

**Minutes of the 115th Annual General Meeting of
the Manchester Pickwick Club held at the
Moorside Social Club on 20th April, 2023**

The meeting was opened at 8.03 p.m. with a sadly reduced attendance which has not improved since the Covid lockdown of 2020 with its sad influence on membership.

The meeting commenced with the introduction of a new member, Brian Pearson who was given the Pickwickian name, Mr Fogg.

The Secretary apologised for failing to present a report because until the last minute - he believed he would be unable to attend and had thus not prepared one; he was happy to pay a fine and would present his report at the next meeting in September.

Dodson introduced his finance report by once again explaining how he had become the treasurer of the club many years earlier. The treasurer at that time, a former Mr Pott who was as honest as the day is long, had little idea of financial matters and had asked Dodson to assist him to prepare a balance sheet. Dodson asked about the paying-in book only to be met with a blank stare and a similar response followed a request to see the cheque book. Pott explained that he put everything through his own personal bank account but kept a record of all Pickwick Club transactions — these turned out to be a mass of scribbled paper scraps and receipts he kept in a shoe box. This was the same Mr Pott who was being buried in Peel Green Cemetery after his death with members of the club surrounding the grave and as the coffin was being lowered into the ground, Dodson was heard to mutter to nobody in particular, "He hasn't paid his subs for this year".

Dodson then reported that annual subscriptions were now due and would not be increased but would remain at £10.00 for the year plus £5.00 at each meeting; in accordance with tradition the A.G.M would be a free evening. As an aside he reported he had recently been fitted with a heart monitor by a nurse who closely resembled the Vicar of Dibley's assistant who carried out a blood test instead of a covid jab! He had no knowledge of the significance of that action.

The Treasurer's report was accepted by the members.

The following appointments were agreed for the following year:

Pickwick	Alfred Jingle
President	Ben Allen
Vice Chairman	Solomon Pell
Secretary	Ben Allen
Treasurer	Dodson
Asst Treasurer	Mivins
Minute Writer	Mivins
DC	Tom Roker
Asst DC	Alfred Jingle
POR&I	Dr Slammer
MD	Dr Slammer
Asst MD	Alfred Jingle
Mace Bearer	Job Trotter
Entertainment Officers	Ben Allen and Alfred Jingle
Fines Officer	Rev Stiggins

It was agreed that a summer outing would be arranged, probably at the Moorside Club on a date to be agreed with the steward, Heather.

Members agreed that a bouquet of flowers be sent to Mrs. Pott following her recent operation.

Following the toast to outgoing officers (all of whom had been re-elected), Jingle was thanked for standing in as Chairman for the past 3 years when meetings were not possible because of Covid.

'Good Neet Owd Friends' was sung by all and followed by the National Anthem.

The raffle raised £4.50 whilst the Fines Box contained £16.30.