Governance

Title: President, Vice-President and Chairman

Proposed by: Club committee

Background to motion

At the 2025 AGM, Andy Cook was elected to the role of **President** while retaining the role of **Chairman** as there were no other nominations for Chairman at the time.

Historically the role of President has been ceremonial, with the Chairman providing the day-to-day operational leadership for the club. In Andy, we now have a very active President at club, regional and national levels.

Looking to succession planning, the Committee conducted a study of the role of President to fit alongside a more operational Chairman role, providing shared responsibility for the success of the club.

It is proposed that the Club Rules be updated to include role definitions for President and Chairman, so the roles and responsibilities are clearly distinct, although may continue to be covered by the same person if needed, as at present.

It was noted at the 2025 AGM there is a decreasing number of **Vice-Presidents (VPs)** so the Committee also studied the role of VPs. The VP role will be reserved solely for retiring Presidents and the Club Rules updated so that a VP can deputise for the President when needed.

President, Vice-Presidents and Chairman to continue to be appointed, re-affirmed or discharged by vote at the AGM.

For clarity, it is proposed the current and sole Vice President, **Mr J.Beavan** continues as VP.

Key Differences at a Glance

Feature	Chairman	President
Primary Focus	Internal operations and meeting management.	External relations and club traditions.
Meeting Duties	Actively chairs monthly committee meetings and AGMs.	Attends events as an esteemed guest or neutral party.

Decision Making	Direct executive decision-maker.	Advisory or fallback authority.
Nature of Role	Hands-on administrative workload.	Ceremonial, ambassadorial, or advisory.

Proposal

New sub-section 6(b) to be added to the Club Rules and subsequent sections re-numbered:

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6(b) Roles of the President, Vice-President(s) and Chairman

President:

The Club President has a largely ceremonial role, providing advice and safeguarding the long-term values and community presence of the club:

Representation: Acts as the ambassador of the club at formal functions or public events. The external spokesperson for the club when dealing with media and authorities.

Advisory: Offers advice, guidance, and assistance to the Committee officers when needed.

Ethos and Heritage: Safeguards the club's history, legacy, and overall code of conduct.

Communication: Encourages positive connection and liaison across different sections of the membership.

Vice-President(s):

The role of Vice President (VP) is reserved solely for retiring Presidents. A VP is normally a non-active role, but can deputise for the President when needed.

President and Vice-President(s) to be appointed, re-affirmed or discharged by vote at the AGM.

Chairman:

The chairman is the principal officer responsible for operational leadership and active day-to-day management of the club:

Runs Meetings: chairs committee meetings and general meetings, facilitating decision making. Sets the agenda with the club Secretary and keeps order during debates.

Manages Operations: Oversees day-to-day business, coordinates other club officers and takes urgent executive action when needed.

Mediates Disputes: Acts as an objective mediator if conflicts arise between members or committee peers.

Ensures Governance: Upholds the club rules and ensures compliance with national governing body rules. Coordinates with the club Treasurer to ensure financial governance, so the club is run as a non-profit organisation for the benefit of its members and does not over commit on outgoings.

Strategy & Leadership: Drives the general direction of the club, ensures decisions are executed, and acts as a primary internal spokesperson for the club.

In the absence of separate nominations, the roles of President and Chairman may be covered by the same person.