

Broadstone Royal British Legion Club Ltd

Minutes of the 79th Annual General Meeting held on 21st January 2026 at

7.30 pm at Legion House, Tudor Road, Broadstone, Dorset

1. Introduction: Mark Jefferson welcomed members to the 79th AGM of the Broadstone Royal British Legion Club Ltd.

2. Exhortation: by Len Bucknall

3. Apologies for Absence – Mark Jefferson (MJ)

Tony Clarke, Steve Gray, Lisa Gray

4. Approval of minutes of Previous AGM – MJ

The minutes of the previous AGM (January 2025) were proposed for approval by Paul Oliver, seconded by Chris Burt and unanimously approved by all those present.

5. Committee Nominations – candidates to introduce themselves (MJ)

Tony Clarke (Chairman)

Les Bucknall (President)

Andy Marsden (Vice-Chair) were nominated unopposed.

Shannon Harris, Nicki Rowell, Mark Jefferson & Lisa Gray were nominated unopposed to the committee

Secretary and Treasurer will be confirmed at the 1st meeting of the committee

6. Collection of Voting Slips for counting

Not needed.

7. Chairman's Report – Tony Clarke (TC)

- **Club Lease**
 - As most of you will be aware by now the new lease became live last year and our annual rent is a staggering £23,000, as you will later hear this and some of the maintenance that has been carried out has had an effect on our profit and loss

- **Land Registry**
 - We are still in limbo with this, after years of going round the houses, endless paperwork searches in an attempt to find proof of ownership to the snooker room and side car park, we have had to apply to the council for ownership on the basis of what small amount of evidence we do have and length of time we have occupied the area. I was hoping to have the answers for you at this meeting but unfortunately it hasn't been possible. We will have the answers during this year, which we will let you all know in the next available newsletter
- **Restaurant**
 - After Heroes management took the decision that they weren't making enough money, we were fortunate to find Andrea and Alan who took over the restaurant last September and have made a good job of steadying the ship after what was a rocky ride, I believe they've enjoyed a successful Christmas which is good news for them and the club. Long may the relationship continue.
- **Bar Manager**
 - After Jo left, we took the decision to re-organise and appointed a Bar Manager in Karen. Sadly this didn't have the effect we were hoping and so after parting company with her last September the club appointed Yvette as our head steward and with the help of her team this has worked out very well, there have been no major issues and the bar and committee are in constant communication to hopefully keep it that way.
- **Volunteers**
 - I cannot point out enough how desperate we are for volunteers and new committee members to help run the club and events that happen within. Again it's the same people that have put their names down for committee, because if we hadn't there wouldn't be a club here tomorrow, so please if you can spare what is a very small amount of time please come forward.
- **TC extended his thanks to the following**
 - To Yvette and all her team for keeping us refreshed
 - To Chris Burt and Sarah Wilkins for doing General Knowledge and Sports Quiz each month
 - To Mark Aldridge for the many times he drops everything to come and fix something within the club
 - To All the committee for all their efforts and support
 - And lastly to the membership

8. Secretary's Report – Mark Jefferson

- **Events**
 - 2 snooker teams play in a local league on Tuesday
 - 2 pool teams on Wednesday
 - 2 darts teams on Monday
 - Open Nights – we liaised with neighbours and ran 2 successful days in May and August – intend to do the same this year.
 - Bingo nights are finally up and running
 - Day at Bath Races was good (despite the weather) and planning one for early Summer in 2026
 - We welcome any ideas for future events – especially anyone who can help us run them
 - Thanks to Matt and Andy for helping the committee with Meat Draw and CTA raffles
 - Sarah Wilkins and Paul Oliver volunteered to join the Friday night raffle rota – many thanks to them
- **Members**
 - Currently stand at 1233 (compared to 1258 last year) at end of September
 - MJ reminded members that RBL membership and Club membership are mutually separate. RBL membership is mandatory and its fee is **NOT** included in the Club fee. Checks are carried out and Club memberships can be suspended if there is not a corresponding RBL membership.
- **Dorset RBL Clubs Association**
 - We have continued to work with the other clubs in Dorset to form an association and we meet every 2 months.
 - Had success in sharing ideas and processes with many of the clubs saving money by copying others
- **Parking**
 - Following the AGM last year, we re-introduced the Car park Fines. This has certainly helped to reduce outsider parking during the day.
 - Please note that our membership can use the Community Centre parking (up that little path next to Memorial Hall) on Saturday evenings and Sunday daytime
- **Treasurer Role**

- Mark extended his thanks to Lisa Gray who took on the treasurer role in Sept 2025 and has been helped us to spread the workload around

9. Finance Report and Re-Appointment of Auditors – Lisa Gray

- **Overall Numbers**
 - Operating loss of £11,420 for 2024-2025 (compared to £17K profit last year)
 - Shareholders Fund stands at £287,359 (compared to £298,804 last year)
 - Increase in energy bills still affecting us but only on 1-year deals at the moment
 - Massive increase in rent from £16K to £23K
 - Increase in NI and minimum wage also costly
 - We invested £100,000 in a 1 year treasury bond which is higher interest than normal bank account – should make us an extra £3000 this year
- **Savings**
 - Lots of free internal maintenance by committee and members
 - Getting 1 month 100% profit from Dransfields for machines
 - New deal with Carlsberg will return us £3000 in rebates starting early 2026
 - Reduced costs on ADT alarm system by threatening to leave
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- **Bar Prices**
 - Prices will be increased on 1st February (last rise was Feb 2025)
- **Maintenance Costs**
 - As mentioned, we get lots of free maintenance from members. Biggest cost this year was new windows – hopefully not a lot to do this upcoming year
 - Extra costs with regards to rent review as more H&S reports including water risk assessment, asbestos and extra Fire reports incurred considerable costs
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Auditors

During the AGM in 2020, it was voted that we would no longer use Auditors and therefore this has not happened for the Year ending 30th September 2025

10. Election of Arbiters – Mark Jefferson

2 of our existing arbiters have stepped down and so the following were proposed and elected as Club arbiters for the next year.

Richard Hutley – proposed by Paul Oliver

Hayley Peach – proposed by Mark Jefferson

11. Proposed new bye-laws – Mark Jefferson

- Drinking Up time – doesn't officially exist anymore so we are adding it to our bye-laws. No change in our hours but we will officially document it as being for the 20 minutes after closing time
- Increased Member discount – approx. 21% increase in bar prices for non-members but the introduction of 20% discount for members will mean increase of about 7% for members at the bar

12. Announcement of New Committee – Tony Clarke

Having been duly elected the Broadstone RBL Club Ltd Committee for 2025 will be:

- (a) President - Leonard Bucknall
- (b) Chairman - Tony Clarke
- (c) Vice Chairman – Andy Marsden
- (d) Committee Member - Mark Jefferson
- (e) Committee Member – Nikki Rowell
- (f) Committee Member – Lisa Gray
- (g) Committee Member – Shannon Harris

13. Close of Business – Mark Jefferson

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.30 pm.

Mark Jefferson

Club Secretary

16th February 2026