

Maidstone Wargames Society

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 14th January 2017

Meeting commenced at 11.00

Members Present

Andy King	Bob Collman	Bretton Smith	Brian Simons
Chris Sime	Dave Bates	David Sime	Jeremey Claridge
John Lambert	John Legg	Jon Roche	Marcus Wheeler
Mike Livermore	Mike Proudlock	Paul French*	Paul Lymath
Peter Smith	Phil Richards	Seán Holden	Stephen Tucker
Tony Francis	Tony Gibbs		

* Not eligible to stand for election to the committee

The current membership stands at 29, the rules of the Society require that at least $\frac{1}{3}$ of the membership be present to be quorate.

There being 22 members present the meeting was quorate

Apologies for Absence

Mark Harris

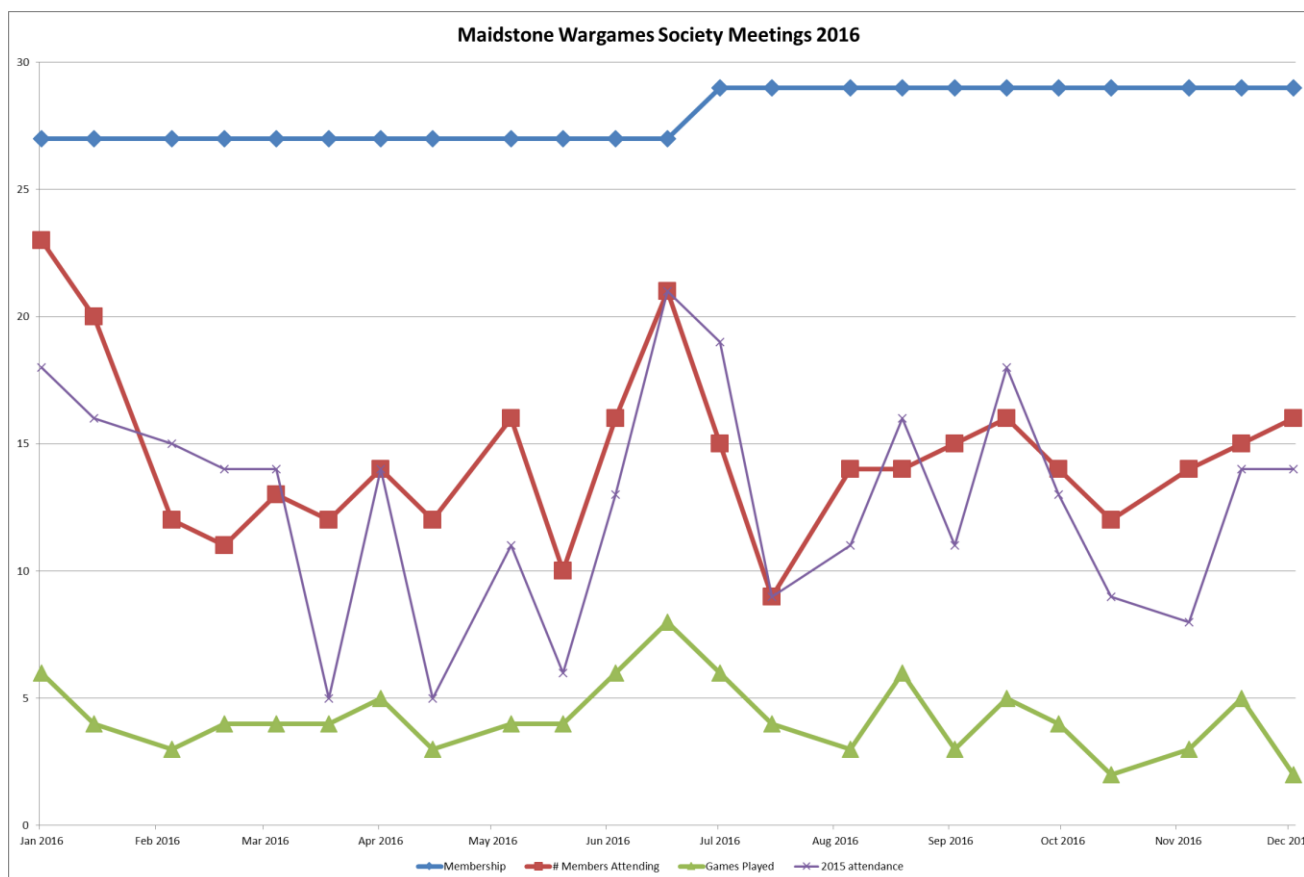
Chairman's Report

Our show game for 2016 was Paul's "Road to Homs 1982" game which we staged at Cavalier, Salute, Broadside, and SELWG. With some skilfully modelled and geographically accurate scenery, Tony's assistance providing and painting all the buildings forming the towns, and the small scale of 3mm, Paul's game gave a striking impression of an entire battlefield which is very unusual in any game representing a very large battle. This led to the game winning best demonstration game at Cavalier and best scenery at SELWG. I'd like to thank Paul for all his hard work preparing the game. Thanks are also due to all members who were able to attend shows to put on the game.

We had two new members over the course of the year; we welcomed Paul French and Russell Tomlinson.

Following Andy's initiative last year, we continued to keep a record of the number of members attending our meetings over the year. Our average attendance was 14 members, the range being 9 to 23.

Following a suggestion we will record the number of members assisting the society at each show in future.



Some of our members entered the Derby World Wargames Championships again this year. Paul and ex-member Alex entered the Battle Group Modern competition; with Colin and Brett entering the FOG Ancients competition.

Unfortunately this year we did not have a winner in either competition, although Alex and Paul were second and third respectively in the Modern tournament. Apparently not missing my contribution, Brett and Colin had a successful FoG tournament finishing higher up the team table.

The 2016 Trevor Pearless DBA Tournament was contested by 9 members this year. Mike Proudlock regained the trophy he had relinquished last year, with Michael Livermore second after losing the lead in the last round, and Paul French third in his first year in the tournament. The less said about the defending champion the better! Thank you to Steve for organising this again.

The FOG league ran again in 2016, with 6 players taking part. Standings in the league were determined by the average points per game awarded over a minimum of five games, with Paul retaining his trophy on 13.7 points; John Legg on 12.0 and Colin on 10.4.

Two games were run at the Christmas meeting, an Eastern Front WWII Spearhead game for the second year running, with another German victory, and a WWII naval destroyer game with rules prepared by Mike Proudlock, who apparently declared himself the winner!

Steve ran a very successful Dragon Rampant campaign which was joined by 8 members, with the victor undecided until the final game, and with the lead changing hands at the end resulting in Tony Gibbs being crowned champion. Thanks to Steve for running this.

Mike yet again completed the most of anyone's to-do list even though he kept adding to it throughout the year, and had by far the longest list.

WI article

We were approached earlier in the year by John Lambshead about running an article in Wargames Illustrated on the Society.

John visited us to capture a "normal day" at the club on 11th June. The finished article was published in the December issue of WI and provides good publicity for the Society, so thank you to everyone who contributed to make this happen.

2017 Show Game

As was agreed at last year's AGM the 2017 show game will be Jeremy's "Fenris Landing" sci-fi participation game. We have already play tested this once with a final run through scheduled after this meeting.

2018 Show Game

In July, to allow sufficient preparation time, we asked all members to agree on the 2018 show game and with no objections we voted for Phil's proposal. Phil confirmed he has started progressing this and has two test games already scheduled in this year's diary. Phil also indicated the main area where he would like members' assistance is in discussing and preparing the rules mechanisms we would like to use.

Finally on a personal note I would like to thank the rest of the Committee, and Andy, for their support in my first year as Chairman.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary noted Cavalier, Salute and Broadside have confirmed our attendance, and hopefully SELWG will invite us back as we hold one of their trophies! Show dates are:

- Cavalier (Tonbridge) Sunday 26th February.
- Salute (ExCeL) Saturday 22nd April.
- Broadside (Sittingbourne) Sunday 11th June.
- SELWG (Crystal Palace) October, 22nd October

Treasurer's Report

The Chairman read the Treasurer's report in his absence.

We had 2 additions to membership this year, Paul French and Russell Tomlinson, who both joined at the open day. To balance this Dave Gordon and Colin Clifford lapsed their membership in 2016. This leaves us with 29 paid up members at year end, the same as last year.

We remain in a stable financial position, with adequate reserves to cover contingencies and there is no reason to vary the annual subscription from the current £60.

A reminder to the few who don't pay by quarterly standing order that direct payment to the club account, cash, or (least preferred) a cheque for £60 are due at the first meeting in January.

Open Day Co-ordinator's Report

(Open Day 25 June 2016)

The Open Day went well, surviving the Open Day Co-ordinator's attempt to excommunicate with the world. We had seven visitors and gained two new members. Many thanks to Pete, Paul, Stephen, Alan K, John La, Mike P, Chris and Dave B for putting games on, and all those other members who helped set up and assist. Unfortunately Milton Hundred were unable to stage their game due to illness.

We spent £132.00 (including VAT) on a quarter page advert in Miniature Wargames. In the survey carried out on the visitors only one indicated that the advert in MW was the principle reason he attended. The other reasons were two each for Broadside and Salute and one each for the Website and Skirmish.

Skirmish is interesting as we did not put a game on at that show (held at Sidcup in March & September). However I did put out a bunch of flyers on the entrance table, which all went, and Andy had a set on the MHWC game table.

Webmaster's Report

The club website continues to be updated with club games in the diary and AARs.

The Society Facebook page is also used to a small degree, but it would be good if we can publish more regular game updates from each Society meeting on this site. As well as the Webmaster, Mike P, Jeremy and the Chairman have access to post as the Society.

The To-Do lists have again been created on the Society website, so if anyone else would like to add to these please let the webmaster know, updates can be made throughout the year.

It was queried if there were any alternatives to the Yahoo Group as there are sometimes issues accessing this, but with the historical information and files on this, and the lack of any better alternative, it was agreed we would continue as is.

Election of Committee

All the current committee members have indicated they are willing to stand again.

Members were asked if anyone else wished to stand for election to any of the posts.

There being no other nominations, the extant committee members were elected.

- Chairman John Legg
- Secretary Brian Simons
- Treasurer Mark Harris
- Two Ordinary Members
 - Webmaster Tony Francis
 - Open Day Co-ordinator David Sime

Any Other Business

Open Day 2017

The Open Day Co-ordinator gave a brief outline of his proposals.

A budget of £120 was proposed for advertising the Open Day. After some discussion over how this should be used, the £120 budget was approved and it was agreed it was the Open Day Co-ordinators role to decide how this should be spent.

It was agreed we would continue to offer MHWC a table at our open day.

2019 Show Game

This year we have instigated a new process where we ask for submissions of outlines for future show games two years ahead of time.

Two proposals have been put forward by David Sime and Marcus Wheeler. These were circulated in advance of the AGM.

After various questions and discussion, the members voted and by majority adopted Dave Sime's proposal as the Society's 2019 Show Game.

Skirmish show

The Open Day Co-ordinator suggested we could attend Skirmish with a game on behalf of the Society. Skirmish is held in Sidcup twice a year. A key difference from the other shows we attend is that there are no prizes for the games and thus no need to specifically put on a demonstration or participation show game, reinforced by the factor that space is at a

premium, thus the games are usually smaller and easily transportable. The impression was that there was a low key atmosphere where the majority of the clubs attending used it as an opportunity to bring good club games and meet other gamers. The proposal was therefore to take an alternative game to the Society's Show Game.

Both Dave S and Dave B suggested they could take games to the show in March and it was decided we would leave them to agree what game to take and make necessary arrangements.

Society name change

It was suggested we should consider changing the name of the Society to help advertise the geographical area we cover more accurately to attract more members, with a change to West or Mid Kent or adding this to the name. After some discussion a vote was taken on the proposal "should we consider changing the Society name", this was rejected by a large majority closing the matter.

Society game mats

It was suggested we should use some of the surplus reserves to purchase gaming mats for use of all members at the meetings. A proposal was finally made that we would provisionally allocate £60, members present at Cavalier would ascertain if any suitable gaming mats were available, and the Chairman could make the purchase if appropriate.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12:30

Maidstone Wargames Society**Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31st December 2016****Income**

Subscriptions Due	1,608.00
Interest Received	0.45
Total Income	1,608.45

Expenditure

Hire of Hall	1,309.00
Heating of Hall	38.00
Open Day Advertising	132.00
Total Expenditure	1,479.00

Excess of Income over Expenditure**£129.45****NB £9 reduction in reserves was planned for 2016****Reserves**

Reserves as at 1/1/16	1,066.85
Change in Reserves	129.45
Reserves as at 31/12/16	<u>£1,196.30</u>

Reserves are Made up of:

Hall Key Deposit (returnable on ceasing use of hall)	10.00
Engraving fee for SELWG Trophy due from SELWG	14.95
Subs owed	15.00
Cash at Bank	1,113.85
Hall Hire Prepayment Q1 2017 (not yet billed)	0.00
Cash at Hand	42.50
Net Assets	<u>£1,196.30</u>

NB reserve required includes allocation of £100 at disposal of ctte to cover unexpected costs of show attendance
3 month hire contingency and 3 month advance hire provision

Reserves Required**£814.00****2017 Budget****Income**

Subs - 26 full and 2 concessionary members @ £60	1,620
--	--------------

Expenditure

Hire of Hall 23 meets @ £59.50	1,369
Heating	50
Open Day Budget	200
Total Expenditure	1,619

Planned Excess of income over expenditure**£2**