Minutes of the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the Section held at the Club House, Stoneham Lane at 8.00pm on Wednesday 28 July 2021.

**M I N U T E S**

1. Present:-

E Ravenshill

M Windebank

T Roche

C Bolitho

M Murray

S Magill

T Thompson

M Ramsdale

T Hall

S Thomas

S Hargrave

N Lebas

P Reid

W Jones

W Jeremiah

1. Apologies – M Coffin & M Barnes
2. No previous AGM minutes to agree as there wasn’t one held in 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic
3. Consider matters arising

* Info on proposed new pitch in Hardmoor provided by Wyn Jones to be discussed further at next committee meeting

1. To receive and adopt:
2. The Committee reports for the season 2020/2021 – both reports seconded by T Hall and M Windebank

Chairman read out report from Chair from Head of Youth Rugby (attached as an appendix)

Chairman read out report from departing Chairman and head of senior rugby (attached as an appendix)

(b) Chairman read out the Hon. Treasurer's report for the season 2020/2021- seconded by T Hall and M Windebank

1. Those present at the AGM to elect the following members of the Committee for the season 2021/2022 - Committee proposals. – seconded by W Jones and M Murray

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Section Chairman | S Hargrave |
| Section Secretary | M Ramsdale |
| Section Treasurer | S Thomas |
| Floor Members | a) C Bolitho  b) M Windebank  c) T Thompson |

The remainder of the committee is made up of non-elected members. The committee is proposing the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Media Co-ordinator |  |
| Director of Senior Rugby | Proposal to cancel the role |
| Membership Secretary | L Foster |
| Fixture Secretary | W Jones |
| Match Secretary | W Jones |
| Club Coaching Co-ordinator | W Jeremiah |
| Sponsorship Co-ordinator | M Barns |
| Volunteer Co-ordinator |  |
| Representative Mens | M Murray |
| Representative Ladies | T Hall |
| 1st XV – Captain | G Goff |
| 2nd XV – Captain | TBC |
| Women’s 1st XV – Captain | V Horsfield |
| Women's 2nd XV – Captain | C Punter |
| GMS Administrator | P Reid |

1. Approval of the election of the Youth Committee Rugby Chairman (Rule 5.4)

*Proposed - M Coffin- seconded S McGill and Wyn Jones*

1. Any other business – none proposed (see further discussions after close of meeting below)

Members are reminded that:-

1. Any person wishing to move any resolution at the meeting shall give notice thereof in writing, to be received by the Hon. Secretary (m.ramsdale@btinternet.com) not less than ten days before the date of the meeting.

2. Alternative nominations for elected members of the Committee must be proposed and seconded and be made in writing/email, to be received by the Hon. Secretary not less than seven days before the date of the meeting. Proposers and seconders must give assurance of their nominee's willingness to serve.

3. The two Floor Members may be nominated and seconded at the meeting.

The above notice is a formal document, required by the Rules of the Section, and deals with the business which can be dealt with at the AGM.

**M Ramsdale**

**Hon. Secretary**

**31 July 2021**

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Other business discussed after close of meeting and added to agenda for next committee meeting:-

1. Utilising COVID-19 hardship grant (no time limit, but should be spent “promptly”) – following proposals were discussed:-
   1. Purchase sprinkler system to maintain watering of the grounds – where would water come from – borehole?
   2. Repair fence around first team pitch
   3. Seeding first team pitch
2. Look at refurbishing training pitch as condition throughout the season is often poor. Agree to investigate what could be done. Also look at alternating usage with Hardmoor pitches. Very little downtime through the year to allow the pitch resting.
3. Discuss with S Coffin about staggering starts of mini & junior rugby on Sunday mornings to avoid congestion – consensus that staggered starts during COVID worked well (N LeBas asked)
4. Recruitment, particularly men’s team. Pre-meeting to AGM with men’s section discussing hiring social media/graphic design to start a recruitment campaign. Also discussed transition of Colts to men’s and also “Back to rugby” initiative which schedules things like Friday evening games.
5. Host O2 touch – used to be hosted at Crestwood which is no longer possible – W Jeremiah to approach Neil Andrews to see if Trojans could host

# Chairman of youth rugby report for 20/21 season.

After being allowed to start rugby in September 2020 albeit with limited rules and laws the season did get off to a great success with number still good in all age groups. A new time was implemented and rugby was getting back to some kind of order, this could not of been possible if it wasn’t for the help of all the coaching and management teams adhering to the RFU guidelines.

Unfortunately there was then a midseason break due to the pandemic, but the season did restart with few months left to get the youth section back to playing rugby within the new guidelines.

The numbers stayed health throughout and the reports back from all age groups was that the players and parents really appreciated what the club officials and management team had done to restart rugby.

I would like to thank the club for all there help over the passed season, but more importantly I would like to pass on my thanks to everyone that has helped volunteer in whatever way possible to help complete the season and give all our players the opportunity to play. I would also like to thank the volunteers that have now left the club as their time has come to end but also say that the door is for a return as your knowledge is invaluable.

Looking forward to next season and hopefully we will have an undisturbed season and see our pitches full of little Trojans again.

Marcus Coffin

Chairman of youth rugby

# Chairman of senior rugby report for 20/21 season.

Dear all.

Rugby is back! We think so anyway.

At least we have the Summer Internationals and the Lions Tour to remind us what rugby should be like.

The last two years have obviously been very disappointing due to the lockdowns and disruption from Covid and I do hope that none of you have been too impacted by this terrible illness.

As many of you will be aware, the club has changed it’s constitution and legal standing following the drive by the RFU to establish an All-Weather Pitch at Trojans. Due to reasons beyond our control the RFU pulled out of the agreement at the very last minute which left the club with a substantial bill for legal advice and incorporation changes.

During the lockdown period the rugby section has continued to work to improve the facilities for our players. We have had a number of Volunteer Days to carryout pitchside and stand maintenance and to clear up areas around the playing fields. If you were able to support us on these days, Thank You! Your support is always appreciated as much as the BBQ afterwards.

We have had the pitches “drilled, Verti-Drained & seeded” and they have been left to rest for a few weeks to prepare them for the coming season.

On the Hardmoor area (where you will see the Archery Club, we have an area at the top of the field which is the size of a full rugby pitch. This has been levelled, drained and reseeded to bring it back into use for our Mini/Junior section for the coming season. Along with the additional car parking spaces on the Hardmoor area, this additional training ground will allow us to spread our training groups and accept more young players into the Club.

It is also the intention of the Club to re-establish a full-size pitch on the lower area of Hardmoor. This will allow us to rotate the playing pitches during the wettest part of the season and to ensure the very highest standards of playing fields for all our teams. (this is currently going through a feasibility study)

With little rugby being played there is little to tell you. Although we continue to produce some excellent players and to pass them on to other clubs to continue their pathway in rugby, and what a wonderful sight it was to see our very own Donna Rose, who has progressed to the Saracens Ladies team, running out wearing the Wales Ladies shirt in the Women’s Six Nations. Congratulations Donna, and to all other players who have made the step up to higher level clubs, we wish you well and look forward to seeing you back at Trojans in the future.

To all of our young players moving on to University, enjoy your time away, study hard and continue with your sport and make your parents proud. Remember that you are welcome to join us for rugby when you are back at home for the holidays.

After 14 years with the club in various guises, I must reluctantly step away form Trojans. My working life has changed, and I am unable to continue in any role. I wish you all well for the future and will continue to watch for Trojans results.

Regards

**Duncan Parker**

Chairman of youth rugby