



MINUTES OF 3rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 21 August 2019

7-30pm in Clubhouse

Members Present (40)

Colin Watson, Neil Dori-Muir, Ken Richardson, Colin Wells, Ian Pauley, Robin Stevenson, Tom McNeil, David Mitchell, Gordon Jesty, Robert Dow, Dave Porteous, MaryAnn Cochrane, Anne Young, Ally MacLennan, Barry McKeown, Bert Lawson, Craig Young, Matt Dixon, Douglas Thomson, Anne Brown, John Smith, Gavin Brown, Andrew Archer, Gordon Dixon, Jean McKeown, Calum McKeown, Peter Gavin, Tim Armour, Angela Blundell, Jon Blundell, Paul Birrell, Rob Wakefield, Des Martin, Graeme McCorkell, Gary Shepherd, Stuart Ritchie, Dave Thomas, Euan Mochrie, Harry Lynch.

Apologies

Bill Berridge, Jim Lindsay, Ian Morrison and Gerry Keating.

Proxies

None Advised.

1. Approval of Minutes of the 2nd AGM of Linlithgow Rugby Club Ltd

These were approved unanimously by a show of hands at the meeting.

2. Report by Ken Richardson, President, on the activities of the Club / Company

Ken Richardson showed a short video which showed the extent of what has been achieved over the last 10 years as part of 2020 Vision : Towards 50. In that time, the Club has invested nearly £750,000 in major project work, successfully raising nearly £500,000 in grant support from a range of bodies. Ken paid tribute to the work of the Project group during that 10 year period which was made up of Gavin Brown, David Mitchell and Gordon Dixon, working with himself, with the addition in recent years of Colin Watson and Ally Rae.

3. Report by outgoing Director of Rugby, Gordon Dixon

Gordon gave a moving and passionate address as he stepped down from office after many years service both from a Club and an SRU perspective.

Ken Richardson then thanked Gordon for his tremendous service to both the Club and rugby in general. The meeting unanimously endorsed the proposal by Ken Richardson, on behalf of the Board, to make Gordon Dixon an Honorary Vice President in light of his contribution to the Club over many years.

4. **Presentation of Annual Accounts for Linlithgow Rugby Club Ltd**

(01 May 2018 to 30 April 2019)

Copies of the annual accounts were given out to those at the meeting with a short overview from the President as way of explanation. The annual accounts had been independently verified by Grant Barclay of Barclay & Co.

A ten minute recess was called to allow those present time to review the accounts.

5. **Consideration and Approval of Annual Accounts by Members**

After the recess, questions were taken on the accounts and after some discussion, the Annual Accounts were put to the meeting and approved unanimously.

6. **Motions to Annual General Meeting:**

1. **Board proposal to increase membership fees**

Motion 1 was unanimously approved after discussion. It was agreed to set up a small group to investigate the cost and benefits of Social Membership, particularly in light of the success of the Memories' Group, where a lower fee might encourage more to join.

2. **Motion from Robert Dow regarding private functions**

Motion 2 was discussed at length with Gavin Brown proposing an amendment to the original motion, seconded by Ken Richardson. The Annual General Meeting endorsed the principles set out in the motion put forward and mandated the Board to develop them into an operational policy, while balancing the other demands on the Club, in consultation with the proposers of the motion and any other members the Board thought necessary to consult. This amendment was carried unanimously.

7. **Election / re-election of Club / Company Directors**

The following Directors were elected in turn and all unanimously:

Chair / President	Ken Richardson	re-elected
Director of Rugby	David Mitchell	elected
Director of Youth Rugby	Ian Morrison	re-elected
Director of Finance	Jean McKeown	re-elected
Director of Clubhouse Operations	Colin Watson	re-elected
Director of Bar Operations	John Smith	re-elected
Secretary to the Board	Robin Stevenson	re-elected

8. **Club Person of the Year Award**

Bert Lawson was awarded the Trophy of Club Person of the Year, for his work in establishing a highly successful Memories' Group, in addition to a Walking Rugby sub group.

Robin Stevenson
Secretary to the Board

Ken Richardson
Chair / President

Motions to Annual General Meeting

MOTION 1

The following motion to the Club's AGM is proposed by the Club Board:

Membership Fees for Season 2019-2020

The Board proposes that:

1. Membership Fees be increased by an amount to cover inflationary cost rises over the last few years.
2. Membership Fees for the main Youth categories
 - Wee Reds Minis (P4 to P7), and
 - Young Reds (S1 to U18)be increased to £15.12 per month with effect from season 2019-2020, with provision for discounts for family members and the option to pay a single upfront payment. Details as per attached note.
3. A new Membership category "Senior Player not in full-time employment" be introduced to replace the category of U23 playing member.

Background Rationale

1. There has been no increase in membership fees for the last 3 years. At last year's AGM, it was intimated that a proposal to increase fees would be brought before the following AGM. The increases proposed are in line with the RPI increase over 4 years and will be fixed for the next two seasons.
2. Membership fees only make up for part of the direct costs of rugby. Grants, sponsorship, fundraising and contributions from bar operations and club events make up the balance. For youth rugby, the Club has seen a significant fall-off in monies from these balancing contributions, so a larger increase in membership fees is required. (Direct grants supporting youth rugby are down by £5,000pa while youth fundraising is down by £4,000pa.) In addition, this year the Club is putting additional professional coaching resource into the Young Reds and Wee Reds in response to demand from parents and coaches.
3. We aim to make rugby accessible and affordable for all. Our membership fees are well below our direct costs of rugby and we have provision to make special provision in the case of financial circumstances (ie *Hardship cases are eligible for discount if approved by either the Director of Rugby or the Director of Youth Rugby*). Introducing a new category "Senior Player not in full-time employment" allows us to provide a discount for senior players who are not in full-time employment (ie with a contract of employment covering a minimum average of a 35 hour week at the time of registration).

MOTION 2

Resolution for Rugby Club AGM

Wednesday 21 August 2019

That all private functions are contained within the main hall area with the shutter down.

The area at the Trophy Cabinet end designated a player/members area.

Exceptions:-

- 1) On an organised Rugby Club function where members would have the right to attend.
- 2) Days when the club is not normally open.
- 3) At the discretion of the person in charge of the bar, if no players/members present or likely to be then the shutter can be opened.

On International or other important televised Rugby fixtures and after a home team match the main lounge area is not to be prepared for a function until a reasonable time has passed after the conclusion of these matches.

Proposed *ROBERT DOW*

Robert Dow

Seconded *HARRY LYNCH*

Harry Lynch

11 August 2019