Chairman

Luke Riddington offered his thanks to Dave Bignell for stepping into the role at short notice. No other candidates had come forward and Dave agreed to stand again. As a result, Scott Greenfield proposed Dave Bignell as chairman, Kevin Walsh seconded this and the vote was carried unanimously.

On accepting the role, Dave thanked the various shoot ground owners and organisers of the various Essex championships and challenges: Andy Riva at Clacton SG, Billy Logan at Maylands SG, Hepworth Hall, and Nuthampstead.

3.Treasurer’s Report

Luke Riddington provided summary financial sheets for each table on the night. He reported that levies were slightly down on previous years, partly due to the reduction in the number of sporting selection shoots held in 2014. 2014 AGM costs were slightly higher than in 2013, but colt and junior entries to championships were down reducing the contributions made to their entry fees.

This resulted in a discussion regarding juniors and colts in the county, especially around whether any county prospects might be coming through the Helena Romanes school where some sponsorship had been provided over the last couple of years. The committee restated their commitment to providing funding to help juniors and colts through payment of entry fees for representative competitions.

4.Eastern Region Report

Johnny Johnson reported that this was the ninth and last of the county AGMs within the region. He said that there had been 23 regional competitions arranged. He was expecting the usual contribution to the counties from regional.

A question was raised regarding the possibility that some counties had not entered the regional sporting competitions, but this didn’t seem to have been the case. There was speculation that it could have been caused by problems in the past with traps at Southdown. It was reported that these issues should now be resolved.

The South East regional committee meeting is due shortly. That is the forum for approving the contributions to the counties.

5.CPSA National

John Offord reported from the national organisation. Essex has 1,079 CPSA members, 12 down from last year. The region has over 7,000 members which is slightly up on 2014. He reported that Carl Smith had recently been elected as chairman, replacing Graham Walker.

The awards dinner will be streamed live next Saturday (28th March 2015).

The insurance scheme is currently active on three cases where the member’s license had been revoked.

The current two Rule Books are being amalgamated into one and referee cards will be made available.

A question was raised from the floor regarding the police turnaround of license applications. Overall the feeling of the meeting was that they did seem to be getting slower in Essex. John Offord reported that things are only likely to get worse as further cutbacks in the service continue to bite.

6.AOB

There was a request that anyone attending county selection shoots should make sure to leave contact details.

There is an issue with some of the best shots in the county not wishing to shoot in representative events. It is unfortunately the case that it is not possible to force anyone to shoot.

There followed a lengthy discussion regarding the merit of holding selection shoots or choosing the team from results returned at registered shoots. Pros and cons of both options were raised and debated but no final conclusion was made. It was agreed that the current processes would be left to run their course with the option to review at the end of the year if it is felt necessary.

There was, however, a request for the committee to investigate holding at least one extra sporting selection shoot as the timings are more favourable in 2015.

There was a suggestion from the back of the meeting that the county invest in a microphone and amplifier. This will be investigated.

7.Close

The meeting closed at 9:30 following an excellent buffet and a raffle draw.