

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF KENILWORTH
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB HELD AT KENILWORTH RFC ON
28th JUNE 2017**

In the Chair: Peter Blakeman

Officers of the Club: Willie Whitesmith, Peter Hall

Present: 28 members who signed the register of attendance, and several others who did not.

1. At 7.30pm the **Notice** convening the meeting was proposed by Graham Ballinger and seconded by Jonny Marsh.
2. **Formal apologies** were received from – Chris Elgar, Adrian Marsh, Tony Philpot, Ian Watson, and many of those on tour with the Lions in NZ
3. Peter Blakeman welcomed everyone to the meeting
4. Matters arising from the minutes of the AGM from 2016 – none.
5. The proposal to **approve and accept the minutes of the last AGM** was proposed by Jai Purewal and seconded by Yann Lawrence and carried unanimously.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

- Peter Blakeman explained that he was giving the report this year, having been acting as treasurer since John Davies retired at the end of last season, and having arranged for his employee Tonia Baker to carry out bookkeeping duties for the club at a very favourable rate.
- Bar sales were £112334 against last year's £99,776, an increase of 12.6%
- Gross Profit overall was up by £6383
- Gross Profit on bar takings was about the same as the previous year
- Subscriptions income up by £1200 compare to previous year
- Sundry income in the accounts includes Wasps and Amazon cashback, and the Cowpatch café is included here
- Total income is up by £15000 on previous year
- Maintenance expences are up compare to last year, a lot of which is due to the replacement of the posts in March 2017
- Costs of running the bar increased by £2500, as a result of wage increases, but it was noted that this increase was not entirely as a result of salary increase for the steward.
- Costs of catering are up £5700, possibly as a result of a change in the accounting methodology
- Sundry expenses includes costs for after dinner speakers, so this is higher than usual after the Nigel Owens and Dean Richards dinners.
- £2365 was also paid to the Alfies Hope charity (for Drew Dingley's son)
- The committee agreed to repay the stewards bond of £1000. This expense had not been recorded as a debt in the previous balance sheets.
- In summary, expenditure is up, but overall profit is £7682.
- All potential liabilities have now been included in the balance sheet, so if those liabilities do materialise, they are already taken into account.
- Peter Balkeman explained that there have been difficulties in explaining some of the figures in the previous years accounts, as not enough detail had been included to allow a breakdown of the involved costs. This has been addressed this last 12 months by our bookkeeper Tonia, who has moved everything into Sage and created references for every item.
- The method of accounting has now changed so that invoices are put into the accounts when they are submitted

John Faulkner asked whether the figures being quoted are taken directly from last years accounts, and Peter Blakeman explained that they were not, as Tonia had carried out a lot of work to try and reconcile last years accounts, and these figures were from the new accounts. These accounts match the auited and submitted accounts, which differed from the accounts produced at last years AGM.

John Faulkner asked what happened to the £3287 that was listed as being owed to the mobile cub in last years accounts. Peter Blakeman said he would take an action to find out and get back to John with the information. There was also a

query against a stock item valued at £1514 listed as “finished goods”. Peter Blakeman will also ask John Davies to explain what this is.

The accounts were proposed by Jai Purewal and seconded by Rob Blacklock, and carried unanimously.

Subscriptions for 2017/18

Peter Hall proposed that the membership subscription remained unchanged for the coming season. Memberships would remain at £100 for an adult or family membership with a single playing child, £140 for a family membership with more than one playing child, £125 for VP membership, and £1100 Life Membership.

This was proposed by Bruce Doe, seconded by Ada Ajoku, and carried unanimously.

Reports & Questions of Reports

Peter Blakeman asked the attendees to take a few minutes to read the printed reports on Membership and Grounds, and we would then take any questions, and vote on accepting the reports.

Playing (Wayne Morgan for the 1st XV): - no written report was available.

- Wayne thanked the committee members for their support throughout the season
- After an optimistic start to the season, we were hit very quickly with a lot of injuries, so of them long term recovery injuries.
- The number of injuries resulted in difficulty of sustaining any consistency in the team selection
- Wayne subsequently had to spend much of his time firefighting on a weekly basis trying to scratch a side together, rather than on coaching the players.
- The cryo treatment that the club paid for for some of the players was beneficial, but sadly not enough to stave off relegation.
- There were 18 notable injuries before Christmas 2016, seven of them to front row players.
- It was noted that some opposition teams in our league were paying players substantial figures (Bournville was apparently paying each player £200 per game).
- Kenilworth notably performed better against some of the top 6 sides
- Wayne confirmed that this year the coaching team will be augmented by the addition of Chris Whitehead, and Chris Pemble, with Mick O'Brien and Adam Turner taking care of the administration and registration tasks.
- There is a team building event booked in Wales for the weekend of July 7th-9th
- Departing players are Harry O'Brien (Birmingham & Solihull) and Josh Hickman (Broadstreet)

Jai Purewal gave a brief summary of the Cavaliers season, finishing 6th in the league. Transitioning of the Colts to be a priority this coming season.

Ian Harrison praised the 1st XV players commitment, recollecting in particular the way the Newport game was only lost in the 12th minute of injury time.

The ladies playing report was available. There were no questions relating to the report.

Peter Blakeman congratulated the ladies on a very successful season, and thanked them for their continued excellent turnout.

Brian Le Voi commented that it was a real pleasure to have the ladies teams at the club, and noted what a renewed vitality they have brought to the club. He wished to congratulate the ladies for their team spirit and enthusiasm, and noted that the senior men's sides could learn a lot from them.

For the Colts, Jonathan Brown reported that player recruitment would be a priority this season. They have had a very strong U16s side this last season, but lost two players to academies. Five of the side are in private schools, and are therefore not always available in the pre-Xmas period, but do become available again later.

Yann Lawrence asked whether more organised games could be arranged for the Vets sides, as these would be very welcome. Jai Purewal responded that unfortunately players had not always been forthcoming last season, so games had to be cancelled or could not be arranged with a full side. Recruitment of more players is required, but not so easy to achieve.

Other reports were presented in both written and verbal form.

Minis and Juniors – No written report was submitted, but Peter Blakeman gave a brief verbal report.

- Numbers are slightly up
- There have been some issues around safeguarding training for coaches and DBS checks, which the current M&Js volunteers are addressing now
- Question was raised about whether KRFC would be taking note of and implementing any changes following the recently announced Injury Prevention programme, and it was confirmed that Stuart Hayward Higham has already sent out some mails highlighting this, and it would be explored further
- There was a less formal festival this season, much lower key than previously, which was a great success.

Rod Jones submitted a written report on the **Grounds**. Questions were inevitably asked about the training pitch, with Yann Lawrence asking whether the players would have unfettered access to the training pitch from the start of the season. Rod Jones explained that the pitch would be available for use, but that we would still be managing the usage, as Sport England had previously tried to blame over use on the failure of the drainage works

It was noted that the club invested approx. £4000 in portable training lights last season, so these should provide increased options for training in other areas of the Cowpatch, in addition to utilising the training pitch.

Membership – Pete Hall – Written report from GMS was available to members – there were no questions.

House – Jason Southam – No written report, but Peter Blakeman confirmed that there is always lots of work to be done, and mentioned the current issues we have with the showers, which Jason is following up on. One quote we received was for £10000, so we are seeing other opinions.

There are plans to renovate the bar, so costings and quotes are currently being obtained.

Jai Purewal asked whether now might be a good time to start another campaign to raise funds. Peter Blakeman confirmed we are looking at available grants towards the costs.

Priorities need to be identified, and Alan Fisher (present) was proposed by Willie Whitesmith as a possible volunteer to manage this, and Jai seconded that.

Commercial – Roger Roberts spoke about the events being looked into, including having Scott Quinnell as a speaker on October 19th. Sponsors for pre and post match kit are being sought.

Acceptance of all of the reports was proposed by Graham Ballinger, seconded by Jonny Marsh, and carried unanimously.

Elections of Officers/Committee for 2017/2018

The meeting was asked to vote on whether to accept the same committee members as last season, with the addition of Chris Elgar who is standing as Treasurer.

It was also noted that Caroline Spence was the womens representative on the management committee this season, having taken over the ladies Vice Chairperson role from Fiona Scott-Dawe who had performed the role so admirably over the last two seasons.

Someone (sorry, did not catch who it was) then asked whether there were any additional roles that needed filling, and it was confirmed that the club was currently looking for a Safeguarding Officer. Helena Allison Moore immediately volunteered as she had previously carried out the same role at her previous club.

The election of the existing officers and committee members, with the addition of Chris Elgar as Treasurer and Helena Allison Moore as Safeguarding Officer was proposed by Ian Harrison and seconded by Alan Fisher. This was carried unanimously.

GROUND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE – a written report was made available, prepared by Mike Blakeman. More than ever, it was now believed that the club might move within the next five years.

Peter Blakeman thanked all the members of the committee for their contributions during the past season.

AOB

None.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Peter Hall
Hon Secretary
28th June 2017