



Exmouth Archers

Management Committee Report AGM 2024

The 2024 AGM brings to a close another busy year. Our Committee has continued to work hard to maintain and improve the facilities as well as keeping the Club running.

Currently the club stands at 133 members, of which 23 are Juniors and 2 Associates.

The Committee have continued to produce a newsletter to keep members informed of club activities and decisions. Thankyou to Helen for continuing with this task, however has not renewed her Archery GB membership and has decided to leave the Club. Thankyou for all your hard work on this important aspect of Club running. However hopefully the information flow to members has improved. We would be interested on your thoughts. As part of this we have moved our email domain to Microsoft Office 365 in order to guarantee mail delivery to the Committee.

Earlier in the year we were asked if we would host a radio transmitter on our Indoor Centre for Radio Exe, however due to the technicalities involved we decided that we were not able to accommodate this request.

The issues have continued over the football car park and we have had really useful discussions with a contact at the Council who has basically said that any football team found to be allowing their members to park inconsiderately will have their ability to book pitches revoked. We know from Facebook that one team has taken this very seriously and made it quite clear to their members that if this happens what it will mean for the team as a whole. Especially as these pitches are their home ground. This does seem to have improved matters. But if any member sees any inconsiderate parking, especially on the visibility splay, please make a note of the date and time, and take some pictures, as we do now seem to be listened to.

Finances

Sarah has prepared a copy of the balance sheet for the year April 1st 2023 to March 31st 2024, and that is circulated to members with this report.

Our net income for the year ending 31st March 2024 was £4,318.36. This figure is down on the previous year and has been a reflection of price increases generally, but most notably electricity costs (though these have come down somewhat again over the past six months)

Also, please bear in mind that the increase in Subscriptions doesn't appear in these accounts because they came into effect from 1st April 2024.

Three Car Boot Sales were held in 2023 (we didn't hold the August one). The takings on the gate covered the cost of the insurance we need for these events and brought in a good profit, as did the Have-a-Go's held in the Indoor Centre at the same time.

The other 'Have-a-Go' Income came from the Taster Sessions that Andrew organises plus a couple of visiting groups. Our Beginners Courses also bring in a substantial amount. Many thanks to all our Coaches and Helpers for making these possible.

The income from 'Facility Hire' came from the DCAS Squad Training.

The tournaments that we run also generated a good profit and again we owe our thanks to those members who give up their time and huge amount of energy to make these happen. Income from food sales showed a great increase on the previous year, mainly due to a substantial increase in sales at our tournaments, but also a good increase from the car boot kitchen – there is a large amount of effort that goes into the catering side of things, and it is gratifying to see that reflected in our net income.

Just a couple of notes with regards to our expenses:

The 'Maintenance' figure, is largely made up of regular costs that the club has, such as the servicing of our drainage system, security shutters, gas supply and fire extinguishers (though also includes the cost of general ongoing repairs) and as such showed a bit of an increase on the previous year mainly due to general cost of living increases.

Within the 'Equipment' figure are the costs of a few one-off items such as a strimmer with relevant safety equipment (with grass-cutting now being done 'in-house'), replenishment/replacement of the defib pads and first aid supplies, new lighting for the indoor centre (which will help to decrease our electricity usage) and 3D targets for our field course.

Facilities and Assets

All work on our facilities this year has been mainly simple maintenance. We need to thank members who helped out with work parties over the year. Without these the grounds and buildings would not be as good as they are. Tasks completed include completing the distance markers and adding the "carrots" to mark distances across the field. Helpful for general club shooting but also saving us having to mark most of the distances for competitions. Target covers have also been installed on all mobile targets, to provide an element of security as well as keeping the bosses drier. The Kitchen shutter motor finally gave up fully and has now been replaced, we have plans in place to complete the tidy up of the bottom corner of the field and the Indoor Centre gutters and downpipes have been sorted to stop them blocking with leaves quite so much.

One big project that will save us money going forward was the replacement of the fluorescent lights in the Indoor Centre with LED tubes. We estimate that this will save us between 2/3 and 3/4 of the energy required to light the centre. The Indoor Centre has had a proper tidy up and all the stuff that was stored has found new homes elsewhere giving us the social space at the back.

Target wise, Tenzon are well on the way from recovering from the fire they had at their storage and workshop and were able to come and refurbish our target wall in readiness for our Indoor competition. We also took the opportunity to have them refurbish as many of the outdoor bosses as they could manage in the time. They did a really good job. At the field course Noel has purchased a number of 3D targets to allow us to run NFAS competitions.

Last year we spoke about more grand ideas for replacing the shed, with a view to also replacing the Clubhouse. However they were very much scaled back and instead a couple of members, under the direction of Trevor have replaced the shed in its entirety. Listening to feedback the doors are now taller and in the middle allowing members to carry targets alternately into both sides of the shed to speed up setup and breakdown of competitions. The only outstanding task here is to build some pigeon holes to hold all our target faces.

The Committee re-vitalised the plan to build a shooting shelter on the side of the indoor centre, to allow more winter shooting outdoors. We are awaiting a quote from the company that built the Indoor Centre as well as looking to submit planning permission. Sadly this isn't going to be ready for this season. But we will aim for next September.

As reported to the last AGM, the sewage plant was fixed and coped with all it was asked to do in the early part of the year so we were happy that the soakaway had not been too adversely affected by the fault., but a couple of months ago the blower failed again. Research showed that we just needed a service kit for the blower but they were on back order. In order to protect the soakaway we opted to make use of an event toilet. The blower is now fixed and we are back to normal. Thankyou to members for being patient over the past few weeks.

Andrew has driven forward with creating a team to look after cutting the grass and this has worked well this year with keeping the grass to a good level.

Events

We agreed at the AGM in 2023 that we would only run two out of the four allowable car boots this year to encourage members to help with other activities in the Club. Both sales were well attended.

Likewise at the AGM we agreed to drop the double 1440 this year for the same reason. The other tournaments were very successful and well attended.

Sophie and Rob organised two more Archery Bring and Buys in the Indoor Centre, which was hugely successful and was recognised nationally.

Again we are hiring our facilities to the County for training sessions and as a first this year, also for an NFAS session.

We further made use of BookWhen to allow Archers to book and pay for their places in our competitions, as well as Beginners Courses, Have a Go Sessions as well as familiarisation sessions. This has really helped a few of us manage these activities much better.

Coaching, Beginners and Members including New Members

We have continued with the rota for opening up on Club sessions and coaching. This works well and we are grateful for members stepping up to help out.

We have held a number of Have a Go sessions to try and narrow down the beginners course waiting list, with the first one being targeted at friends and family of existing members which has led onto two 6 week beginners courses this year, the second about to complete. It is expected that a number will join. Thankyou to Andrew for organising and the Coaches teaching the Archers to shoot.

We have continued our policy of not doing Have a Go Sessions for external parties, unless we have a member who is linked to the organisation and willing to take charge of the organisation, getting a team of coaches together and sorting the finance. For that reason we have had one or two booked in.

If anyone has any ideas on further club events or meals, than please do approach any member of the Committee. We are always after good ideas!

As with last year we will be checking 24 x 7 key access as part of our annual tasks.

Exmouth Field Archers

This has moved on since last year, with the group increasing membership and doing Coaching activities. As noted elsewhere they are hiring out the Indoor Centre for a coaching event, and as we ultimately were working towards, hosting competitions. Our first one will be on the 16th March 2025. Entries are already flooding in so this looks to be popular and our NFAS members will be kept busy running and marshalling it.

Achievements

Tournaments have continued through the year and we have been well represented at many of them. Dunster, the County Championships at Redruth and National competitions such as the British Target Championships, The UK Masters and the Grand National Archery Meeting as well as many more.

A number of Club members also represented DCAS at the Senior and Junior GWAS Intercounties.

Several members won awards. Too many to list individually here. Well done. We have tried to publish them throughout the year in the newsletters.

Tournaments

As noted above, we ran all but the Double 1440 competitions throughout the year.

In May we held our Open Shoot, this year being a 14 target 50m and 70m with 42 Archers shooting.

In August we held our Head to Head event. 20 targets with 51 Archers.

For some reason attendance seemed a bit lower than normal. This may be done to our indecisiveness over whether to run the events in the early part of the year. Competition archers like to plan their calendar very early. We have decided to approach this differently this year and the dates are already set and the work party lists are already on display in the Indoor Centre. Names have already started to appear, but we will be making the decision whether to run the actual events in January based upon the update of help. That

In October our Field shoot was also a bit down in numbers, 48. Again the course was well received and several good comments were forthcoming.

Special thanks to Noel as he had only a small amount of help from other members in the prep leading up to the weekend.

And finally our Indoor shoot just a few weeks ago. We filled both sessions, however we only had one archer willing to do the Head to Head up front so we cancelled that element. We may well consider a 3 session shoot next year instead.

Copies of the accounts were circulated separately and are also noted below. These have brought a profit of £3200 into the Club.

Thanks go to the members who have helped stage the competitions this year.

Conclusion

This brings another year of the Club to a close.

Most committee members have put themselves forward for re-election and at the time of writing. There are a couple for which we have received no nominations. Hopefully we can fill those from the floor.

Finally, thanks to all the outgoing Committee for 2023/2024 who have helped steer the Club through another year of operation so we can all enjoy our facilities and be able to shoot.

Exmouth Archers Committee
November 2024