

Minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting held at the Clubhouse on Sunday, 31 January 2010

Present:

- Club President Richard Haigh, Chairman David Hall, Secretary Ian Watkinson, Treasurer Steve Fitton, and eight members of the committee and Club.

Apologies:

- Howard Sykes, Dave Walker.

Minutes & Matters Arising:

- Minutes of the 2009 AGM read and accepted as a true record; no matters arising that are not dealt with elsewhere

Correspondence:

- Letter of resignation from the Committee received from former President Peter Wells. Verbal resignation also received from Gerald Goddard.

Chairman's Report:

- David Hall welcomed everyone to the meeting and began by thanking all those involved in the Junior section, notably David Walker and Brian Wells, for all their hard work. The section has improved greatly over the past couple of years and we now have a unified set-up making really good progress.
- For the 2nd XI, the Chairman's thanks are due to Rob Denton for the able way in which he managed a team, particularly with so many young players involved. Reaching 4th position in the League and winning the end-of-season Schweppes Trophy were due reward for some excellent cricket. There is great optimism for the future and we look forward to another good season in 2010.
- The 1st XI had an excellent season, finishing 3rd (really 2nd, but for the award of some spurious points to Skelmanthorpe!) and emulating the 2nd XI's success in winning the end-of-season Hopkinson Trophy. The Chairman expressed his delight at Danny Glover's performance as Captain in his first season and at a young age. He took responsibility and pulled things together magnificently. He relished the responsibility and his own performances grew, providing him with his best season in senior cricket. Of the rest, batsmen SP Singh and Tim Rees both reached 1000 runs for the season. Local players were prominent: Tom Denton played with his usual aplomb when his football commitments allowed, and finished top of the Club averages; Sam Haigh made great progress and had his best season; Sam Denton looked extremely promising. Nigel Hoyle secured a 1st XI place, whilst the returning Steve Sullivan had a great season behind the stumps. Tim Rees won the League catching prize, whilst Ashley Brothers demonstrated each week why he is regarded as the best fielder in the Huddersfield League. The only slight disappointment was overseas player Romain Grenville whose very respectable performances, were overshadowed by disruptive match-day behaviour.
- The Chairman thanked Groundsman Ray Horrocks and his assistant, Mole Catcher Colin Tinker, for all their hard work during the year. Marsh Lane always looks terrific thanks to their efforts.
- The Chairman gave particular thanks to our outstanding team of tea ladies who produce such excellent teas.
- The Chairman also gave thanks to all members of the committee and the officers who gave so freely of their time, notably Treasurer Fitton for all his work not only with the finances, but in the cellar and around the site; Howard Sykes for his work with our

sponsors; and to Secretary Watkinson for his work on fund-raising and the redevelopment programme.

- The Chairman closed by paying tribute to the contribution made to the Club by retiring committee men Peter Wells and Gerald Goddard. Both were already on the Committee when the Chairman joined and have been loyal and hard-working members. Peter Wells was President of the Club for a number of years and was a key member of the management team. Gerald ran the raffle every Friday at the Farmer's Boy for many years, raising thousands of pounds for the Club. The meeting expressed its thanks to both men for their years of service and hoped that they would continue to support the team for many years to come.

Secretary's Report:

- The Secretary focused on off-field activities and reported that the Club's fund-raising efforts continued to keep the Club on a sound footing and able to withstand the loss that the Treasurer would later report. The Village Bonfire and the Shepley Spring Festival were the two main planks of the fund-raising and were vital to the Club's financial well-being. The Secretary was happy to report that the Festival, despite losses incurred for the organisers, was not in doubt for the future.
- The Secretary told the meeting that out-reach into the local community was a vital part of the Club's strategy. Not only did it bring lots more people into the Club to use the facilities and spend money, it helped tick all the boxes for the cricketing and fund-raising bodies.
- The meeting was told that great progress has been made towards gaining Clubmark status, an important step in gaining funds. We have now reached the appropriate status at all levels; the only remaining step is a visit by YCB to one of our coaching sessions at the start of the season. We have also been given encouragement that we will be fast-tracked to Focus Club status before too long. Beth Rae's work as Child Welfare Officer is a vital part of this strategy.
- The re-development of the Club's facilities is vital and the Secretary thanked Club President Richard Haigh and his team for their work. Richard reported that planning permission for the Changing Rooms was imminent and that work should start shortly, and would be completed before the start of the season; funding from Kirklees Council was already in place. The Clubhouse planning application would be submitted soon, with a view to doing the work next winter, funding permitting. The Secretary confirmed that we were getting encouraging noises from Sport England and that a key meeting would be held in February.
- The Secretary thanked everyone who had worked so hard over the year to help with fundraising and other issues. Whilst it is invidious to name names, the Secretary particularly thanked Howard Sykes for his work on sponsorship in what were difficult times; the Chairman for his hard and successful work in building a very good team in very good time; the Treasurer for his tremendous amount of work both on the finances and the bar, much of which goes unseen; to Dave Walker and his team for really taking the Junior section forward; to Ray Horrocks and Colin Tinker for their work on the ground, as well as people like Dave Wright and Charles Marsland for a lot of hard, unreported work; and finally to Danny Glover, whose captaincy and leadership were a credit to him and the Club.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer Steve Fitton reported on a difficult year for the Club, leading to a second consecutive loss. Once again, however, the loss was largely due to one major item of

expenditure – the storage container. Sponsorship income was down, no doubt due to the state of the economy, as was bar income.

- Expenditure was under control, apart from an increase in player expenses. A one off 'catch up' for electricity was also felt in the results.
- The Treasurer reported that the Club was financially sound, albeit reliant on the Village Bonfire and the Festival to sustain current expenditure. He looked forward to the additional income generated by the new Clubhouse in the future.
- The Chairman thanked the Treasurer and reminded the meeting that we needed more volunteers if costs were to be kept down.
- The Annual Accounts were accepted unanimously.

Election of Officers and Committee:

- With all existing officers prepared to continue in office, and with no other nominations received, The Chairman proposed and President seconded that all officers of the Club should be re-elected, which was duly passed unanimously.
- The Chairman proposed that Huw Ellis, Rob Denton and Sam Haigh, none of whom attended meetings, should not be re-elected to the Committee, along with the retiring Peter Wells and Gerald Goddard. He asked for volunteers and John Rae and Ian Glover offered to stand. Beth Rae, already Child Welfare Officer was also nominated.
- The meeting unanimously agreed the changes, so the newly elected Committee is, therefore, as follows: President, Richard Haigh; Chairman and League Representative, David Hall; Vice Chairman and Secretary, Ian Watkinson; Treasurer, Steve Fitton; Child Welfare Officer, Beth Rae; Committee Members Garry Booth, Ian Glover, Nigel Hoyle, Keith Parry, John Rae, Howard Sykes, David Walker & Brian Wells. Under the Club Constitution a further six committee members could be co-opted during the current year.

Membership Fees

- The Chairman proposed that the decision on Membership Fees be delegated to the Committee for consideration at its next meeting. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

Any Other Business

- Ian Glover proposed that photographs be taken to record the forthcoming building programme. The Secretary confirmed that not only was this in hand, but that a local artist was also coming in to produce a series of paintings.
- The President said that it was important that we had Sky TV for the new Clubhouse. This was the view of the meeting and further discussions covered the possibility of promoting this summer's World Cup at the club.
- The Child Welfare Officer, Beth Rae, reminded the meeting that anyone who might possibly come into contact with juniors during the Club's activities would need to have a CRB check. She would undertake an audit and ensure everyone's paperwork was up to date.
- Steve Sullivan reminded the meeting of the problems with scorers last season and asked that we try to recruit a permanent 1st XI scorer. The meeting agreed entirely, but were unsure of how to find one. The Secretary felt that a clear understanding was needed of who was responsible for ensuring a scorer was in place for each game.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked all those present and looked forward to a successful 2010. The meeting closed at 12.02 pm.