

FITZWILLIAM WINE CLUB

Minutes of meeting held on 10th January 2024, at 7 Whiston Green, at 7pm.

Present

Clive Davis (Chair), Deborah Davis (Secretary), David Clay (Speaker/Finder), Margaret Rhodes (Treasurer), Dawn Towler, John Coates, Mathew Hopps,

1. Apologies

Robert Hunt.

2. Opening Statement

CD opened the meeting and welcomed DT, who had been nominated by Graham Bell to stand as Treasurer at the February AGM. CD also thanked MR for her work as Treasurer. MR confirmed that she would be happy to act as support and stand in for DT.

CD outlined the requirements of the FWC required an elected Chairmen and officials. CD explained that he would not be able to commit to attending all 12 meetings throughout the year, and this had been outlined to the wider club at the November meeting 2023, to date there had not been any nominations for the chair or secretary post. CD provided dates that he and DD would not be available.

Following discussion it was acknowledged that some meetings may need nothing more than an introduction, thanking at the end and bringing order to the group.

DD referred to offers of assistance to put tables out, pour wine, and cover secretarial functions had been made from Rebecca Wragg, Julie Thompson, Sylvia Harris, David Greenslade, Ian Tomlinson.

ACTION CD to outline at the AGM, the requirement for a vice chair and or second vice chair. This would enable the role to be covered during absences. Both DC and JC said they would assist with the chairing role.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 25th September 2023. These were agreed to be an accurate record.

4. Matters arising from the above minutes.

Election of officials. All committee members present agreed to stand at the AGM Election. RH not confirmed. MR already resigned.

Table size, had been changed to lighter tables making room set up easier.

future ideas submitted by MH, work in progress, Celebrity wines, Perfect Vineyard, already planned. other to be discussed at item 7.

5. Correspondence

CD advised the meeting that WPC had committed to a 3 month trial of an in house caterer to run a cafe in the parish hall. This was an opportunity to use the caterers to provide a cost to provide light refreshments for the AGM. This would eliminate washing cutlery, pots and serving food which had previously been time consuming.

6. Treasurers Report

MR produced the draft financial report for the period ending 31st December 2023. Attention was drawn to the bank accounts balance of £564.89 which was £159.53 less than the bank balance last year. This was mainly due to losses in June due to card payments, and the cost of wine had increased. There are £75.00 of wine in stock.(7 bottles). The members night made a profit. We need to put to the AGM the need to increase monthly payments to £9.50
ACTION CD to take to AGM.

A discussion followed and the agreement was to always purchase 3 bottles of wine per tasting, and surplus full bottles would be banked until a night "Open Wine Night., This would involve drinking the wine from stock.
ACTION CD to put this to the AGM.
ACTION CD to inform at Jan meeting that AGM will be £10.00 PP.

7. Wine Tasting Calendar

ACTION CD to outline at AGM RE Annual Dinner

March 19th Lightfoot Wines CD CHAIR
April 16th Members Night CD CHAIR
May 21st Perfect Vineyard MHopps
June 18th Majestic Wines or Minted and Skinted DC/JC
July 16th South African Wines DClay
Aug 20th Spanish Wines CDavis CD CHAIR
Sept 17th Barry Starmore TBC
Oct 15th Annual Dinner BYO CD CHAIR
Nov 19th 19 Crimes MHopps
Dec 17th CMB JC CHAIR
Jan 21st Open Wine Night All CD CHAIR
Feb AGM CD CHAIR

8. AGM All actions outlined above to be brought to the AGM. DD obtaining costs for cold food, DT volunteered to assist DD if food was to be bought from Costco.

9. AOB

MH outlined possible future ideas for tastings- the Language of Wine. Marketing was also agreed that MH would produce a flyer with calendar on for members. We not seeking to increase membership at present, as room size is appropriate.

10. CD closed the meeting at 9pm and thanked Doris Clay for the delicious homemade coffee and walnut cake, and John Coates for the bottle of wine. CD concluded thanking all committee members for their support and work over the last year and beyond