

BRIGHTON SPREAD EAGLES

Barclays Group Pensioners' Club

MINUTES OF THE 39th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE SPEN CAMA PAVILION, SUSSEX COUNTY CRICKET GROUND, ON THURSDAY 2nd MARCH 2017

PRESENT : Roger Francis in the Chair
44 members

1. Apologies for Absence were received from Tony Comber, Pamela Crowhurst, Terry Moran, and Melanie Neilson.

2. Minutes of the 38th AGM held on the 3rd March 2016 had been circulated and were taken as read. That they be taken as a true record was proposed by Roger Francis, seconded by Norma Pontin and signed accordingly.

3. Matters Arising. Don Semmons explained that, with Graham, he had tried to arrange a talk with the local branch on 'Digital Eagles' but in spite of initial co-operation from the branch, they failed to arrange a date, and so the project fell through.

At this point a member of the audience asked if it was possible to attract new members to the Club. Some discussion took place and it was explained that, because of the Data Protection Act, 'Head Office' no longer supplied names of retirees, and the only way we could attract new members was by hearsay. Graham also pointed out that the structure of the Bank had changed with staff no longer treating their employment as a life-long career. However, if any member was aware of any bank staff about to retire, then to advise the secretary so that they could be approached with an invitation to join.

4. Chairman's Report. Roger Francis was delighted to report another successful year, and was grateful for the continued support of our members for the varied Club activities. Our membership remained remarkably stable, and he was able to welcome four new members who joined in 2016. Our Welfare arm was little used, but Roger emphasised that should any member be in need of help or advice to contact Tony Comber or any committee member. He then personally thanked Don for his organisation of all the outings which although seemingly seam-free had great attention to detail. He also thanked him for his work as Treasurer, and for his organisation and upkeep of the Club website. His remarks were greeted with applause. He also thanks Graham for his continued support as Vice-Chairman and dealing with the supply of tickets for cricket matches, and finally Jean for her various activities as Secretary which were completed with charm and generosity, also greeted with applause. Finally he proposed a vote of thanks to all the Club officers and committee members, all of whom had agreed to stay in office for another year. This proposal was seconded by Norma Pontin and carried.

5. Treasurer's Report. Copies of the Accounts had been circulated, the first page being a summary of Income and Expenditure for the year, and more or less self-explanatory. Concerning the cost of subsidies, he pointed out that the event most generously subscribed was the Xmas Lunch at Deans Place. This was because being the last event of the year he was able to utilise what remained in the kitty, and so was free to provide wine etc., if warranted. However, he might not always be in this position, and future lunches might not be so lavishly endowed. Don thanked members for their support and Graham proposed that the Accounts be adopted. Seconded by Justine Hamilton, and carried.

6. Social Secretary's Report. Don reminded members that a full report of the year's events had been circulated with the last Newsletter, and that there was even a fuller one with photos on the Club Website. He gave a brief summary of events planned for the coming year. He was unable to advise of a London Theatre trip, usually in November, as at the moment no London theatres were taking bookings that far in advance. However, there were several possibilities available, and he was keeping our options open. Norma told us that our Website was read with great interest as far away as New Zealand!

7. Welfare Report. In Tony Comber's absence, Graham Clark reported that there was nothing to report! However, due to a recent experience of helping a family whose parent was now unable to deal with her own affairs, he emphasised how important it was for members to draw up a Power of Attorney, preferably in favour of a family member, while they were still in mental position to do so. This was comparatively easy, although necessitated the employment of a solicitor or trust manager, but was vital to save considerable problems in the future.

8. Election of Officers and Committee for 2017/2018. Roger vacated the Chair and Graham took over, thanking Roger for his continued commitment to the Club, and his paternal interest in the members, and his complimentary remarks were greeted with applause. He proposed that he be re-elected for the tenth time, which was seconded by Justine Hamilton and carried. Roger then pointed out that all the remaining officers had been willing to continue and suggested that they be re-elected en-bloc. That they should be so was proposed by Joy Huntley, seconded by Jackie Menzies, and carried.

9. Vote of Thanks to the Accounts Inspector and Election of Inspector for 2017. Roger thanked Robin Frost with a suitable memento for his continued support in inspecting the Accounts and, as he had agreed to do so, was proposed by Rosemary Singyard and seconded by Graham to continue in this office. This was carried.

10. Any Other Business. Don advised members that Joyce Ball had celebrated her 89th Birthday in hospital, but was back at home and coping. He also reminded members that he had created a DVD of photos of the Club events from 2001 to 2015, and this was still available to purchase, the proceeds of which went to charity. He also made a plea on behalf of the officers and committee of the Club. He pointed out that whilst not yet in their dotage, they could not go on for ever, and would welcome any support and back-up from younger members, even if on a part-time basis, and hoped that some would be willing to offer their support in this respect.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.55 a.m., followed by an excellent lunch provided by the Cricket Club.