

High Elm Archers

Annual General Meeting

held at

Altcar Training Camp Saturday 7th June 2025

Meeting convened at: 15:45

Attendees (16):

Officers:

Tony Dodd (TD) (Chair) Graham Burrows(GB) (Secretary) Ralph Parkinson (RP) (Treasurer)

Members present:

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Alex Albon | Louis Barnett | Dave Bourne | Terry Cahill |
| Paul Evans | Dapo Feyisetan | Mike Greenwood | Paul Holmes |
| Joe Lambert | Lucas Morgan | Jimmy Patterson | Andrea Scarborough |
| Rob White | | | |

1. Opening Remarks

The meeting was opened by the Chair Tony Dodd.

Welcome and Thank you for attending this the 27th Annual General Meeting since High Elm Archers was reformed in 1997.

Online Voting:

Once again we have provided members the opportunity to have an input to the AGM for those who cannot be here in person. This year we have received 9 "Online" submissions via the members portal of the website. 6 of which were submitted by members who cannot attend, online submissions from members in attendance have been discounted.

Quorum:

Currently there are 57 paid up members of the club; 15 members (25%) including 3 officers (Chair, Secretary or Treasurer) are required to achieve quorum, there are 16 members including 3 officers present plus 6 "proxy" votes therefore quorum is achieved.

2. Apologies

Graham Burrows reported that apologies have been received from the following members:

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Karen Burrows | Linda Denn | Mike Denn | Steven Gee |
| Neal Jones | Philip Lang | Adele Rimmer | Barry Thomas |

3. Minutes of the last AGM

Minutes of the 2024 AGM where circulated prior to the meeting and accepted as accurate.

Proposed: Ralph Parkinson Seconded: Dave Bourne All present in favour

Matters Arising: There where no matters arising from the minutes

4. Officers Reports

- a) **Chair's Report** – TD
- see attached 'Chair's report'.
- b) **Secretary's Report** – GB
- see attached 'Secretary's report'.
- c) **Treasurers Report** – RP
- see attached 'Treasurer's report'
- and a copy of the accountants report.

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5. Appointment of Auditor for 2025/26

It has been proposed that the services of Joe Lambert be retained to conduct an independent review of the accounts for the financial year 2024/25.

Proposed by: Ralph Parkinson Seconded by: Tony Dodd.

All present voted in favour plus 6 proxy votes in favour. There were no votes against or abstentions – therefore the motion carried.

6. Propositions (amendments to the club constitution)

There is a proposition to adopt the revised constitution to remove references to Archery GB

Proposed: Tony Dodd Seconded: Graham Burrows

All present voted in favour plus 6 proxy votes in favour. There were no votes against or abstentions – therefore the motion carried.

7. Election of Committee Members

The secretary has received no nominations for positions on the committee.

All other current committee member have indicated that they are happy to continue in their current positions.

As there are no contested seats GB proposed that the committee be voted in “en block” rather than take individual votes TD seconded.

The proposed committee membership for 2025/26 was available to all members via the “Proxy” voting form prior to the meeting as follows:

| Position | Current (2024/25) | Nominated (2025/26) | For | Against | Abstain |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------|---------|---------|
| Officers | | | | | |
| Chair | Tony Dodd | Tony Dodd | 16+6 | 0 | |
| Secretary | Graham Burrows | Graham Burrows | 16+6 | 0 | |
| Treasurer | Ralph Parkinson | Ralph Parkinson | 16+6 | 0 | |
| Committee Members | | | | | |
| Membership Secretary | Ralph Parkinson | Ralph Parkinson | 16+6 | 0 | |
| Welfare (CP) Officer | Dave Bourne | Dave Bourne | 16+6 | 0 | |
| Equipment Officer | Dave Bourne | Dave Bourne | 16+6 | 0 | |
| Junior Rep | Jimmy Patterson | Jimmy Patterson | 16+5 | 0 | 1 |
| Tournaments Officer | Jimmy Patterson | Jimmy Patterson | 16+5 | 0 | 1 |
| Development Officer | Tony Dodd | Tony Dodd | 16+6 | 0 | |

GB pointed out that if anyone would be interested in becoming an active member of the committee they should contact a member of the committee.

8. Membership Fees

Ralph Parkinson proposed that given the clubs current financial situation that club fees be held at current levels for the 2025/26 membership year. Seconded by: Tony Dodd

All present voted in favour plus 4 proxy votes in favour. There was one votes against and one abstention – therefore the motion carried.

9. A.O.B.

a. Do we have a mechanism to keep up to date with the Rules of Shooting – Alex Albon

GB Responded - Yes we do, and we maintain access to changes in the rules through having coaches who are members of Archery GB.

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10. Date of next AGM

The date of the 2025 AGM was provisionally set for 6th June 2026 (date to be confirmed) at Altcar training camp.

Meeting closed at 16:10

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Chairman's Report to AGM - 7th June 2025

Before I present my report, I would just like to say, it was with great sadness that we mourned the passing of one of our longest serving and much respected members of the club Eric Kavanagh, as our most recent President and friend to many of us, whilst latterly too ill to attend, he will still be greatly missed by all who knew him.

To say that we were taken by surprise by the announcement that Altcar will be closed to us for nine weeks from the end of this month is an understatement. Sufficient to say, we will have an opportunity to discuss the issue further at the General Meeting following the AGM.

I can report that we have successfully negotiated our parting from Archery GB to become an independent archery club. In the process, thanks to members approval last year, we now have a more secure financial base to work from. When I say negotiated, I mean the route taken rather than any discussions with AGB. In fact as far as AGB are concerned HEA no longer exists. In my opinion, a rather short sighted and arrogant view.

It is interesting to note that whilst a large number of Clubs felt that given such short notice of the changes by AGB there was insufficient time to withdraw from affiliation. But HEA got stuck in and with the help of Members at the SGM agreed not to renew our membership of AGB. It is also interesting that a number of clubs in the interim have now opted to use a Hybrid model where part of the club i.e. those interested in taking part in competitions have joined AGB with the rest of the club effectively becoming independent!

SO, WATCH THIS SPACE?

Can I remind members that the restriction on the total number, of 30 members, attending Altcar at any one time, is beyond our control and is applied to all civilian organisations using the site and will remain in place for the foreseeable future, although that may be academic, for us at least, depending on what actions we may decide to take in the future.

ONCE AGAIN, WATCH THIS SPACE!

On A More Positive Note:

I am pleased to report that we are continuing to run four sessions a week (***obviously, when we can!!!***) during the outdoor season. My thanks to Graham for running some much needed (*in my case, at any rate!*) archery workshops. We have also introduced the Provisional Archers assessment process together with the issuing of Membership Cards (more about both later). We also continue to offer one to one Coaching, whether that be for technique or bow maintenance. So, if you need to, please speak to one of our Coaches, ***preferably after they have shot their round!*** They will be more than happy to assist you, after all that's what they are here for?

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members who donate their time to this club, especially all the members who help to set up and take down the ranges each week and particularly the committee for their continued commitment to the club and their hard work behind the scenes. The role of volunteer, in whatever form that takes, is fundamental to the continued success of the club.

Personally, I get the feeling that some members are still under the impression that when they turn up they have to shoot a round. **This is definitely not the case.** Due to a change of rules by AGB (which we agreed to adopt last year) we have to designate certain sessions as club shooting days to allow those members who wish to gain qualifications and handicaps to do so. But in trying to accommodate everyone Jimmy and Graham have put together a very full and varied outdoor shooting season, including practice days and fun shoots.

BUT... if you just want to come along and shoot arrows, at the prearranged distances, please feel free to do so!

*And finally, if like me on the very, very rare occasion you have a bad round, as you know, you can always blame it on the weather... too hot, cold, wet, windy, becalmed, too bright, too dark, or even shooting in the wrong direction, and laterly, definitely being **too muddy...** or whatever legitimate (**and I emphasise legitimate**) excuse - **sorry reason** - you can come up with. But if you do come up with a new one, please let me know so I can use it too!*

THANK YOU.

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Tony Dodd.
Chairperson, HEA.
7th June 2025.

DRAFT

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Secretary's Report - June 2025

Altcar Training Camp has a new Commandant Maj. Carl Gardner in addition Col. Mark Underhill has retired as CEO of the NWRFCFA, the new CEO Col. Chance Wilson is now in position.

Altcar continues to be busy with more military units using the camp. This year, as a result of decisions at regional command there are double the number of cadet camps on site over the summer, this has resulted in the site being closed to civilian clubs.

It has been confirmed by Altcar that the current limit of 30 members attending sessions will remain in place for the foreseeable future, the MoD have introduced additional paperwork to be completed in advance of civilian clubs attending, (originally wanted 15 days notice – Altcar pushed back to 3 days) so we will be continuing to ask members to book in advance, the committee appreciates that this is not ideal but unfortunately we have no control over this.

We supported the Cadet Archery tournament in October which was a great success and we are in line to help with the event again this year.

We have and have supported a number of charity events at the camp providing archery shoots for these events in support of the Army Benevolent Fund, which is very much appreciated by the camp.

Thank you to all assisted with these events. The organisers “repaid” us by allowing us to organise our own event where members had a go on the “DCCT”, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Our indoor venue at Formby High school (FHS) continues to be problem in that we only have 1 evening a week during the indoor season, so we do need to make sure we make maximum use of the facility for it to continue to be worthwhile financially. However, FHS have been supportive in allowing us to use their facilities at short notice when Altcar has been unavailable. We are in talks with FHS regarding shooting over the summer to cover for the closure at Altcar.

This year we have implemented a number of changes, including the introduction of a series of workshops which have been well received by those who attended. We will discuss other changes further in the General meeting.

Our website is a key resource for documentation etc. and if anyone has any ideas for additional content, particularly in the Members section please send them to a member of the committee or send a comment via the members suggestion box on the website.

Finally a reminder that we are a club run by its members for its members so it's your input and support that helps the club to be a success.

Graham Burrows (Secretary)

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Treasurer's Report - June 2025

Firstly, thanks to Joe Lambert for auditing and verifying our club accounts, taking over from Chris Dobbin who was our accountant for many years but sadly passed away in December last year.

We now have 57 members comprising of 51 Seniors, 4 Juniors, 1 none shooting member and 1 none active member. Income from members fees for the year of April 1st 24 to March 31st 25 came to £8842.51. Our actual expenditure for that year excluding affiliation fees was £11060.32. Beginner's courses, bow hire, badge sales and events such as the Army cadet tournament brought in enough money to cover the shortfall and make an excess of £1737.12p, so thanks are due to those who organise and run these events.

Having left Archery GB, and longer having to pay affiliation fees, our expected income from members this year will be about £11000.00. If membership and expenditure remain the same it will be the first time for many years that members fees have matched expenditure.

The club finances are looking very healthy with £15672.00 in our current account and £8800.00 in our reserve account, a total of £24472.00 so we are well placed to deal with any lean times or unexpected expenses that the club may encounter in the future.

There is no proposal to increase fees this year.

Ralph Parkinson (Treasurer)

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Auditors Report 2025 – Joe Lambert

Draft

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