

BARCLAYS INTERNATIONAL PENSIONERS CLUB
86th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 29 April 2025
AT THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON SE1 8JJ

The Meeting commenced at 2:50pm.

The Chairman, Simon Culliford, welcomed 62 Members to the 86th Annual General Meeting (74 had applied).

1. MOMENT'S SILENCE

Members held a moment's silence in memory of the 60 Members who had passed away since the 2024 AGM.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Committee Members: Adrian Field

Club Members: Howard Bateman; John Bennett; Trevor Martin; Barry Streets; M Lloyd Davies

3. MINUTES OF THE CLUB'S 85th (2024) AGM

As well as copies available in the room a copy of the draft Minutes had been made available on the Club's website in the summer of 2024 in line with the new practice of making them available to Club members as soon as possible after the AGM. The Chairman highlighted two amendments:

- (a) Minute 1 – add "in November 2023" to the end of the sentence to highlight that there had only been 6 months since the previous AGM due to it being switched to follow the Spring rather than Autumn London lunch;
- (b) Minute 3 – the final sentence should read "85" not "84"

Proposer: Alan Peachey
Seconder: David Cawdery

The draft Minutes of the 86th AGM would be made available on the Club website as soon as possible.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a. Social Calendar:-

The Chairman thanked all the organisers' of the Club's social events in 2024 and 2025.

b. Committee membership changes:

The Chairman confirmed that, if re-elected, he was happy to continue as Chairman and that all Committee members, with the exception of Steve Merry, the Club's Hon. Secretary, had expressed a willingness to continue to serve until the 2026 AGM. He thanked Steve for his huge contribution on the Committee for the past six years, of which five years as Hon. Secretary, and presented him with a gift on behalf of the Committee.

The Chairman mentioned that this year would be Manchester's final event – and thanks went to all those who had organised those enjoyable events in the past – and that the Bournemouth Lunch would be held on 14th May 2025.

The Chairman confirmed that Committee membership is open to all full members of the Club and that, if anyone was interested in attending future Committee meetings on a no-obligation basis to see the Committee in action, they should let one of the existing Committee members know.

6. CLUB ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31.12.2024

Audited accounts had been included with Newsletter No.101 and also available on the Club's website. Copies were also available for Members at the Meeting.

The Hon Treasurer presented the full report, also appended to the Minutes, confirming her belief that the accounts showed the Club's affairs to be in good order and commending them to Members for adoption. Members approved the 2024 Accounts.

Lesley Mittins confirmed that the Bank grant for 2024 had been slightly lower than for the previous year, at £16,231, but that, due to a generous grant during COVID, the current balance was now extremely healthy. She confirmed that printing costs were rising each year and that reading material on-line was far more economical. Steve Kitson would be able to provide a password for anyone that wanted to read Committee material on-line.

Lesley was pleased that luncheon attendances were continuing to rise since the pandemic, although the York lunch had folded due to declining numbers. All were welcome at the Sidmouth lunch, to be held later this year. New Club members were always welcome to the various lunches held throughout the year.

Proposer: Alan Peachey
Seconder: Robert Scallon

7. BENEVOLENT FUND ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31.12.2024

Audited accounts had been included with Newsletter No.101 and also available on the Club's website. Copies were also available for Members at the Meeting.

Chairman of the Fund, Andy Fair, provided the following Report for Members:

- a) as at the end of December 2024 the Fund had £13,685 available for distribution;
- b) one grant of £500 had been made in that year to assist with a new front door; and
- c) as Hon Auditor, Keith White had kindly audited the accounts which are proposed for Members adoption.

Members approved the 2024 Accounts.

Proposer: Trevor Olney
Seconder: Peter Bonnor-Moris

8. ELECTION OF CLUB COMMITTEE

The Chairman confirmed that Steve Merry, Hon Secretary, had decided to retire at the close of the AGM.

Having been properly nominated, proposed and seconded under the Club's Constitution, the 11 remaining current Committee Members had agreed to stand for re-election. In alphabetical order, they are: Simon Culliford, Paul Dennis, Andy Fair, Adrian Field, Chrina Jarvis, Steve Kitson (*ex officio*), Lesley Mittins, Margot Sutton, Hilary Turner, Keith White and Roger Wright. They were duly elected.

Proposer: Alex Dyce
Seconder: Chris Duncan

9. ELECTION OF CLUB HON. AUDITOR

Keith White had agreed to stand for re-election as the Hon. Auditor of the Club accounts with effect from the close of the Meeting and was duly elected.

Proposer: David Cawdery
Seconder: Peter Bonnor-Moris

10. ELECTION OF BENEVOLENT FUND COMMITTEE (TRUSTEES) AND HON. AUDITOR

If re-elected, Andy Fair had agreed to continue as Chairman of the Benevolent Fund Committee. In addition, Keith White had agreed to continue to act as the Fund's Hon. Auditor. All the other current members had agreed to continue to serve on the Committee. In alphabetic order, the following Members had agreed to stand for election: Andy Fair, (former Club Committee Member) Denis Flaherty, Lesley Mittins, Margot Sutton and Simon Culliford as Club Chairman *ex officio*.

Proposer: Robert Scanlon
Seconder: Anne Hinds

Andy Fair had agreed to stand for election as the Fund's Chairman and was duly elected.

Proposer: Alex Dyce
Seconder: Chris Duncan

Keith White had agreed to stand for election as the Fund's Hon. Auditor and was duly elected.

Proposer: David Cawdery
Seconder: Peter Bonnor-Moris

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to be discussed.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Chairman confirmed that the 2026 AGM would be held after the 2026 Spring London lunch, the date for which had yet to be confirmed but would be communicated to Members in due course.

Chris Duncan thanked the Committee for all their hard work in continuing to make the Club the success that it was.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 3.10pm.

Simon Culliford (Chairman)

Appendix

6. CLUB ACCOUNTS – Hon. Treasurer's Report

The 2024 accounts were posted on the Website earlier this year and copies have been laid out at this meeting.

The Bank Grant for 2024 was slightly lower than the previous year, coming in at £16,231, but the generous grants during the Covid years means that our current bank balance remains extremely healthy. You will see that for the second year running we have made a loss, but this earlier support has enabled me to keep the members' lunch contribution at the same level for some years, despite rising costs.

Whilst our website costs have remained the same as last year, printing costs and postage for our Newsletter are rising at a much faster rate. I appreciate that some of our members find online access difficult and we will always ensure that those members continue to receive paper copies. However, if any of you who currently receive a paper copy of our Newsletter could consider moving to online access this would help reduce our costs considerably. Thank you to those who have already done so. Steve Kitson, our excellent webmaster, will be pleased to arrange access for you and any Committee member will be more than pleased to assist you in this respect.

Lunch attendances continue to rise and are now approaching pre-pandemic levels. Your support is much appreciated and I hope you will encourage your friends to come along to ensure that the Club has a thriving future. Last year the York lunch sadly folded due to lack of attendances and we are now seeing much lower numbers at the Sidmouth lunch. It is an excellent venue, with wonderful service, and I urge you to consider supporting it. The Chairman and some Committee members, including myself, have attended for some years and can thoroughly recommend it.

In 2024 we welcomed 14 new full members, and so far this year we welcome another three, which is most encouraging. These days most new members join through contact with current members, so if you are in touch with former colleagues who have not yet joined us, please encourage them to do so.

I believe the Club accounts show a healthy financial position going forward and I commend them to you for adoption. Last month we received the 2025 Grant and with your continuing support, I hope to report another successful year at next year's AGM!

Lesley Mittins
Hon. Treasurer, BIPC