**RINGWOOD & DISTRICT EX TABLERS CLUB**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

Held on 20 November 2019 at St Leonards at 7.30 pm

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| 1 | **Purposes and Objects**  These were read by Bob Merrett followed by grace read by Chairman Gordon. |
| 2 | **Apologies**  Apologies had been received from Mike Fraser, Andrew Green and David Phelps. |
| 3 | **Guests**  Mike Edwards and Steve Murcell, both guests of Bob Merrett. |
| 4 | **Remembrance Day**  Gordon felt very honoured to lay the wreath on Remembrance Day. He told us about Lt William Hodgson MC. Although he was against war he volunteered in the First World War and gained an MC at the Battle of Loos. He was killed on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, just two days after writing his best known poem, “Before Action”. He had been on leave shortly before and knew his chances of surviving the battle were slim so he went home to say goodbye to his parents. |
| 5 | **Speaker**  Tim Prince OBE gave an extremely interesting talk with slides and video about the Royal International Air Tattoo which he had started and been heavily involved with for many years. They had achieved a Guinness World Record in 2003 for the largest military air show. Mike Callaghan gave the vote of thanks. |
| 6 | **Minutes of Last Meeting**  The minutes of the meeting held on 15 October were taken as read. |
| 7 | **Matters Arising**  None |
| 8 | **Correspondence**  Steve had received notice of the National AGM on 4 April 2020 in Cardiff. Presumably this came so early to allow time for resolutions to be submitted by the deadline of not later than 1 February 2020. |
| 9 | **Chairman’s Comments**  Gordon had attended a Wareham 41 Club meeting. He took a friend who had been a Wareham Tabler some years ago and is hopeful that he will join Wareham 41 Club.  On 3 December Gordon is going to a Christchurch 41 Club meeting. |
| 10 | **Vice Chairman**  Richard reported that there were now 92 booked in for Ladies Night. Any more would mean a table encroaching on the dance floor which would need to be moved when dancing started. Richard would like those who had not made their menu choices to do so and let him know. He is also looking for raffle prizes for Ladies Night. |
| 11 | **Treasurer**.  Steve gave Andrew’s report. The balance in the account after allowing for all commitments is similar to last month at around £1,850. Andrew will be back from holiday on 25 November. |
| 12 | **Sports & Social**  Colin Read would like the table leaders for New Year’s Eve to let him or David Curle know who is on their tables. The cost will be decided nearer the time when numbers are known.  John Kennedy reported on Dorset Knobs. 16 attended from our Club and it had been a fantastic night. Dorchester won the distance trophy and will be organising the event next year, possibly to be held in Blandford. Ringwood has only hosted once, in 2013. This year was the 47th and maybe we can consider hosting the 50th.  John Kennedy will arrange tickets for “The Rise of Skywalkers” in January for those of us who are Star Wars aficionados.  Gordon reminded us about Chairman’s Christmas Drinks. A tick list is being circulated.  John Kennedy said that he and John Morgan both have snooker tables and intend holding competitions with teams of four – snooker greensomes. The first will be at John’s in March. They are calling it “Take Your Cue”. |
| 13 | **Membership & Welfare**  David reported that Mike Williams had resigned. Hugh Edwards is recovering slowly and the speech therapy is now beginning to work.  John Green has had a car accident and is in hospital. David will circulate further details when he has them.  Jimmy Gordon is now virtually blind and is finding it difficult to cope where he is. He appreciates visits, especially when wives go along. Gordon is hoping to visit Jimmy and asked if he could borrow a wife. John Kennedy offered Barbara and said Gordon was welcome to leave her there! (Gordon wanted this minuted) |
| 14 | **Editor**  Bob told us that the copy date is 2 December. Earlier is better as the magazine will be larger than usual because of Christmas. |
| 15 | **Speakers’ Secretary**  Ian told us that an entertainer has been booked for the Christmas meeting,  Two antiques experts are lined up for the joint meeting in January. They will deal with silver and jewellery, porcelain, objets d’art from China and small wooden items. It would be helpful to have photos of items being submitted for evaluation in early January so the experts have advance knowledge of what they will be talking about.  The February meeting will be for Melvyn’s Mug. |
| 16 | **Meals Secretary**  John had nothing in particular to report but hoped we enjoyed the meal this evening as much as he did. |
| 17 | **Press & Publicity**  John Adams was not present. Gordon said there was nothing new to report. |
| 18 | **Lay Member/Health & Safety**  Paul is getting the necessary risk assessments and now has nearly all of our tabards. |
| 19 | **Immediate Past Chairman**  Keith had nothing to report. |
| 20 | **Website**  Gordon, John Quint and Richard Carter have been co-opted as web masters so they will keep the site up to date. More content, such as reports on past events, is needed. We now have a domain name which has been purchased for three years. Details for accessing the website will be in the magazine. |
| 21 | **Any Other Business**  Richard Carter thanked Gerald Carter for producing the Christmas card for so many years. Richard presented Arthur Robins with a bottle of wine, this being the prize for the photo on the Christmas card. Gerald Carter thanked Mike Callaghan for taking on the Christmas card. He mentioned that it had been all Mike’s work this year. Gerald had just advised.  After several redraws the raffle was won by Mike Callaghan. Arthur Robins acted as Master at Arms and levied fines for various misdemeanours. |
| 22 | **Date of Next Council Meeting** -12 December at Richard Carter’s at 7.30 pm. |
| 23 | **Date of Next Club Meeting** - Christmas Meeting 7 December at St Leonards Hotel at 7.30 pm. |
| 24 | **The Meeting Closed at** 11.04 pm. |