**IRVINE COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB AGM 6th DECEMBER 2023**

**Present:** Robert Kidd, John McGarry, Andy Rennie, Allan Wilson, Megan Nish, Mike Ingram, Angela Keenan, Liz McGarry, Michelle Frost, George Howie, James Whyte

**Proxy Forms:** Robert McIlvenna, James Cooney, Hamish Walker, Peter Long, Scott Pettingale, Scott Kerr, Neil McMillan, Conor Corrigan, Fiona Long, Rebecca Moffat, Natalie Rooney, Fira Gledhill, Shelley Dalton, Leah Hart, Katie McClymont, Virgine Pesci, Amy Burns, Rachel Cameron, Karen Figgins, Finlay Dowell, Susan Rhodes, Samantha Alderson, John Surgenor, Peter Taylor, Joyce Stewart, Alison Gartland, Layna Thompson, Janet Robertson, James Coyle, David Leisson, Jordan Tait, Scott Miller, Joshua Robinson, Shaun Douglas, George Nish, Joyce Nish, Alyson Bowman, Stuart Gaw, Liz Duncan Mary Miller.

**Total present + proxies = 51**

**Approval of the 2022 minutes**

Proposed by Allan Wilson and seconded by John McGarry

**Chairman’s Report given by Bobby Kidd**

Well, the last year has been a bit of a bumpy journey involving finances, staffing and the playing sections. The finances are all detailed in the balance sheet.

**Staffing:** the placements for the three young government sponsored staff came to an end and we were informed that monies for replacements would be available but no date as to when. It was a struggle but we worked our way through and now we have three new staff who no longer need to be young but are of a more mature and experienced ilk.

**Archery:** areunfortunately no longer meeting here, we made attempts to contact their committee but no replies were forthcoming and the container was removed. Although few in numbers it was quite a unique sport in this area.

**Cricket:** Cricket had problems on the playing front which is a recurring theme amongst the sections this year. A resignation of a coach and losing some games contributed to some players leaving. As they say every cloud has a silver lining, an existing member stepped in to do the organisation and a great improvement took place. As with the other sections the juniors are strong and are the future of the club. The cricket pavilion also had a makeover which greatly improves the facility which had been previously a pretty dismal place to invite opposition teams to use. Mike Ingram was the mainstay of this improvement.

**Hockey:** It’s good to see hockey fighting to remain part of the Sports Club in very difficult times. The big problem is the grass playing surface when the Hockey Association deem that you must have an all-weather surface for games but no assistance will be given to achieve this end. A training programme using their grass pitch is implemented.

**Rugby:** Rugby had a difficult year, the male senior team had problems fulfilling their fixture list and dropped down a league. This appears to have given them a new lease of life and they are competing at the top of their league which encourages recruitment at all ages. The female senior team is also on the up, not winning all games but improving year by year as the young players move through the grades. All of the players seem to improve with a structured training system.

**Running:** The runners appear to be a very hardy breed, hail, rain, sun or snow you see them out on the track for an early morning wake up jog. They appear to attract a substantial number of young runners which means, with good coaching, we could be producing a constant supply of John McGarry’s. We can only hope that this continues long into the future. This year they have been competing in and organising various race events. They felt confident enough to showcase their ability in France and acquitted themselves with distinction at Irvine’s twin town (Voisin). Hopefully this will lead to a fruitful partnership.

**Football:** Football had a difficult year with the Ladies Senior team being disbanded. Not everything is doom and gloom, the junior teams are more than stepping up and in the near future hopefully will become the mainstay of the senior team. The under 14’s are doing especially well in cup competitions and with that experience behind them can help attract more local players to join the section.

**Gym:** The gym numbers remain pretty consistent, we lose a few and gain a few new or returning members each month.

**Club in General**

I would hope that everyone will have noticed the improvement in the reception area thanks mostly to Allan Wilson assisted by John McGarry along with Glen and Graeme. I’d like to thank all of the sections for their efforts to make sure that the club continues to thrive and to encourage all of the juniors to participate and most of all enjoy their time here. In the main the pitches always look in good condition even when weather conditions are less than favourable, thanks to Graeme for his efforts. Glen performs an unbelievable job for the club along with Andy. They spend an enormous amount of time form filling as we apply for grants which are our lifeblood. I would just like to thank everyone for taking time to attend tonight.

**Treasurer’s Report given by Andy Rennie**

The following points were highlighted with reference to the annual accounts

* The accounts are for the year from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023
* The total income was up by £29k(£190k to £219k) and total expenditure was down £20.5k(£256k to £235.5k). This still gives a deficit for the year of £16.5k but it is an improvement on last year’s deficit of £66k. On the positive side the deficit on the page 3 income/expenditure sheet was partly generated by the club spending from its own funds to help with the refurbishment of the cricket pavilion/garage and keeping all of the club’s buildings in good repair obviously makes good sense.
* Income from grants was up by £4.5k(£117k to £121.5k). That level of income from grants is a considerable achievement and our thanks go to our Development Manager, Glen for some of the innovative ways he has brought funds into our club. However it should also be remembered that most of the grant funding is ring fenced for specific purposes e.g. staff wages, cricket pavilion upgrade, I.T. equipment, etc.
* The grants breakdown was: The Scottish Council(£42,440); Digital lifelines(£10k); NAC staff placements(£23k); NAVT(£10k); Viridor(£7,748); Chance to Flourish(£3.5k); Community Mental Health and Wellbeing(£20k); Sported Foundation(£700); Chance to Be(£1,260); Arnold Clark Auto(£1k); Lindsays LLP(£2k).
* The gross bar income went up from £19k to £30.5k which is positive but remember there are also bar expenditures on stock, wages, cleaning, heating and cooling, etc.
* The income from charitable activity(subscriptions + hall lets) has returned to the level it was at before covid(in 2020 it was £67k and it is back up to £66.5k) and again Glen has to be congratulated on attracting a number of new lets.
* On the expenditure side it was good to see a number of our big expenditure categories have either gone down or show increases in line with inflation e.g. wages, heat and light. The reason for bank and loan interest showing a significant increase is that we negotiated repayment holidays during the covid years and we are now back to paying the full amount. The ‘all other expenditure’ column of £16k includes a grant funded computer purchase at £13k.
* The club had two significant expenditures during the 2022/23 financial year. I mentioned already that the club made a contribution from its own funds towards the cricket pavilion/garage upgrade(£10.5k). we also received grants totalling £11,248 towards this project. The other capital expenditure was to purchase a new John Deere tractor along with a new grass cutting deck at a cost of £43,314. Following discussion with the club accountant it was agreed to include all of the tractor expenditure and part of the cricket pavilion/garage expenditure on page 4 of the accounts as an increase in our Equipment and Building fixed assets.
* I would like to highlight that the accountant needs to include a depreciation amount for Buildings, Equipment, Fixtures and Fittings in the accounts. The total depreciation figure this year is almost £28k(shown as an expenditure) and if that wasn’t there we would actually have traded at a profit.
* We continue to have long term loans of approximately £87k(Jessica Trust - £54k and Covid bounce back loan - £33k)

**We can be reasonably comfortable about these accounts but we should not be complacent and I would like to make the following points:**

* We need to improve our income from all sources but we need to particularly improve our income from subscriptions. This can be achieved by considerably increasing the per capita income or considerably increasing the number of members participating in the sporting and fitness activities we offer. I think that everyone would agree that the latter is the better option – although per the capita also needs to rise slightly.
* Without the massive income we are achieving from grants it is pretty obvious that the club would not be able to operate in its present form, and we cannot guarantee that level of grant income in the future. Nor are we likely to make any serious profit from our bar in the future. Therefore we need to be proactive and innovative about developing further long-term income streams.
* With regard to capital spending I highlighted last year that a major priority is funding a replacement roof for the clubhouse. For various reasons we were not able to make much progress with that priority in the past year and as a result we have actually spent further funds trying to keep the building watertight. Trying to source grant funding for the roof project has to remain a priority for the next board.

**The accounts were proposed by Mike Ingram and seconded by Angela Keenan.**

**Resolution 1 – Special Resolution - Proposed by A. Rennie and seconded by R. Kidd**

A package of changes to the club’s Memorandum and Articles of Association was presented to the meeting. These changes are necessary to make the club’s Memo and Arts consistent with the Community Empowerment(Scotland) Act of 2015 and should allow a narrow strip of land adjoining the clubhouse to be transferred from Irvine Common Good Fund to the club. A. Rennie highlighted the various changes which were needed and the details of the resolution are attached to these minutes.

**The resolution was passed unanimously**

**Resolution 2 – Ordinary Resolution – Proposed by A. Rennie and seconded by R. Kidd**

This resolution was in respect of changes to the club subscriptions and the results were:

Category Proposed new rate Old rate result of vote

Ordinary Member £99.00 £90.00 passed 100%

Junior Member £25.00 £20.00 passed 32 to 19

Retired Member £50.00 £45.00 passed 100%

Associate Member £50.00 £45.00 passed 100%

Non-playing Member £45.00 £35.00 passed 100%

Ordinary + Gym £240.00 £240.00 no change

Retired + Gym £180.00 £180.00 no change

**Election of Board Members**

Two nominations had been submitted to fill the two places on the board created by retiring directors. **Robert Kidd and Lorraine Williamson** were elected without a vote being necessary.

A small number of issues were raised by those in attendance and the new board will reflect on these issues. The issues included: consideration of appointing an Assistant Secretary to assist the Secretary; consideration of each playing section having a 10-year plan; consideration of strategies to increase usage of the club.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm