

York Wargames Society
AGM – 2nd March 2020 19:30

2019-20 Committee officers

Chair	Alex Speight
Treasurer	Nathan Jackson
Secretary	Kingsley Sawyers (co-opted)
	Emile Champigny
	Mal Hildreth
	Gav Beckitt (absent)

Chair's Report inc. Vapnartak review, Christmas event review, proposals for 2020 events

Alex (Chair) briefly summarised the main events of the past year. Successful ad hoc events were held at the Priory Street Centre, whilst the Christmas celebration was improved by the change of cinema venue.

Vapnartak was by some measures the most successful of recent years with very positive feedback from traders and attendees, and the highest ticket takings ever. The reorganisation of the tabletop sale by Conrad Betts greatly improved access to tables and its takings were donated to the “Models for Heroes” nominated charity.

The Warmachine Weekender events organised by Gav were fun in themselves and promoted the club’s standing within the Warmachine community.

The increased revenues for the club means that substantial funds are available for events in the upcoming year. A general Summer social event is intended, a trip to UK Games Expo is in the planning stage, and other outings or activities are in discussion.

Treasurer's Report

Nathan (Treasurer) presented the financial status of the Society with an overview of the major expenditures and revenue items.

Vapnartak remains the major spend and earner for the club. The Warmachine Weekenders contributed to net income too.

Club funds are comfortable, enabling it to survive the financial hit of e.g. arranging and paying for Vapnartak only to have paid-ticket attendance decimated by poor weather.

Proposals for amendment to the Constitution

Three amendment proposals were planned for presentation to the members, but an oversight by the Kingsley (Secretary) rendered two of these items redundant as a newer (2015) version of the Constitution was identified and provided by Mark Widd.

The remaining proposal, passed by the members present by a simple hand vote, amends item 5(c) from “Membership is dependent upon payment of his/ her subscription to the Treasurer” replacing the final word to “Committee”.

This revised Constitution will be published to the Facebook group and club Website.



Opening of the discussion for change of Society name

Kingsley (Secretary) opened a discussion on amending the name of the club.

- This change would require Constitutional amendment approval from the membership.
- The motion will not be put to a membership vote before the 2021 AGM.

The reasoning behind the proposal is;

- The activities and interests of the club membership is considerably broader than wargaming, incorporating role-playing and board games. This is reflected in the Society's constitutional objective as voted in 2015.
- We are not just a wargaming club and our name should represent that fact to potential new members. Limiting our draw to this essential resource is foolish.
- Societal standards have changed such that use of the word "wargames" for e.g. booking services or facilities has had an adverse reaction.

No specific alternate name is proposed as this is part of the discussion.

Some strong opinions were voiced both for and against this proposal. The Committee welcomes reasoned opinions and thoughts on this from all members.

Questions and points from the floor

1. Alex Speight was proposed and passed by simple hand vote as a Lifetime Member of the Society in recognition of his longstanding contribution in organising, promoting and participating in the club.
2. Following the Treasurer's report it was accepted that the club can afford to spend more money on experiences or items for the benefit of the membership. It was clarified that expenditure of the society's funds would be considered by the Committee provided that;
 - a. The nature of the expense is of general interest to a good proportion of the members, though not necessarily specific to gaming, and
 - b. If an event or other one-off experience, participation is open to all Full Members
3. Mark Widd confirmed that a number of members have expressed interest in a club visit to UK Games Expo.
4. On a related matter it was observed that the organisation of the club storage at Guppy's has been neglected of late and that, before acquiring new e.g. mats or terrain, members are expected to contribute to the tidying up of the existing resources.
5. In response to a query from the floor, Alex (Chair) provided an overview of the contingency plans in place should the Enterprise Club not be available for the regular club meetings.



Election of Committee Members for 2020-21

The current committee members Alex Speight, Nathan Jackson, Mal Hildreth, Emilie Champigny and Kingsley Sawyers (co-opted) stood for re-election. Gavin Beckitt did not stand for re-election, though his notable contribution to the society in organising two successful Warmachine weekend tournaments are gratefully recognised.

Nat Wainwright was the only other member who offered to stand.

Alex (Chair) proposed a vote for the existing Committee members to retain their seats, with Nat to be co-opted as a non-voting member should the membership approve that re-election.

A simple hand vote was held and this motion passed.

The members of the Committee duly considered their roles and there is no change in the Officers. Alex Speight is Chair, Nathan Jackson Treasurer, Kingsley Sawyers Secretary. Emilie Champigny and Mal Hildreth are voting committee members, and Nat Wainwright a co-opted non-voting committee member.