



RVRC A GM (for 2018)

Minutes/notes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 at Leeford Place

1. **CHAIR'S REPORT -DOMINIC LANGDON-DOWN**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the committee I welcome you all to the AGM and this great turn out of RVRC members and their friends and families. This is a very special celebration of 40 years of RVRC and quite a number of you members have been here from the beginning! A life sentence with parole is only 15 years!

Really Nessie should be standing here, stepping down after an amazing 4 years as Chair, however as I'm sure most of you know she was diagnosed with cancer last year and so resigned from the chair to concentrate on her treatment and recovery, and I am sure you will join me in thanking her for the tireless work she put in to RVRC and give her our love and best wishes for a continuing and complete recovery. Nessie, please accept these flowers as a measure of all the members gratitude and it is great to see you looking so well.

Sadly Sharon, another stalwart of the club has also been undergoing chemo/radio therapy and again on behalf of RVRC we thank you for your huge input particularly with the juniors and continuing to this day in organising and running our flagship events as well as many other roles on the committee. Again on behalf of the members we give you our love and best wishes for your full recovery.

This is why I am standing here as caretaker Chairman, having done my 3 years before Nessie and thought I had got away with early parole for good behaviour! I was asked to return when Nessie stood down, and it has been a privilege working with all the members of the committee.

The last year has been another busy and successful year for the club and I look forward to seeing the worthy winners of the various trophies being awarded later this evening.

You may remember I sent out a questionnaire when I took over last autumn and thank you to everyone that replied. It gave me a good insight into what you the members want from the club. The overriding requests were for more members events, more clinics, training and selection for teams, hacks and social get togethers.

There was a slight feeling that "teams" were taking up time and to some extent funds at the expense of the grass roots members. I can assure you that all the comments were taken on board and so as you will see from the members schedule packs we have got a full program of events planned for 2019 and I am confident there is plenty for everyone this year.

I would however reiterate that there has always been "non team events" but I think the publicity from the Teams rather overwhelmed the press reports! Their successes are a credit to the club. The club has already had 150 sign up again for this year which is fantastic. The membership is roughly split equally into 3 groups, team competitors, general all round riders and the confidence group, although there is plenty of mixing and matching in between groups and absolutely no preference given to any section.

Team positions are available to anyone and are a great target to aim for, the camaraderie and competitive spirit amongst team members is great fun. You only have to look at our club Vet, Katie

Preston, to see where it can lead – I can see an RVRC supporters bus heading for Badminton this year!

The club supports the teams with help both in training and expenditure and the budget for this year is around £1500. However you may not be aware that the club also supports the general membership by paying the monthly charge to Planit Bookit and the Pay Pal levies every time you book an event, clinic or even tonight's party and again the expected expenditure for 2019 is £1500 plus so I genuinely believe everyone is treated and supported equally.

With regard to members events this year we have at last got a firm date for the Fun Day! I know many were disappointed by the past 2 years cancellations, one due to the weather. There will be more entertainment than just what's on the schedule so watch this space. BRC has imposed every piece of legislation and H and S regs on all clubs now and believe it or not if we were to offer under RVRC banner xc schooling we would need paramedics which cost about £5-600 hence at the moment this is not an option. Whilst I am all for safety the club as an affiliated member of BRC must stick to the rules for our insurance to be valid.

There is no Nov ode this year for a number of reasons, it takes a huge effort for the club to run this and Friends of Freddie, it requires a lot of helpers from the membership, and a lot of work from us (me) at Bull Farm. However please note we have added a "up to 70cm" class at Friends of Freddie this year, being held at Comphurst for the 1<sup>st</sup> time and have dropped the 1m class as last year we only had 5 entries. We will organise clinics in all 3 disciplines hopefully at Comphurst to prepare you!

There is also the 1<sup>st</sup> adult 3-day camp, unfortunately due to reasons beyond our control we have had to move it from Benenden to Comphurst which actually offers better facilities but not the overnight stabling. Hopefully we may be able to add this in the future. Again, we have a small band of helpers working hard on the program and it looks to be a great fun event.

I am sure you've heard enough from me to hopefully whet your appetite but if you have any thoughts, wishes ideas etc do talk to the committee. We have a session next weekend on a mechanical horse, a quiz night, we had a trip to London for an equestrian war art exhibition, there are yoga classes for riders, the list is endless!

I have now done my bit and hope helped set up a fantastic year for you all, I am staying on the committee and will be leaving you in the very capable hands of your new Chair, Mary Gillam. She has been incredibly hard working, as have all the committee members, as the Secretary and has kept us all on our toes! I know Mary will make an excellent chair and continue to lead RVRC on behalf of its members with great success.

I wish you all a very happy, successful but most importantly FUN season on your horses and a great evening ahead.

## **2. AGM BUSINESS**

Minutes of AGM 2018 these were approved

Proposed by: Debbie Haddow, Seconded By: Sue Clark

## **3. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The accounts for 2018 were approved

Proposed by: Sharon Baker, Seconded by: Nessie Folwell

## **4. ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEE:**

It was noted that Katie Preston Kate Gale and Dinah smith were retiring and did not wish to be re-elected. The new members of the committee proposed were Mary Gillam Dominic Langdon Down and Helen Brophy

These were proposed by Debbie Haddow and seconded by Kate Gale

5. MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2019.

It was proposed to be reduced to £30 for a single membership senior and junior with a corresponding reduction for family. The membership categories would be simplified as a result.

This was agreed nem con.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mary Gillam thanked Dominic Langdon-Down for stepping in as Acting Chair of the club and also Sue Clark for her advice and support.

The meeting was closed and the presentation of the annual awards then followed.