**IRVINE SPORTS CLUB BOARD MEETING held on THURSDAY 12th May 2022**

**Present:** R. Kidd, A. Rennie, A. Wilson, A. Keenan, J. Kidd, G. Russell

**Apologies:** L. Williamson, J. McGarry, S. McCallum, D. Neil, M. Nish

**Finance and Banking**

The finance report for April had been prepared by Glen and issued in advance of the meeting. The report showed that the bank balance remained stable but A. Rennie pointed out that regular outgoing payments for insurance and loan repayments had not been taken in April and there was likely to be a double payment for these in the May statement. An agreement has now been reached to renew the club’s insurance with Aviva with the annual premium now increasing from £5685 to £6479. One reason for the high premium is that Aviva estimate the rebuild cost for a total destruction of the club buildings to be £1.7m and our broker has said that if we can get a professional valuer to provide a reduced figure this would, in turn, reduce the premium.

**Investing in Communities Fund**

A Rennie and G. Russell are still working on the application but the new submission date has still not been announced. The application form is extensive with an expectation of between 300 and 500 words per answer for the 10+ questions. A. Rennie congratulated G. Russell on the fine work he had done on the Community Consultation – the report was well presented and highlighted the issues which we want to include in the application. A. Rennie also pointed out that he has discovered that grass sequesters carbon in its roots by the same process that trees store carbon in their trunks and this will be included as a positive for the club in the ‘transition to net zero’ part of the application, as we have 26 acres of grass.

**Proposal to upgrade cricket changing and the garage**

The outcome of the proposal emailed to board members on 15/04/22 is that all 10 board members are in favour of the proposal going ahead. The proposal was that the Sports Club would contribute a maximum of £13k to the upgrade with that being reduced if any further grants were obtained. G. Russell was able to report that he had obtained a further £3k towards the project from ‘Chance to Flourish’ which means that the Sports Club commitment is now £10k. Discussion took place on which of two roof contractors should undertake the re-roofing part of the project and, taking a number of factors into consideration, it was unanimously decided that the roofing part of the contract be awarded to Kay Roofing. The internal building and plumbing work will be undertaken by the contractor chosen by the cricket section.

**Proposal to purchase a new tractor and a new grass cutter**

The outcome of the proposal emailed to board members on 15/04/22 is that all 10 board members are in favour of purchasing a new tractor and a new grasscutter from J.S. Montgomery of Beith. Both machines are now on order with no payment until delivery.

**Development Manager’s report**

Glen had issued a comprehensive report to all board members in advance of the meeting. His report covered: staffing; security issues involving door sensors and CCTV; end of financial year documentation for Andy Howat; and work with the sections. He issued a ‘Funding Bid Record Sheet’ detailing 15+ grant applications he is working on and highlighted a useful contact he has made with ‘Utility-Aid’ to help us to review our utility contracts

**Emergency contact arrangements for board members who are on the club security list**

A Rennie raised the need for the board to ‘future proof’ the current arrangements for situations where the club alarm company alerts the club that an alarm (burglar or fire) has activated during the night. The present arrangement is that the alarm company has a list of key holders who are phoned in a specific order until one answers and the expectation is that the person will then attend the club to check the source of the alarm – and then call out police or fire brigade if needed. After discussion no alternative solution was suggested but a more satisfactory system is needed as the current arrangement has obvious safety implications for the board member who responds to the alarm call out. As part of a move towards a safer system Glen is hoping to load the club CCTV cameras onto an ipad for the board member who is designated as the main keyholder. To be continued!

**Playing Sections and Gym**

**Come and Try day** – Glen had worked with Active Schools and the playing sections to arrange a come and try day on 11th May. The event had been a huge success with approximately 450 P6 and P7 pupils in attendance over 2 sessions.

**Football** – all teams are doing well with the under 14’s at the top of their league. The Ladies are out of the League Cup Plate but are playing league games and their presentation night went well. New 11 a side goals have been purchased, more helpers have qualified as coaches and they hope to organise a Sally Buxton night.

**Hockey** – hoping to be back training soon and are speaking to six other clubs about summer friendlies. They have secured a £1k grant from Arnold Clark.

**Rugby** – The club has been struggling to field a 1st XV after covid and reluctantly decided to withdraw from the league. The senior team will regroup with the intention of restarting games in West Division 2 next season. The Ladies and junior teams have been able to complete their games. The outstanding junior subscriptions have been paid and a family fun day has been organised for Sunday 15th May.

**Running** – preparations are well advanced for a club open day on Saturday 28th May. The 100m straight of the running track will be lined for this and it is hoped that an arrangement can be made with the Sports Club to line the entire running track during the summer months in the future. The Marymass 10k road race will go ahead on Wednesday 17th August and Billy Richardson will represent the club at the London marathon on 2nd Oct.

**AOB**

**A Keenan** – requested a contribution towards the cost of their new goals and £1k was agreed. Highlighted that pot holes on the access road need fixed. A. Rennie said that he would arrange to meet Mark Welsh about bowling green development.

**A Wilson** – requested that ‘no dogs’ signs be replaced and requested that information be sought from Archery about their intentions for their portacabin as Rugby would be willing to relocate it for their use.

**R Kidd** – raised the issue of the club setting priorities (which A Wilson had also previously raised) and it was agreed to progress this at the next meeting.

**Date of next meeting** – Thursday 16th June.