

MERRIOTT GUN CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on DEC 8th 2022

Members present: Tom P, Nigel, Shaun, Marcus, Tom Mc, David & Helen, Ben, Steve, Bryan, Rod, Caroline.

Apologies for absence: Toby, Brian W, Andy, Peter, Jane, Thomas.

Tom opened the meeting at 7 pm and welcomed everybody. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and accepted.

The present committee is: Tom Parham – chairman
Nigel Witcombe – vice chairman
Caroline Charles – sec/treasurer
Andy Godfrey – safety officer.

Andy was not present but is happy to continue as safety officer. Nigel also has a safety qualification, and Steve is going to find out about taking a course.

Tom announced that he is stepping down as chairman. Dave Henderson was nominated by Tom to take over as chairman, and seconded by Marcus. The rest of the members present voted unanimously for Dave. Tom had contacted the members who had sent apologies for absence, and they also voted for Dave. Dave Henderson was therefore elected chairman. He asked Tom to continue chairing the meeting.

The bank account will need to be changed, to remove Tom as signatory, and add Dave.

Caroline gave the treasurer's report. The trailer was replaced earlier this year at a cost of £1500. The club has a pallet of clays and 2 slabs of cartridges.

The club insurance has just been renewed at the same premium as last year.

The website is not used very much, as the Whatsapp group is very successful. The website is mainly used for shoot locations, club rules and AGM minutes and accounts. Tom will continue to run the website.

Membership fees and the cost of clays and cartridges will remain the same:
25 clays £5, 25 cartridges £5.

Single membership – new member £20, annual renewal £15.

Joint membership – new members £30, renewal £25

Under 18 £5

It was agreed that joint membership should be extended to cover 2 members from the same household (e.g.father & son) as well as married couples.

Rod asked if the club could start accepting new members again, as membership was closed during the Covid pandemic. Nigel does not want too many members as it extends the length of time at a shoot. There are currently about 24 paid-up members. Marcus suggested capping the membership at 30, this was agreed.

Shoot locations – we have 4 regular locations: Manor Farm, Barrington, Clapton and Gaffers. There is a possibility of a new location near the Clapton shoot.

All members were asked to make sure they are familiar with the club rules. Members were reminded that if they bring a guest who is not an experienced shooter, they are responsible for the guest. Guests who already shoot and bring their own shotgun should produce a current shotgun certificate.

Nigel is going to carry out a risk assessment before the next shoot. There will not be a Christmas shoot, the next one will be a New Year shoot on Sunday January 8th 2023, details to be arranged.

Tom was thanked for everything he has done for the club in the 8 years since he took over as chairman, and was presented with a voucher for Combe Farm Sporting, and a mug.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.
