

## **Northern Ireland Civil Service Social Club – Annual General Meeting**

Date: Wednesday 12 March 2020  
Venue: MacSuite 2, The Pavilion, Stormont  
Present: 17 members  
In Attendance: Elizabeth Tohill (PGM Accountants)

### **1. Apologies**

The Chairman, David Reilly opened the AGM by welcoming members present and confirmed that everyone had a copy of the financial accounts. The Chairman informed the AGM of the following apologies;

- a. Gillian Lynas
- b. David Jackson
- c. Cliff Radcliffe
- d. Sandy Webb

### **2. Minutes of 2019 AGM**

The Chairman asked members if they were in agreement with the content of the minutes of the 2019 AGM, and, with all members present in agreement, the Chairman asked for the minutes to be proposed and seconded.

Proposed By: James Savage

Seconded By: Tom May

### **3. Matters Arising**

No business for discussion.

### **4. Chairman Report**

The Chairman gave a brief overview of his report – See attached Annex 1. The Chairman outlined three key areas of improvement throughout the year, most notably;

- a) The successful tender for the Mo Mowlam PlayPark Coffee Pod in May 2019 and the opening of the facility in June 2019.
- b) Bar and catering going well which has helped to produce a healthy surplus enabling the Club to keep the prices for members at a competitive rate.
- c) Major events have improved our catering income especially catering for visitors and competitors.

### **5. Annual Accounts – 31 December 2019**

Billy Gamble, the Honorary Treasurer provided an overview of the financial performance of the Social Club for 2019. In closing, Mr Gamble thanked the Management Committee and staff for their support throughout the year and asked if everyone was in agreement that the accounts be proposed and seconded by members from the floor.

Proposed By: Michael Carson

Seconded By: Dennis Millar

## **6. Election of Members of the Management Committee**

The Chairman advised members from the floor that NICSSA's Council had proposed that, Billy Gamble and he (David Reilly) were their nominations for Honorary Treasurer and Chairperson, respectively, for the incoming year.

The Chairman then advised members that six nominations had been received for the six places on the Management Committee, therefore, there was no requirement for an election to be held and, consequently, the Management Committee for 2020-2021 would be:

David Reilly	(Chairman)
Billy Gamble	(Treasurer)
David Jackson	(Hockey Club)
Nic Leitch	(Tennis Club)
Shaun McMorran	(Rugby Club)
Sandy Webb	(Hockey Club)
Gillian Lynas	(Hockey Club)
James Savage	(Bowling Club)

## **7. Appointment of Auditors**

The Chairman advised the AGM of the commendable work carried out by PGM and, specifically, Elizabeth Tohill throughout the year and during the recent audit.

The Chairman then advised members that, in line with the Association, the Management Committee would be re-appointing PGM Accountants for the incoming year. The proposal to re-appoint PGM as the Club's auditors was agreed by the general acclamation of the members from the floor.

## **9. AOB**

The Chairman advised members that, no motions had been received, but he would be happy to take any questions or comments from the floor.

- 1) Membership cards – A brief discussion took place on exploring the possibility of the new access cards having the ability to load funds onto the card and be used through the system. The Chairman responded to the AGM that this would be the next phase after the introduction of the access controls.
- 2) Subscription increase – A question was raised about increasing the Social Club subscription. The Chairman responded to the AGM that this would be discussed at the next Social Club Management meeting.
- 3) Thanks to Committee – Mr Tom May commended the efforts of the Committee and thanked them for their continuing work. This was endorsed by David Ferguson with acknowledgment by the floor of the AGM.

- 4) Thanks to staff – Mr Bill Jones commended the work and quality of the kitchen and bar staff. Mr Jones acknowledged that the staff were friendly, helpful and engaging. Again this was acknowledged by the floor of the AGM. The Chairman also included a word of appreciation to all NICSSA staff especially those who help out during major events and during times of increased business.
- 5) Windows – A question was raised about a date for the installation of new windows in the bar area. Mr Kieran Devlin responded that this is dependent on the landlord (Department of Finance).
- 6) Heating – A question was asked regarding the bar's heating system not always working satisfactorily. Mr Kieran Devlin responded that he would look into the heating system to understand more about the issue and get the matter resolved.

The Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the AGM.

**Kieran Devlin**

**Acting Secretary / Operations & Facilities Director**

**13 March 2020**

DRAFT - For approval at 2021 AGM

**NOTE: Annexes 1 are attached for information and do not form part of the minutes for approval at the 2021 AGM**

## **ANNEX 1**

### **Social Club Annual General Meeting – 12 March 2020**

#### **Introduction**

The Chairman's Report provides a brief summary of the main activities undertaken in the Social Club in the course of the 2019 calendar year and looks forward to the remainder of the 2020 year.

#### **Overview**

Over the past year the Whistles bar and restaurant has continued to provide members with comfortable surroundings in which to enjoy a drink whilst watching televised sporting events, or to dine whether for breakfast, lunch or an evening meal. There have been several major sporting events at the Pavilion during the year and the Social Club has benefitted from the provision of hospitality for the events' competitors, officials, supporters and visitors. The Social Club expanded its activities by providing a Coffee Pod for users of the Mo Mowlem Play Park which reopened in June 2019 following a major refurbishment.

#### **Financial Position**

The two main income streams for the Social Club have been bar sales and catering sales but added to that this year has been income from the Coffee Pod which has proved to be very successful. The bar sales have increased to £230k, which is a rise of 7% on last year's figures and catering sales, which includes the Coffee Pod sales, also has increased to £305k. The catering sales increase is significantly up on last year, with the Coffee Pod making an important contribution to the increase. The stronger trading position has meant that the Social Club has been able to post a modest surplus of £28k for the year.

#### **Bar and catering**

The Whistles bar and restaurant continued to deliver a high standard of service and over the course of the year provided 9,172 lunch and dinner covers and an additional 1,141 Christmas dinners. The Steak Nights have proved to be

popular and offer a great meal at a very reasonable price and there were a number of other special catering occasions around calendar events, for example, Mother's Day and Easter. The Pavilion also hosted 349 events booked by NICS government departments and agencies, other public bodies and charity organisations and, in addition, there were 351 sporting and recreational dinners and social events, and a further 121 members' social events.

## **Operations**

During the year there has been several changes to staffing in the bar and restaurant but the new staff have integrated well to continue to provide a friendly and efficient service to all members and their guests. The success of the bar and catering provision has allowed the Social Club to hold bar prices again this year. Although Social Club membership fell in recent years, mainly because of the fall in Civil Service staffing numbers, there were signs that membership is now increasing again and, at the end of the year, there were 1089 Social Club members.

## **Special Events**

### Cricket - 2019

Northern Knights vs Ireland Wolves  
Northern Knights vs North West  
Northern Knights vs Leinster Lightning  
Ireland vs Afghanistan (2 days)  
Ireland vs Zimbabwe (3 days)  
NCU Women's Challenge Cup Final  
CI All Ireland Club T20 Finals

### Hockey - 2019

Ireland vs Scotland Senior Men's  
U16&U18 Boys Interprovincial  
Hockey Finals Christmas

### Charity Events - 2019

Byte Night  
PWc Charity Football Tournament  
McDonald Football Tournament  
Run in the Dark

Race for Life

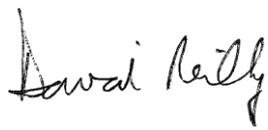
Football - 2019

IFA Senior Men's Team Training

These sporting events provided the Social Club with an opportunity to provide hospitality in the bar and restaurant for the competitors, officials and spectators and is a much needed source of income.

**Outlook**

The Social Club has had a successful year and hopefully this will continue into the 2020 year. There are a number of international cricket matches to be held during the year and Steak Nights will continue along with other special catering events to take place. Of course, the support of members is needed is the Social Club is to continue on its successful path.



David Reilly  
Chairman  
NICS Social Club

DRAFT - For approval at 2021 AGM