

# Annual General Meeting 2010

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Saturday 12th June 2010

The meeting commenced at 14.00hrs there being the following present:

D Gershlick, T Brownsell, D Connell, G Cooper, J Ryan, R Nunez, T Middleton, J Linale, L Linale, S Smith, H Vicente, A Okret, JP Shanahan, B Gilbride, D Lynch, A Doyle, J Gimbird, B O'Regan, M Harber, JP Cremin, D Cowie, P Short, M Watts, S Gaukrodger, N Foley, S Chogley, R Patten, D Hayes, J Connolly, D Connolly,

Apologies for absence had been received from:

E Butler, C Jenkins, K Gent, J Fone, C Williams, T Connor, A Kelly, M Chapman, J Abraham, T Gilbride, M Alleyne, C Silver, R Daly, L Lennon, A Sheehan, S Burkin

1. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009 were taken as read.

2. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

The Secretary reported the fact that incorporation of the Club, which had been approved at the last AGM, was underway but the paperwork was still stuck in HMRC. He hoped the process would be complete soon and confirmed that the Committee had all the necessary approvals from the Membership to take it forward despite the delay.

3. **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer presented the attached financial report and accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010. It was proposed and seconded that the accounts be adopted and this was agreed unanimously. The Treasurer explained that following further work on the Clubhouse and floodlights, paying off substantial gas arrears because of previous erroneous meter readings plus writing off money owed from many years ago a deficit of (£5,278.13) had been recorded. However, our levels of sponsorship had held up, Geoff Cooper's had bought £1000.00 of Grand Draw tickets (meaning that we made a profit of £1200) and the bar had almost doubled the takings to over £8,000 whilst maintaining good margins. This meant that the Club's cash and bank position was reduced but still stood at a healthy £12,500.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer and Bar Chairman for a very good set of results.

4. **Director of Rugby's Report**

**First XV :** M Harber reported that on the face of it this had been a very good playing season for the 1<sup>st</sup> XV, finishing fourth in the League after promotion and winning the Middlesex Senior League Cup. However, he was disappointed that the actual playing record did not make very good reading. He was concerned that players were only interested in League and Cup games but in his view the friendlies were just as important to team spirit and to bringing in new players to the squad. He paid tribute to the coaching team led by John Ryan and to Eric Butler's captaincy.

Playing results for all 1<sup>st</sup> team games were Played 25 Won 14 Lost 10 Drawn 1 with Points For at 612 and Against at 382. 69 tries were scored compared to last season's 101 and Ben Linale was top scorer with 255 points.

**Second XV** M Harber reported that again on the face of it the 2<sup>nd</sup> team had enjoyed a good season finishing fifth in a very strong Merit Table. However the same applied to this team as to the Firsts in that the record in friendlies had been pretty poor. He was encouraged though that up to six players had regularly figured in the First XV squad and others had made the full transition to become key members of that squad. He knew that this was disruptive but stressed that players played for the Club and not just a particular team and they needed to be flexible.

Playing results for 2<sup>nd</sup> XV games were Played 27 Won 9 Lost 18 with Points For at 377 Points and Against at 895. He thanked Paddy Short for his captaincy and Steve Gaukrodger for managing the team.

He thanked in particular Neil Foley for his work as Membership Secretary.

**Next season:** For next season the players meeting had selected Lee Linale as 1<sup>st</sup> XV Captain with Brian Gilbride captaining the Second XV. Dave Maskell was taking over as Head Coach. Laurence Lennon would be Captain of the Third XV, which he was determined to have playing regularly by December. Formal training would begin on 29<sup>th</sup> June.

5. **President's Report**

The President reiterated M Harber's comments on the playing side and wished the coaches and teams well for the forthcoming season which would again be tough but which they had the capability to make a successful one. He hoped everyone shared his view that within two years we should be playing and sitting comfortably in London North West three League because we had the capability to do it.

He thanked the Committee, who had so successfully taken on much of the day to day management of the Club.

In particular he thanked Dick Daly for taking on the Bar and making such a success of it whilst reminding everyone that we also have a commitment to our sponsor The Bodhran.

He also said that next year we would be celebrating founder member Geoff Cooper's 98<sup>th</sup> birthday and he looked forward to celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup>.

6. **Subscriptions**

It was agreed that there should be no change to annual subscription rates for the forthcoming season. The Playing management had agreed that the weekly subscription would be maintained at £6 and that there would be a one off levy of £10 towards the cost of medical support.

7. **Appointments**

The following Committee appointments were agreed unanimously:

President	D Gershlick
Deputy President	Laurence Lennon
Chairman	M Watts
Secretary	T Brownsell
Treasurer	D Connell
Fixture Secretary	C Silver
Director of Rugby	M Harber
Bar Secretary	D Daly
House Secretary	Undertaken by Chairman
Membership Secretary	N Foley
Ladies Secretary	Nominations required
Social & Fund Raising Secretary	J Ryan - Fund Raising and Danny Hayes - Social
Chairman, Disciplinary Committee	To be filled by one of the Club Officers as necessary
Press & Records Secretary	David Gershlick

The President thanked all those who had put themselves forward for responsibility.

8. **Medical Provision**

Steve Smith was again prepared to stand as Medical Officer and the Meeting confirmed this as a co-opted Committee position.

He led a discussion about the RFU recommended guidelines for medical provision.

- A) We needed more qualified First Aiders because at present there was only himself and Dan Maskell. (After the meeting he found a number of volunteers and the courses will be arranged.)
- B) We did not need a physio if there were qualified First Aiders but it was agreed that we should seek one out to support each team. Chris Towndrow volunteered to investigate where such people could

be found. Mick Harber reminded the meeting that we used to have a qualified nurse filling this role and we should look at that again.

- C) We need a Medical Room and he suggested that this could be combined with the Referees room but this would need considerable tidying up.

9. **Clubhouse Facilities**

The Chairman explained to people the current plans for the summer:

1. Total refit of kitchen for which we have most of the furniture required.
2. Installation of new boiler and this to be connected to supply hot water to the kitchen and to supply the central heating in the clubroom.
3. Installation of a glass and dishwasher in the bar area.
4. Redecoration of back bar and back bar serving area.
5. Refurbishment of the floor and walls of the main corridor to the shower area.
6. General clearance of weeds, trees and tidy outside including the terrace.
7. Replace the wooden fence and door to the back kitchen covered area.
8. Refurbish the back kitchen covered area.
9. Tidying up/decorating/new seating/new hooks of the referee's changing room and incorporating into there whatever medical stuff is necessary for all the refs to give us a plus mark on their assessment form
10. The replacement of the useless floodlight bulbs

In addition there were the following suggestions from the membership:

1. To repaint the external walls of the club.
2. Two or three large plastic signs with the name, logo and website details to be attached above both entrance doors (back and main) and on the end of the clubhouse facing the entrance to Copthall.
3. To build a covered area over the main entrance area to the clubhouse.
4. To fit out the changing room next to the referee's room as a weights room. Chris Towndrow has offered a full set of weights for the room. Several of the players have offered their help to carry this out.

10. **Any Other Relevant Business**

Brian Gilbride said that we must take sevens more seriously next season.

Danny Hayes said that we must all take responsibility for recruitment.

The President said that he would investigate whether or not Geoff Cooper was the oldest founder member of a rugby club still alive and approach the Guinness Book of records and the RFU for publicity.

Dave Lynch said that there would be a Charity Rugby Day at the Club on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August in aid of the John Ryan Trust and The Motor Neuron Disease Association.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 1500hrs.

Minutes Prepared by: T E Brownsell Hon Secretary