

IRVINE SPORTS CLUB BOARD MEETING on THUR. 9th NOV. 2023

Present: R. Kidd, A. Rennie, J. McGarry, A. Wilson, M. Ingram, A. Keenan, G. Russell

Apologies: S. McCallum, G. Frater, L. Williamson, M. Nish

Finance and Banking

The finance report for October had been prepared by Glen and issued in advance of the meeting. The report showed a net profit of £40,541 but it should be noted that grants of £46,085 were received during the month meaning that the club effectively operated at a loss during the period. These grants were in respect of: NAC/UKSPF fund - £23,000; No One Left Behind fund - £23,085. The Running Section had also paid a £2,000 towards its membership subscriptions. It was noted that an invoice of £4,336 was due to be paid for an emergency roof repair to the main clubhouse and also that the loan repayments to Resilient Scotland would resume in December 2023 at £1,011 per month.

A revised copy of the club accounts for year ending 31st March 2023 had been issued to all directors. The accounts showed a loss for the year of £16,485 but when major expenditures in respect of purchase of a new tractor and cutter and a contribution towards refurbishing the cricket pavilion were taken into account this was considered to be an acceptable outcome.

Proposed changes to the club Memorandum and Articles of Association to facilitate transfer of a strip of land from Irvine Common Good Fund.

A discussion document on the proposed changes had been prepared by A. Rennie and issued in advance of the meeting. A copy of the discussion document is included with these minutes. The board considered, and confirmed, each of the proposed changes. These proposals will form the basis of resolutions to make the required changes to the club's Memorandum and Articles of Association at the forthcoming AGM.

Irvine Sports Club AGM for 2023

It was confirmed that the date for the AGM would be Wednesday 6th December with arrangements as per the Articles of Association: 14days notice to members; nomination forms for directors and any resolutions to be submitted 7days beforehand; proxy forms to be submitted 48hrs beforehand. In addition to the special resolution to change the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the club, the board will submit an ordinary resolution to increase the membership subscriptions in the following categories: Junior - £25; Ordinary - £99; Non-playing and retired - £50. After discussion it was agreed that as per Article 64.2 two elected directors should stand down and these would be R. Kidd and L. Williamson.

Development Manager's report

G Russell had provided a separate, comprehensive report covering staffing, clubhouse issues, ground issues and grant applications. The following are highlighted for inclusion in the minutes: staffing – R. Kidd and L. Williamson now have an overview role in the work of the groundsman(Graeme Cook); catering – club staff are now providing basic catering at some events booked at the club e.g. soup and sandwiches, etc. G. Russell will ensure that necessary arrangements are put in place to ensure that the club complies with hygiene requirements; front office upgrade – an amazing 'in house' transformation of the front office and reception area has been undertaken by Allan Wilson and John McGarry; emptying of litter bins on the playing field – Graeme Cook will get up to date with this task as soon as tow balls can be added to the zero turn machine and/or tractor; grants – a number of applications are still awaiting a decision. A comprehensive application form is in process for the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. The board congratulated Glen on being nominated for the Scottish Government Digital Inclusion Award.

Playing Sections and Gym

Cricket – Winter training continues at Kilmarnock arena. Work is ongoing on improvements to internal decoration of the changing rooms. Issues were raised about both responsibility for the decking area and heating of the changing rooms and decisions on these were deferred until the next board meeting.

Football – The race night held in October went well and a Halloween party is being held at the club on 10th November. The new match kit has been launched and re-registration of all players has taken place. In the new season the club is likely to field the following teams: under 7(2), under 8(2), under 10, under 12(2), under 14 and under 16. It was noted that one player(Sophie) in the under 14 team has scored 50 goals.

Running – The following events were confirmed: Ayrshire x-country championships at Rozelle – Sat 11th Nov; Cyclists V Harriers - Sun 17th December; Xmas Handicap – Wed 27th Dec; 15 lady members went on a running week-end to Peebles and the section is encouraging the other sports sections to get involved in arrangements with Irvine's twin town of Voisin.

Rugby – The men's team has won its last 5 matches and are 2nd in the league. Unfortunately the women's team has lost its last two matches but injuries are a factor. The juniors are currently training indoors at the Portal. The section is considering installing rugby posts on their training pitch. Four training lights need to be replaced and rugby requested that the sports club meet the cost of the lights(£472) with rugby paying for hire of a cherry picker to install them – this was agreed.

AOB

It was agreed that there would be no board meeting in December other than the usual short meeting after the AGM to confirm the club office bearers.