



**EPRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AT THE STONEBRIDGE MANOR HOTEL
ON SUNDAY 2016**

OFFICIAL
E.P.R.A
MINUTES
5th February
2017

Chairman:	Sue Mitchell	General Secretary:
Vice Chairman:	Position Vacant	John H. Hope
Treasurer:	Yvonne Armitage	
Exam Secretary:	Robert Shore	

All correspondence to the General Secretary

www.epra8ball.org.uk

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Meeting Opened at 1: pm

1. Chairman

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all the Delegates.

2. Apologies:

Jim Arnold (R8) / Daniel Keeble (R4) / Marshall Morter / Jon Shapland (R8)

3. Attendees

3.1 Present

Officers:

Sue Mitchell (Chairperson) / John H. Hope (Gen. Sec.) / Robert Shore (Exam Secretary) / Yvonne Armitage (Treasurer)

Members:

Richard Rhodes (R2) / George Bradbury (R3) / Craig Shufflebotham (R3) / Lyn Carnall (R3) / Ray Dean (R4) / Terry Billingham (R5) / Tony Coe (R6) / Dominique Chiu (R7) / Clair Watts (R7) / John-Paul Eames (R8)

12 Votes

3.2 Objections

None

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

Proposed a true record: Clair Watts (R7) Seconded: Tony Coe (R6)

Voting: for: 10 against: 0 Abstentions: 2

5. Matters Arising from Minutes

i) Finance Report & voting figures missing.

6 Chairperson's Report

The report in full was read to the meeting.

First may I thank all the Referees who attended all the events of 2016 and thank them for all their hard work. Also to all the Regional Delegates for their hard work finding Referees for the various events and attending Meetings. My thanks also go to the EPRA Committee for their hard work through out the year.

2016 has had its ups and downs, we had our usual problems with the EPA, this time regarding the EPRA section of the Database (R9). This has been dealt with and all seems satisfactory in that respect My thanks to Yvonne Armitage for her work on this.

Matters regarding the General Secretary were discussed at the preceding Delegates Meeting (Correspondence).

It should be ensured that Membership Forms are sent to the relevant Delegate and these forwarded to the Treasurer as soon as possible. Members had complained that they had paid their membership fee but did not appear on the EPRA website. This is particularly important regarding Voting eligibility.

The EPA has requested Table Referees for the streaming tables at Gt. Yarmouth, this is a step forward for the EPRA and feedback from Referees is very favourable.

The association needs to push for more exams in the Regions in order to increase membership numbers. An incentive for all Referees is table Refereeing at Gt. Yarmouth.

A great loss to the association and sad time, Robert Shore, our Exam Secretary, is retiring. May I say, on behalf of the Association, a big thank you to Robert for all his hardwork and loyalty. It's been an absolute honour to have known and worked with you.

7. Finance Report

7.1 Report

See Website (sheets distributed at Meeting)

Summary

Affiliations

2016 has, once again, seen an overall decline in our membership numbers (12 down on 2015).

S Grade – no change

A Grade – up £30 (2 Referees)

B Grade – down £110 (9 Referees)

C Grade – no change

D Grade – down £8 (1 Referee)

E Grade – down £20 (4 Referees)

Examinations

2016 has seen a decline in the number of examinations carried out around the country. Every effort should be made to increase these in order to provide a steady income throughout the year.

Event Income

Our event income has, once again, increased in 2016 due to additional referees being sanctioned by the EPA. On the other hand there has been a bigger increase in the amount paid out to event referees leaving a levy income of £228 (£447 last year).

Merchandise

The orders placed in 2015 were fulfilled in 2016 along with other orders.

Assets

Assets have increased by £349 (before depreciation) since last year's AGM. This is explained by the purchase of a new laptop held by the General Secretary.

Summary

As depicted in last year's report the excess income over expenditure is down from £1,038.24 to just £82.28, a difference of £955.96. Hopefully in 2017 we can redress the balance to provide a more healthy outlook for the Association's financial stability in the future..

Note: An anomaly was located within the Statement of Accounts, this is to be investigated by the Treasurer and her findings reported to the Committee.

Therefore, the accounts could not be proposed as a true record, until such time as the accounts are corrected.

Accounts a True Record: N/A

Proposed:) Seconded: N/A

Full details of the accounts are available online at www.epra8ball.org.uk.

8. Examination Secretary's Report

The Total number of Candidates taking exams during 2016 was 33.

Three E grade exams were conducted, a total of 4 candidates took part, 3 passed with a mark of 80% or better. The success rate of 75.00% is t a good result, compared to last year, 60%.

E Grade Examinations decreased from 5 down to 3, Region 6 was responsible for 2 exams, and 1 held in Region 7

No other Region held E Grade Examinations during 2016.

The number of E grade candidates is the lowest in the history of this Exam

5 D grade exams were conducted; a total of 29 candidates took part 13 passed with a mark of 85% or better, a success rate of 44.83%.

4 candidates were awarded an E Grade pass scoring less than the required 85%, and more than 79%

D Grade examinations saw a decrease from 2015, down from 14 to 5

Region 3 held 1 exam with 8 candidates, Region 6 held 2 exam with 13 candidates, Region 7 held 2 exams with a total of 8 candidates

Disappointingly Regions 1, 2, 4, 5, and 8 did not hold any exams during 2016.

The revenue from exams is down on last year. We have a total of £252 for 2016
My figures may not exactly tally with our treasurers' report owing to late pay-in for an exam in Region 6 dates not falling within the financial year.

We have 2 additional probationary Examiners in Region 2, Jamie Thompson and Tony Coe, they have both conducted supervised examinations, thank Dave Holden.
As and when they conduct an exam going 'solo' they can be confirmed as Examiners.

This is my final report as Examinations Secretary. Mixed emotions, my reason for not standing for re-election is simply the fact that in doing so, it would see me aged 80 in the post, this is not a good idea, the EPRA needs younger blood.
I will not just 'walk away'. I will be happy to render any help to my successor if requested

9. Motions for Debate

SEE SEPERATE SHEET

10. Election of Officers

SEE SEPERATE SHEET

Meeting Closed: 3:10pm

Next Meeting: 28th January 2018

Item: i) Below is the Treasurers report and vote count omitted from the 2016 AGM Minutes issued.

Summary:

The main source of income is Membership, this showed a slight increase in 2015 over 2014.

The lack of a mid-year meeting meant a decrease in administration costs. However, the change WEPF Playing Rules (Jan 2015) incurred extra printing and postage costs, resulting in costs remaining approximately the same.

A rise in 'D' Grade examinations in 2015 resulted in an increase in income and a welcome increase in funds. Also, a rise in the amount of Referees supplied for EPA events, produced a slight increase in the Levy received. Total £447 for the year. Merchandise orders received and yet to be filled, have produced no income, as yet. As decided at the Jan. 2015 Delegates Meeting, 417 Guidance Books have been written off, these contain rules guidance prior to the 2015 change and are therefore out of date. Also 4# EPRA Badges.

500 updated Guidance books were printed in 2015, these were either distributed to existing referees or sold on, this produced an income of £519.40. However, this is a one off, as rules are only changed every 5 years, maximum. The Examination Secretary holds a stock of 47 books, with a further 13 books being held by Examiners. In future items held for re-sale will be listed as Stock (Badges, clothing & Guidance Books etc.) . The term Assets will reflect items held for use by the Association (Computer, Printer etc.) This will better reflect Income and Expenditure on the accounts. A stock of 45 EPRA Badges is held by the General Secretary.

Although the accounts show a welcome change from a deficit of £505.16 in 2014 to an excess of £1038.24 in 2015, this unlikely to be repeated as it is a result of extraordinary events.

It is imperative that our income at least keeps pace with our expenditure, via Membership and Exams etc.

Accounts a True Record:

Proposed: Terry Billingham (R5) Seconded: Richard Rhodes (R2)
Vote: For: 5 Abst: 0 Against: 0

Full details of the accounts are available online at www.epra8ball.org.uk.