



Five Town's Quiz League – AGM Minutes

2nd September 2024 – Held at Carleton Grange

Teams in Attendance:

Team	Att	Team	Att	Team	Att
Featherstone Phoenix	Y	The Vic	Y	The Dudes	Y
Kippax British Legion	Y	The Other Team	Y	Carleton Grangers	Y
Lofthouse Lions	Y	Olde Tavern	Y		
Kings Arms	N	Olde Tavern Allsorts	Y		
Kippax Legionnaires	Y	Flanagan's Army	Y		

#	Item	Detail	Actions
1	Open	The meeting opened at 8:30pm and a register of teams was taken. Please see table above for attendance.	
2	Apologies	Simon Curtis (SC) confirmed he had received apologies from the King's Arms.	
3	Balance Sheet	<p>Stuart Topps (ST) explained that the finances were in a good shape and we had made a profit on the 23/24 season of around £145, despite the increased cost owing to secretary's expenses (this is to cover fuel for delivering the questions and is £200).</p> <p>The closing balance at the end of last season was £1,429.74.</p>	
4	Subscriptions and Finance	<p>SC confirmed that sponsorship from Layer's Cleaning would continue at the same amount of £300 for the season. We thank Layer's for their continued support.</p> <p>Dave Bill (DB) explained that for the league to grow, we need to invest in its future which means a better website and to spend on engagement activities. Even though the league is in a good financial position, he felt it was time to raise subs from £5 per team per week to £6 per team per week.</p> <p>Vote: To increase subscriptions to £6 per match per team. 11 for, 0 against. Passed.</p> <p>Ian Moore (IM) gave an update on the new website. He said that it was currently being built and he hoped it would be operational by the start of the season. He also confirmed that it would likely have a new URL to the existing website and both would run concurrently for a period while old archives can be transferred over.</p> <p>IM also asked whether the league were happy for the secretary's expenses to continue for this coming year. After a bit of discussion, it was agreed to continue at £200 but to review at the end of the season after SC has kept a log of expenses to see if this is appropriate.</p>	SC to keep a log of expenses for delivering questions
5	Committee	At the EGM held on 3 rd June 2024, it was discussed the need to elect new committee members. Helen Topps (HT) stood	



		<p>down and John Grasham was informally co-opted on to the committee for the summer period.</p> <p>John was officially nominated and seconded and a vote was carried out.</p> <p>Vote: John Grasham to be elected on to the committee. 11 for, 0 against. Passed</p> <p>SC also asked if Neil Aspland (NA) was happy to continue in his role of compiler/statistician and he agreed. It was also discussed whether this should be a committee position and Neil was asked if he would like to join the committee and he agreed. Neil was officially nominated and seconded and a vote was carried out.</p> <p>Vote: Neil Aspland to be elected on to the committee. 11 for, 0 against. Passed</p> <p>DB then discussed roles on the committee and how he felt we should be less prescriptive on job roles and try to spread the workload more, in particular the secretary's responsibilities. It was agreed that the constitution requires a chairman, a treasurer and a secretary in place so it was agreed that DB, ST and SC would remain in those positions respectively and we would review at the end of the season.</p> <p>We thank Helen for all her hard work and dedication over the years on the committee and we welcome John and Neil on to the committee for the 24/25 season.</p>	
6	<p>Formation of the League</p>	<p>It was confirmed that Upton Bees have disbanded.</p> <p>SC confirmed that it was very likely that he would have a new team for the coming season and that ST and HT would join this team. It was likely they would play out of the Liquorice Bush in Pontefract.</p> <p>DB explained that Lofthouse Lions would now be known as the Thatched House.</p> <p>IM explained that he had received a few comments over the last season that because of the small numbers of teams in each division, it was becoming a little stale facing the same opponents four times in a season. Having one division creates the issue of having the weaker teams becoming disillusioned having to face stronger opponents regularly so he suggested a hybrid approach.</p> <p>Under this hybrid approach, all teams would be placed into one division for the first half of the season. Each team would play each other team once and the table would be compiled on this basis. At the half-way mark, the divisions would be formed. The top half would form Division One and the bottom half Division Two. The points earned from the first half of the</p>	



	<p>season would remain and the two divisions would continue independently. Each team would play each other team in their division twice (home and away) and the winners of each league would be crowned as usual.</p> <p><i>[Post meeting, the fixture list was compiled, and it was determined that there were not enough free weeks to support this so the actual format for the second half would be for each team to play each other team in their division once again, rather than twice]</i></p> <p>The benefits of this approach are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teams will play everybody meaning there is more variety of opponent and there is less of a disconnect between the divisions. • All teams will be placed into the division that befits their current quality in the second half of the season. • New, stronger teams, can automatically challenge for the top honours in season one and not create a gap in quality when they are placed into division two. • As all teams play each other exactly once in the first half of the season, we can use those results to calculate the handicaps meaning we do not need more complicated points systems. <p>Vote: The split league proposal as detailed above should be adopted for the 24/25 season. 11 for, 0 against. Passed</p> <p>It was then asked what that means for the questions as usually, Division One would have a slightly tougher set than Division Two so which set would be used under this hybrid approach?</p> <p>IM detailed his solution to this. Under the current question format, there are 10 rounds; 6 team rounds, 2 written rounds and 2 individual rounds. The written and individual rounds are identical for D1 and D2 teams, the only difference is with the 6 team rounds. Currently, the question setter sets 5 questions per team per round for those team rounds with D2 getting the all but the hardest question and D1 getting all but the easiest question. IM's proposal was that instead of that approach, let both D1 and D2 teams have all five questions for those 6 rounds. This would mean D1 teams would have an extra 'easier' question and D2 teams would have an extra 'harder' question for those 6 rounds but nothing else would change.</p> <p>The benefits are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is only one set across the league making the admin for both question setter and distributor easier. • There is a clearer comparison across the divisions as everyone gets the same. • Analysis performed by NA will be even more informative as there are no differences between the divisions. 	<p>SC/IM to set up league/fixtures in this new format</p>
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7	Questions	<p>There was a general discussion about the questions with the consensus being that members are generally happy with the quality and variety of them.</p> <p>There is a concern, though, that we need to try and encourage more younger players to help boost the league and one way of doing this is to try and have modern questions. It was stressed that we need to be careful not to disenfranchise the current players by moving too far in this direction. More sport and more 'current affairs' questions would also be welcome.</p>	DB/SC to speak to Rob the question setter to confirm requirements
8	Rules	<p>There were no rule amendments proposed.</p> <p>The actual handicap calculation does not form part of the rules but it was agreed that the points difference from the first half of the season can be used for handicap purposes.</p>	
9	Dates	<p>The following dates were agreed:</p> <p>23/09/2024: Pre-season charity night at the Golden Lion 30/09/2024: Season start 13/01/2025: Mid-season meeting</p>	
10	AOB	<p>ST stressed that we need to improve engagement and one way is to utilise the pubs' websites and social media sites. All teams should speak to their home pubs to see if they can help promote them and the league.</p> <p>ST reminded everyone that we run a raffle at the charity night and asked all teams to bring a prize with them and to bring new people along.</p> <p>There were two requests for bye weeks which we will endeavour to accommodate:</p> <p>Flanagan's Army – 28/10 Carleton – 30/09</p>	<p>All: Speak to home pubs to boost engagement</p> <p>All: Bring raffle prizes to charity night.</p> <p>SC/IM: To try and accommodate the bye requests</p>
11	Close	The meeting closed at 9:45 – good luck for the season.	