



# Hendon RUGBY

**President David Gershlick**

## **General Meeting of Hendon Rugby Club**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2011

The meeting commenced at 12 noon with the following present:

M Blake, A Kelly, M Watts, L Linale, J Linale, A Sheehan, D Connolly, T Gilbride, C Silver, S Choglay, S Smith, N Foley, L Lennon, A Anyim, D Connell, J Abraham, C Mutuma, B O'Regan, L Murphy, P Julian, J Cremin, T Middleton, T Brownsell, M Harber, D Gershlick, D Hayes, R Haugie, J Haugie

Apologies for absence were received from:

R Daly, B Edwards, K Gent, G Riordan, M Wood, J Shanahan, M Chapman, K McManus, C Williams, A Doyle, P Kerrigan, G Cooper, C Towndrow, A McCarthy, T Connor

## **Minutes**

1. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 were taken as read.

## **Incorporation as Limited Company**

2. T Brownsell confirmed that the club was now incorporated as a Limited Company by Guarantee in accordance with the resolution passed at the AGM of Hendon Rugby Football Club on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009.
3. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 the assets and liabilities of the club were transferred to Hendon Rugby Football Club Limited. The membership and rights of the club members were also transferred to the limited company.
4. The directors of the limited company are the President, Deputy President, Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the club. The directors of the company will meet as necessary throughout the year. The rules of the club are available on the web site and in the club house.

## **Treasurer's Report**

5. D Connell presented the club accounts. The club had a good turnover over the past season which helped negate the loss of Regal as sponsors and reduced rent from Kerry Kingdom

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**Greenlands Lane, Hendon, London, NW4 1RL**

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Registered office The Club House, Greenlands Lane, Hendon, London, NW4 1RL

Gaels (KKG). One driver of this turnover was from the bar which saw good income at the start of the season from a number of events, especially early in the season.

6. Expenditure is similar to the previous year but insurance has risen due to increased coverage for the clubhouse.
7. The loss of Ground Construction as sponsors and KKG next season results in a shortfall of £5,500. This leaves the club in a weaker position although it is still cash-rich.
8. The club made a donation of £1,200 in favour of the John Ryan Trust.
9. B O'Regan asked that a further breakdown of weekly subscriptions be provided.
10. The accounts were unanimously accepted.

### **Director of Rugby's Report**

11. M Harber confirmed the election of B O'Regan as 1<sup>st</sup> XV Captain and M Chapman as 2<sup>nd</sup> XV Captain at the Players' Meeting. L Lennon clarified he would be managing the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV team next season.
12. The 1<sup>st</sup> XV played in 22 league games, winning 9, drawing 2 and losing 11. They also played 2 friendly fixtures and lost both. In total 58 players played for the 1<sup>st</sup> team over the season scoring 45 tries. The top try scorers were J Curry and C Mutuma with 7 tries each.
13. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV played 16 merit table games, winning 6 and losing 10. They also played 5 friendly fixtures and lost in the final of the merit table vase competition. In total 55 players played for the 2<sup>nd</sup> team over the season. 33 of these players also played for the 1<sup>st</sup> team.
14. Overall it was a poor season for both teams. The 1<sup>st</sup> XV won just 1 of their first 8 games of the season highlighting a slow start to the season. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV won 1 of their first 9 games.
15. M Harber reported he held discussions with Paul Carroll with a view to him coaching the club next season in a paid capacity. He described him as someone who inspired those around him when he coached here previously and that he was well liked and respected by the players.
16. J Cremin pointed out that the poor attendance at training last season made it hard to justify a well paid coaching position. B O'Regan described it as a 'chicken and egg' scenario where a good coach would improve the quality of training sessions and in turn the attendance.
17. D Gershlick and L Lennon suggested the club should also advertise the need for coaches. This would open the club to a larger pool of talent and allow junior or specialist coaches

to assist the head coach. T Middleton said that Gumtree would be a good outlet to attract other coaches.

18. M Harber, D Connell and B O'Regan will meet Paul Carroll in the coming weeks to discuss the head coach position at the club in more detail. The committee will meet in one month's time to review the coaching situation. B O'Regan confirmed that pre-season training would start in four week's time.

### **President's Report**

19. D Gershlick said that while the club had faced challenges over the past season it was important to look forward to the future.
20. The club appeared on BBC 1's 'The One Show' earlier in the season in a charity event for Comic Relief. The club will also feature in a show on the Blighty channel in early July.
21. The club's involvement with 7s rugby is a disappointment. There needs to be better engagement from players for the Hendon 7s both on and off the pitch. The poor commitment to the Middlesex Club 7s also reflects poorly on the club. D Gershlick proposed the formation a 7s committee to improve 7s at the club. B O'Regan saw a need to better advertise the Hendon 7s. L Lennon mentioned that in the past the club hired a coach to the Middlesex 7s which saw more travelling to the event.
22. Discussions are continuing with Saracens and their plans for Cophall stadium. It is not yet confirmed when they will move to Cophall but indications are they will be there for the 2012/2013 season, if not earlier. Saracens will bring numerous playing and financial benefits to the club. Cophall will have an IRB approved all-weather pitch which could be used for training and league games. The club is ideally situated on the route from the M1/A1 to the stadium and the committee are identifying ways to capitalise on those passing the club on Saracens' match days. Another potential initiative with Saracens is a benefit match between a Hendon XV and Saracens XV in aid of Motor Neurone Disease.
23. The 2012/2013 season will be the club's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary which will be marked by an event in the Hendon area, possibly at Saracens/Cophall. This is tentatively scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> October 2012 which would coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of founding member Geoff Cooper. It was also proposed that Geoff Cooper join the committee as a fundraiser to highlight his continuing contribution and generosity to the club. In the past season he has provided £1,000 sponsorship to the club.
24. D Gershlick is seeking to bring the 2016 Golden Oldies tournament (and around 200 clubs from around the world) to London. B O'Regan said that the club should establish a Vets side at the club to increase participation from past players and the local community. D Gershlick said that he and some other members play for Old Vulgarians RFC but the benefits of an active Hendon Vets team were noted.

25. The President thanked T Brownsell for his many years of service to Hendon Rugby Club and wished him success as he takes up the position of Chairman of Middlesex Rugby. The president also thanked L Linale for captaining the 1<sup>st</sup> XV last season. Thanks were also extended to the Haugie family for their support of the club over the last few years as they will be returning to Papua New Guinea this summer.

## Membership

26. The proposed rates of subscriptions were discussed. It was proposed to increase the rate for playing members to a level where the club still offers good value compared to other local clubs.

27. L Linale instead proposed increasing the weekly subscription but others felt that this could make it more expensive to play, especially where someone might be a substitute and not play in the game. A Kelly highlighted that the annual membership rate is for membership of the club which brings more than just playing rugby.

28. The membership rates for the 2011/2012 season were set at:

Playing Member	£60
Vice Presidents	£50
Committee Members	£50 (£60 if Playing Member)
Junior (U19) & Social Members	£20

29. These rates do not include any club gear. This will be made available for purchase separately. The team captains and managers will ensure that their players pay their annual subs in a timely manner.

## Officers of the Club and Management Committee

30. The following committee was proposed and accepted

President	D Gershlick
Deputy President	L Lennon
Chairman	M Watts
Secretary	N Foley
Treasurer	D Connell
Fixture Secretary	C Silver
Director of Rugby	M Harber
Bar Secretary	L Lennon
House Secretary	Undertaken by Chairman
Membership Secretary	D Hayes
Social and Fund Raising Secretary	D Hayes (Social) J Ryan (Fund Raising) G Cooper (Fund Raising)

31. L Lennon agreed to take on the role of Bar Secretary with the support of a Bar Committee to share the workload of running the bar on match days and other events.

32. T Brownsell will continue to add historical information to the club web site but sought assistance of a playing member to provide match updates, photos etc. M Blake agreed to take on this responsibility.

**Any Other Business (AOB)**

33. J Cremin asked for funding to be made available for gym equipment. This would be used for indoors training in bad weather and for those in rehabilitation after injury. The two changing rooms next to the showers could be knocked together to provide a gym area, which was discussed in a previous AGM. J Cremin should provide a list of equipment and D Connell will see what is affordable.
34. L Linale highlighted the need for a physiotherapist to be available. B O'Regan said he was looking into this for the coming season.
35. B O'Regan suggested that players be asked to see if their employers would be willing to sponsor the club. D Hayes pointed out that around 80 local businesses were approached a couple of years ago. T Brownsell also explained the current sponsorship arrangements and how these included access to international tickets. The club has always been able to fulfil its ticket commitments to sponsors. Any surplus tickets are made available to players.
36. D Hayes asked about further improvements for the bar and lounge area of the clubhouse. D Gershlick explained that it would be unwise to make long-term plans for the clubhouse until Saracens plans are confirmed.
37. M Harber sought suggestions for next season's tour. B O'Regan suggested Edinburgh. In addition, D Gershlick proposed forming a committee for the 2012/2013 tour which would mark the club's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary and possibly see the club visiting a more far-flung location as it has done in the past.
38. L Lennon emphasised the need for the committee and players to work more closely together. The committee should be more transparent to wider club but players also need to show greater commitment to volunteering and getting involved in all facets of the club.
39. M Watts thanked Fiona Meehan for cooking during the season and said that many people enjoyed the food available on match days.
40. There being no further business the chairman concluded the meeting at 14:35.