



ESSEX COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

Minutes of the Essex County Cricket Club AGM

on Wednesday 19 November 2025 at 7pm
in the Doua Insole Pavilion

Present

Jason Gallian (Interim Chair), Neil Faraday (Treasurer), Dan Feist (Chief Executive), Vicky Ford, Piyush Somaiya and 91 Members.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Jason Gallian (Interim Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested a moment's reflection for all those lost during the past year.

Jason Gallian confirmed apologies received had been recorded. These included the President, Keith Fletcher, Lorna Piper, Ian Brown, Thomas Brown, Sheila Gosling, Phil Wade, Mr McEwan, Mr Goodman.

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2024

The minutes had been circulated to the members ahead of the AGM and were taken as read. The minutes were then signed as a true record of the meeting.

3 CHAIR'S REPORT

Jason Gallian presented the Club Chair's report, including these highlights:

Sale of the Hundred franchise

A successful Club bid for Tier 1 Women's team

Jamie Porter's 500th first class wicket

Simon Harmer's 500th first class wicket

Head Groundsman, Stuart Kerrison's 40th year at Essex Cricket

Anthony McGrath left his role and returned to Yorkshire. Chris Silverwood stepped in as the new Director of Cricket

Jason Gallian then handed over to the Treasurer, Neil Faraday, for his Treasurer's report which included the Presentation and adoption of the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

4 TREASURER'S REPORT

Neil Faraday introduced himself to the membership and started off by extending thanks to Bernard Elliott (Financial Director) and his team, and to the wider Club staff, many of whom were in attendance. The members gave a round of applause in appreciation.

Neil Faraday then presented the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts (year ending 31 December 2024). He drew attention to the improvement of the bottom-line of 2023 figures. Although 2024 financial performance was impacted significantly by weakness in the general economy and the changing nature of sport and hospitality since Covid, this was offset by the actions taken under the Two Year Plan.

The Treasurer then spoke about 2025 and 2026 forecasts, alluding to the ceiling for revenue generation once the ECB funding runs out in 2029. He added that the 100 Franchise deal had earmarked £24m of money (which did not legally belong to Essex Cricket but was owned by ECB) for capital projects. He raised the question of whether the Club used the interest on the ECB money and explained that a different business model was required to plan for a reduction in ECB funding. Revenue generation must come from sources other than cricket. In summary, the aim was to create ground facilities which meant the Club could be less dependent on ECB revenue.

Jason Gallian proposed the adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts

Proposed by: Brian Springall

Seconded by: Richard Clarke

The accounts were adopted by a show of hands.

Jason Gallian asked the Treasurer to undertake the appointment of auditors. Neil Faraday confirmed the appointment of TC Group to act as the Club's Auditors

Proposed by: Daren Mootoo

Seconded by: Richard Danes

This proposal was adopted by a show of hands.

5 APPOINTMENT OF THE BOARD DIRECTORS

Jason Gallian announced that there had been two vacancies on the Board.



Chair – Anu Mohindru had resigned from his role as Chair of Essex Cricket Club during the Bar Standards appeal. His role remained vacant until a result of the appeal was known.

Treasurer – There had been no applicants other than Neil Faraday and he had, therefore, been appointed back onto the Board for his statutory 3-year term.

Jason Gallian added that Victoria Keil had resigned from her position of Deputy Chair. She was thanked. The nominations committee was meeting to consider how to fill this vacancy.

Members' Committee

Jason Gallian thanked Millie Dillane and Chris Grant who had retired from the committee after their full terms of service. Alan Yetts continued in his role. Nigel Barrick and Alex Siddell joined the Committee to fill the vacancies and were welcomed to their roles.

The formal part of the AGM was closed.

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Interim Chair, Jason Gallian invited questions from the floor.

David Self asked about the financial impact of the women's game on the Club. Neil Faraday explained that the women's game had made a £20k profit and it operated as a separate company so there was no negative financial impact.

David Self also asked about legal fees – such as the £21k apportioned to the bat gauge issue, wondering how the board scrutinises these fees and who takes the money. Neil Faraday explained that there was process and scrutiny around such matters, and it was necessary to appoint external counsel. He added that a lot of time is spent on these issues and the Club retains much control. Neil Faraday then paid tribute to Anu Mohindru whose wisdom on such matters had helped Essex Cricket to safely navigate many recent legal challenges. The £24k on professional advice was also queried and Neil Faraday explained that JP Morgan had been appointed as an investment manager. Vicky Ford urged the membership to consider how they could help by offering professional skills and expertise to the Board.

Alan Hall asked whether Anu Mohindru would return to the Board following the outcome of his appeal hearing, questioning whether he should be standing. Neil Faraday replied to this question, explaining how fortunate the Club had been to have Anu Mohindru as Chair with his wise counsel and passion for the Club, but he reiterated that Anu Mohindru was no longer Chair or Board member. Vicky Ford pointed out that no-one had applied to stand for any Board positions which spoke volumes about the challenges of being a Board member.



Daren Mootoo asked about ground redevelopment, querying whether there was a 'sweet spot' for capacity. Chief Executive, Dan Feist, explained that a project manager and planning consultant were being appointed and this question would be addressed fully at a future Members' Forum.

Dan Feist elaborated on the Club's vision (Game Wide plan) across the region which included on-field success, off-field growth, and a solid financial plan.

He then introduced news of the 150th anniversary celebrations to take place in 2026 and covered the subject of branding, events, memorabilia and supporter packages.

The membership was then shown a presentation which showcased the work of Essex Cricket in the Community.

Andrew Davison asked about the preparation of pitches at Chelmsford. Stuart Kerrison addressed this question and explained his strategy. Stuart was thanked by Dan Feist and the membership.

Lorna Piper had asked why the AGM was not available online – Dan Feist replied that although this idea would be re-visited, he explained that in order to present the AGM online it needed to be done properly – and this cost a lot of money.

Brian Hall queried stewarding of the Tom Pearce stand – this question had been addressed by Eliza Rowley

Debbie Knight asked about the new entrance gates and parking. Dan Feist replied that the new 1876 Gate was due to be opened very shortly. He confirmed there were always 6 Blue Badge spaces available for disabled on match days. Following a plea for the car park white markings to be repainted, Dan Feist explained that the car park was a Council car park so therefore this was not a straightforward fix, but the team is looking at this.

Following a question about the Abba concert revenue, Dan Feist explained that the event had broken even since it had been part-funded but it would continue to be part of the strategy moving forward for independent revenue generation. He added that 90% of the audience had not been Essex members so the Club has learnt a lot from the venture.

Following a question from **Daren Mootoo** about next year's fixture v Bangladesh, the CEO explained that the Club had pitched to host the fixture but it was out of their hands.

Following a question about the length of time the ground redevelopment would take, the CEO explained that impending devolution in the county would inevitably prove a



challenge with the planning process but it was hoped that once the Estates Committee had secured a project manager, stage 3 planning could be signed off in 2026; the development would be carried out in 2 phases to enable cricket to be played and the estimate is the it will take 18 months to 3 years to build.

Jason Gallian
Interim Chair
November 2025

