

# **DEVON & CORNWALL COCKER SPANIEL CLUB**

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 20th September 2020 via Zoom.**

**Present:** Chairman: Mr A. Reed, Vice Chair: Mr F Bard, Secretary: Miss S. Ellison; Mr R Owens, Mr S Kew, Mrs J Kew, Mrs J Norris, Miss J Norris, Mrs Kimberley Wannell, Mr Duncan Craig

1. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Miss J King, Mrs V Sheppard, Mrs J Sweet.

### 2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4th May 2019**

On a proposition by Mrs F Bard seconded by Mrs J Kew the minutes of the 2019 AGM were approved and 'virtually' signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. **Matters arising** There were no matters arising.

### 4. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman welcomed the members attending to the new way of having the AGM – he hoped it would not be the new normal.

Sadly, as was becoming too much the norm, he started with a tribute to two member of the club we had lost over the recent weeks. The first, the Club Treasurer, Lynda Cheetham – who sadly passed in August after a brave fight with cancer. It seemed very odd and should only seek as a reminder of the fragility of our lives, that at our November Open Show he was catching up with Lynda whilst working in the kitchen. She was always behind the scenes at the club – always a great character and despite never really being in the Show World was a constant support to the club for many years – often alongside her sister Wendy. The second and more recent loss was Phil Ratcliffe. Again, a familiar face to many of us, attending shows with his wife and committee member Laura. Phil was often first at the clubs Open Shows – and until recent shows was the one who helped set up in the morning. Both will be sadly missed by us all, and our thoughts were with Lynda's family especially Wendy and Laura and her family.

2019 had been another great year for the club. It was not many small local Club shows that could continue to make money at all shows and events. The Chairman believed this was testament to the Club's members and especially those on the Committee and those that supported on the day of such events.

2020 however had, as we were all aware, been a very different situation. We had not been able to hold any of the shows and unfortunately, recently had to decide to cancel this year's November Championship show – despite until recently, having a hope that this would not be the case. This would of course impact our overall income; however he was confident that whilst this was a setback – we were still in a great position for years to come.

The Chairman thanked all for attending the unusual AGM, and to especially thank the Committee for their continued support – he was sure Devon and Cornwall Cocker would be back with a bang in 2021

### 5. **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary welcomed Members and said she was pleased to see everybody and that we had been able to make our AGM this year, given the difficulties we were all having to endure. Firstly she wished to offer the Club's – and her personal - tribute to the Treasurer, Lynda, who had passed away at the end of August. Lynda became our Treasurer in 2012 but she had of course, as Wendy Cullen's sister, been involved with the Club for so much longer. She had been a constant member of the committee who could always be relied upon to turn up and do what was necessary, albeit in a very understated fashion. She would be missed and our condolences went to her family. The Club had made a donation to St Margarets Hospice in Taunton where she spent her last days.

It was a little difficult to be report on the Club's events last year when we had been rather occupied with the non-activities of 2020. However, we had made a very good effort with our May and November Open Shows and the Grooming Seminar ; members would see the financial outcome from the accounts.

As an up-date, with regard to events in 2020, it had been hoped to postpone the Spring Open show until we were able to combine with Paignton Ch Show in August – but it was not to be and we had been obliged to cancel both our 2020 Open and Championship shows – and of course the AGM which had been scheduled to take place in May.

At the beginning of the "lock-down" our Vice Chairman and Facebook page manager, Fran, had enterprisingly organised a Facebook Fun Show and amazingly attracted over 200 entries – some of the photos were stunning. Everybody was very enthusiastic ! The classification and eventual winners were available to see, having been added to the Show Results on the Club Website.

Looking forward, the committee were optimistic that events would be on track for 2021 – particularly with the possibility of good weather in May when our Open Show at Calverleigh might be held outside. Our diary for 2021 would include the postponed Championship Show which the Kennel Club had confirmed on 7th August 2021 to be held with Paignton Ch Show – in the rings following the Cocker judging. Our original judges had confirmed they were free to officiate. We would therefore be scheduling the two Open Shows in May and November and the 2020 postponed Championship Show in August. From the finance point of view we hope this would set the Club back on track.

The Secretary thanked Members, and of course the Committee, for their support during this difficult time and particularly those who had made generous donations toward Club funds – it all helped to keep us going.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report**

On behalf of the Treasurer, the Chairman presented the audited accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019, copies having been circulated.

It should be noted that the three events held during the year had all been profitable.

The May Show with income of £556.50 and expenditure of £324.51 resulting in a profit of £231.99;

the November Show with income of £668.00 and expenditure of £326.822 resulting in a very good profit of £341.18;

and the Grooming Workshop held in May with income of £372.50 and expenditure of £166.73, producing £205.77 profit.

The overall accounts for the year showed a deficit of £112.72 resulting in Accumulated fund of £4,239.01p.

The accounts were accepted and approved unanimously.

#### **7. Appointment of Auditor for 2020**

The Treasurer confirmed that the Auditor, Mr J.H. Angus, had agreed to carry out the audit of the accounts for the coming year. The appointment proposed by Mrs Kimberley Wannell and seconded by Mrs F Bard was unanimously approved.

#### **8. Review of Honoraria**

The Honoraria to be paid for the year 2020 was confirmed at £350.00 for the Secretary and £200.00 for the Treasurer.

#### **10. Election of Officers and Committee**

The following Honorary Officers and the Committee were proposed without contest for election, en-bloque:

**President:** Vacant

**Chairman:** Mr A Reed –

**Vice- Chairman:** Mrs F Bard

**Treasurer:** Mr A Reed –

**Secretary:** Miss S Ellison –

**Committee,**

Miss J King; Mrs V Sheppard; Miss Kimberley Wannell; Miss Joy Norris; Mrs Jennie Sweet

The Honorary Officers and Committee were unanimously confirmed in post.

**11. Any Other business:** there was no other business.

#### **12. Close of meeting**

The Chairman thanked members for attending and the meeting closed at 11.18 am.

Signed ..... Chairman

Dated .....2021