

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, Jan. 11th, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice President, T. H. Millington, R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, L. H. Middleditch, S. H. Davies, T. Day, G. Hudson, G. J. Dance, C. N. Smith, H. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apology from Mr. G. Hastings.

Proposed Club Room.

Nothing yet to report.

Roy Summers - Evangelical Crusade.

Letter read from Mr. Roy Summers dated Dec. 14th, confirming charge of £125 for use of Car Park and Ground June 2 to July 2 (Ground for July 2nd only). The Secretary said he had personal talk over the telephone with Mr. Summers who noted and approved suggestions made. Mr. Summers said it would be necessary to have electric lights in the marquee and that he would be liable for all expense incurred.

Glyn Williams.

The Secretary read further letter from Glyn Williams and reported he had received payment on account of £27 representing 6 weeks' insurance to Dec. 25th, and this he had forwarded to Mr. Williams.

Stroud Conservative Association.

The cheque for £40 not yet received.

Schools' Union.

The Secretary stated he had conveyed the decision taken at the last meeting to Mr. Langston who would pass it on to his Committee.

Dublin Wanderers.

Mr. Burns stated he had not yet had reply from the Dublin Wanderers Club. Stroud were agreeable to the changing of their date provisionally to September 29th.

Officials Appointed.

Wasps	-	Rev. H. M. Hughes
Chepstow	-	Mr. S. H. Davies
Bristol	-	Mr. G. Hudson
Bristol Utd.	-	Mr. G. Dance

H. Wells - Suspension.

Letter (dated Jan. 7th, but received Jan. 10th) from County Hon. Sec. re. Discipline to H. G. Wells. As a result of the County Committee enquiry the above player was suspended for 14 (fourteen) days from and including the 6th January. This was the result of an incident in the match with O.M.T.'s on Boxing Day when the player was sent off the field by the referee (Mr.

O. D. Gardner, Bristol Socy.). Much criticism was expressed at the difficulties of obtaining information both by the Press and Officials of the Club and it was agreed the representatives of the Club on the County Executive should bring forward at the next meeting the following resolution;

“That the County Executive Committee reconsider their previous minute preventing the County Secretary from giving statement to the Press of the result of any disciplinary action taken by them.”

Proposed by Mr. G. J. Dance, seconded by Mr. G. Hudson.

Leicester “A” v. Gloucester United.

The Secretary read letter he had sent to the Leicester Secretary insisting that the United game be played at Welford Road. This had the desired effect as Leicester had arranged for it to be played on an outside ground.

St. John’s Ambulance Collection.

Letter read from Supt. J. W. Clark asking permission for collection to be made on behalf of their Funds on either Feb. 26th, or March 26th. These being the dates for matches with Cardiff and Newport they were not considered satisfactory. It was agreed to offer either R.A.F. match, Guys Hospital, or Ebbw Vale.

Geo. Hastings Selected for England v. Wales.

It was agreed to record the Committee’s congratulations to Mr. George Hastings on being selected to play for England v. Wales at Cardiff on Saturday next.

The President, and the Club’s poor playing record this season.

The President said he considered it his duty to draw attention to the poor playing record of the Club to date, i.e. Won 6, Lost 14, Drawn 1. Points for - , Against - .

It was by far the worst in the Club’s history and as Club records are not shewn weekly in the London papers much damage could be done to the Club’s prestige. He suggested that the Captains and Vice Captains were not enforcing and encouraging training and that there was also a lack of team spirit. He regretted the Captain and Vice Captain (or Players’ Representative on the Committee) were not present at the meeting. The Committee hoped the matter would be brought up at the Selection Committee Meeting on Tuesday next. The Secretary thought more lighting on the ground would be helpful.

Teams for Saturday next were read.

Meeting closed 9:30 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

25.1.1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, Jan. 25th, 1955.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice President, Messrs. T. Day, G. Hudson, R. N. Loveridge, T. H. Millington, F. Wadley, R. Morris, L. H. Middleditch, C. N. Smith, R. Sutton, H. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apology from Messrs. G. J. Dance and S. H. Davies.

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

Stroud Conservatives.

Secretary stated cheque for £40 has now been received with apology for delay.

Dublin Wanderers.

Mr. Burns said he had now received confirmation of the game with Dublin Wanderers on Tuesday (evening) Sept. 13th, 1955.

President's Criticism on lack of Team Spirit and Training.

This was again considerably discussed and emphasis was laid on the amount of (or lack of) training by some of the players. This was directed to the Players' Representative and Vice Captain, Mr. Roy Sutton, who was asked to take some action in the matter. The Chairman said he had talked with Captain and expressed to him the Committee's concerns at the lack of team spirit and he promised he would also convey the views expressed to the United Captain, Mr. Ivor Jones.

Touch Judge Appointments.

Neath Mr. Morris

B.A.C. Mr. R. Sutton

Civil Service Mr. G. Hudson

Cardiff University Mr. Burns said there was a doubt about this match being played owing to confusion of fixtures by Cardiff University but he was pressing them for definite reply.

Gordon League Rugby Service.

Reminder was given of the Rugby Service at the Gordon Hall on Sunday next at 3:00 p.m. The address to be given by D. R. Gent, the Old Gloucester and International Player.

Post Office Telephone at Kingsholm Ground.

Plan and Section No. W 925/54 dated Dec. 29th.

The Post Office Telephones required permission to lay underground telegraph from Deans Way to back of the Grand Stand, to substitute the present overhead wiring, and submitted plan and Sections shewing course and depth. It was unanimously agreed consent be given.

7-a-Side Tournaments; Old Patesians and Oxfordshire.

Invitations were received to take part in 7-a-Side Tournaments by Oxfordshire on Sunday March 14th, and Old Patesians on Easter Saturday. Agreed not to entertain same.

Bristol Match - Gate.

Discussion took place on the extremely small gate at the Bristol match last Saturday, probably accentuated by the International match, England v. Wales at Cardiff (postponed from the previous week) and televised. Also by the bad weather of the past fortnight.

Domestic Phone out of order.

To ask Smith & Lamerton to repair same.

Teams for Saturday next were read.

Meeting closed 9:30 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

8th Feb. 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, February 8th, 1955.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice President, Messrs. S. H. Davies, T. H. Millington, T. Day, G. Hudson, F. Wadley, G. J. Dance, L. H. Middleditch, R. Sutton, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apologies from Messrs. C. N. Smith, and G. Hastings.

Minutes of previous meeting read and signed as correct.

President's Criticism.

The Chairman stated he had conveyed the feelings of the Committee to the respective Captains.

Press.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Gilshenan, Citizen, had complained that the London Press were getting the selected team on Tuesdays and thereby giving it in the Wednesday morning papers and placing the Citizen at a disadvantage. It was unanimously agreed the Hon. Sec. be empowered to give all the information he desires on request by London or any other area press.

Gates and T.V.

Reference was made to the News Chronicle giving information obtained from some 20 clubs as to the adverse effect on their gates owing to the televising of recent International matches. It was agreed no action be taken.

Domestic 'Phone.

Reported that tradesmen had repaired wrong equipment, and Secretary promised matter would receive his attention.

Officials Appointed.

Touch Judges.

v. Bath	-	Rev. H. M. Hughes
v. Bath Utd.	-	Mr. G. Hudson
v. Swansea	-	Mr. R. Morris
v. Cheltenham	-	?

County Discipline and The Press.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the matter had been fully discussed at the County Executive Meeting. He was satisfied there had been a misunderstanding over the Chairman's (County Union) remarks to the disciplinary Committee re. H. Wells. The ruling of the County Executive Meeting was "The Club whose player had been dealt with was quite in order in giving the result of the enquiry to the Press."

Application for use of Kingsholm - Churchdown Boy Scouts.

An application from the Sec. of the 34th Gloucester (Churchdown) Scouts for the use of Kingsholm for a Scout Summer Fete on 18th June was read. As the Ground was let for the Evangelists Crusade over this date it was regretfully declined.

Gloucestershire Girl Guides.

Letter read from Mrs. H. J. K. Lowry enquiring for permission to provisionally book Kingsholm Ground for a Girl Guide Rally on Saturday July 9th. It was subject to the presence of a V.I.P. It was agreed permission be given without charge.

Glos. Old Boys v. Old Cryptians.

Permission to play evening match in April on behalf of the Memorial Ground Fund was granted.

North Gloucester Combination Cup Finals.

Agreed to grant use of Kingsholm for N.G. Cup Finals;

Junior Easter Tuesday

Senior Easter Thursday or week later

Glyn Williams' Injury.

Further letter from Glyn Williams dated Feb. 2nd was read. He was still under treatment at Cardiff Royal Infirmary and instructed to return on about March 10th. The insurance position was discussed and the Secretary said he would check up the position with the SW Group.

Cardiff - at Kingsholm - Feb. 26th.

Agreed to again arrange for a number of inside rails seats; numbered and reserved at 2/6d.

Fixtures - Waterloo - Season 1957-58.

Mr. Burns read letter from Waterloo stating they were playing Cheltenham on Saturday Sept. 14th, 1957 and offering to play at Kingsholm on Monday evening, Sept. 16th. It was agreed to accept subject to satisfactory Guarantee being arranged.

Programmes.

The President said he would like to congratulate Mr. Norman Smith on the excellent programmes this season.

Teams for Saturday next were read.

Meeting closed at 9:00 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes.

22.2.55

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, February 22nd, 1955.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice President, Messrs. S. H. Davies, T. H. Millington, T. Day, F. Wadley, G. J. Dance, L. H. Middleditch, R. Morris, R. Sutton, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apologies from Messrs. C. N. Smith, G. Hudson, R. N. Loveridge, and G. Hastings.

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

Girl Guides.

Letter of thanks read from Mrs. Lowry and a Mrs. Gray, the County Commissioner. The Secretary stated he had since received 'phone message from Mrs. Lowry asking if date could be altered to July 23rd, a date convenient to the V.I.P. Agreed.

Glyn Williams - SW Insurance period.

Mr. Frank Blackwell, SW Group Secretary, had acknowledged that the Club had paid the extra premium for Double Time Schedule period this season.

Cardiff Match.

Arrangements discussed. Committee men asked to give assistance. Messrs. Dance and Middleditch - Grand Stand. Mr. R. Morris - White Hart Entrance. Mr. S. H. Davies - Car Park Gates.

Waterloo Match 1957/8 Guarantee.

Mr. Burns read letter from Waterloo asking for Minimum Guarantee of £30. Agreed, and give more if gate justified.

Touch Judges.

v. Cardiff	The Chairman
v. Cardiff Athletic	Mr. Wadley
v. Northampton	Mr. R. Morris
v. Newport H.S.O.B.	Mr. S. H. Davies

St. John's Ambulance Collection.

Letter read from Mr. [BLANK] accepting March 12th - R.A.F. Match - for their Collection.

Tour.

It was agreed estimates be obtained to establish most economical method of travel (coach or train). Headquarters, Plymouth. Duke of Cornwall, if possible. Suggested travel to Plymouth by train Saturday morning; coach Plymouth to Redruth and return Monday. To Teignmouth [by] train Tuesday, and train to Bristol after match. Coach Bristol to Gloucester. Composition of party left to next meeting.

Bristol Referee's Society - Annual Dinner.

Friday March 11th. Secretary asked to attend if possible.

South West Regional Hospital Board.

Letter read asking if Ground behind Grand Stand could be used on June 4th for their Mobile First Aid Competition as last year. Owing to Evangelists Crusade date not possible but offer use of Ground on any convenient date.

Swansea - match cancelled owing to snow.

The Secretary explained that match at Swansea was cancelled owing to deep snow and mentioned the conversations with the Swansea Secretary over the 'phone.

Schools Under 15 Group - Application for Kingsholm, Feb. 25th, 1956.

Application for use of Kingsholm for the Schools' Southern Trial Match, February 25th, was granted.

Social Club.

Mr. Millington asked if there was anything yet to report on the plans for Social Club Room. It was promised that Mr. Minett be contacted.

County Representative on R.F.U. for 1955/56.

Mr. A. T. Voyce.

Proposed by Mr. Millington, seconded by Mr. S. H. Davies. Carried unanimously.

Teams for Saturday next read.

Meeting closed 9:30 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

8 March 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Tuesday, March 8th, 1955.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice President, Messrs. G. J. Dance, S. H. Davies, T. H. Millington, R. N. Loveridge, G. Hudson, F. Wadley, L. H. Middleditch, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apologies from Messrs. C. N. Smith, and T. Day.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and signed as correct.

Girl Guides.

Nothing further to report.

Glyn Williams.

Further letter from Glyn Williams received March 2nd, enclosing Medical Certificate dated Feb. 8th and hoping plaster would be removed March 10th. Secretary said he would now apply for the Double Period of Insurance pay and forward to Mr. Williams.

Cardiff University.

Copy of letter sent by Mr. Burns to Cardiff was read and reply was awaited.

Tour.

The Hon. Secretary reported on his enquiries of train services and many difficulties that would arise and was convinced that travel by road was much more convenient, and suggested a 32-seater coach if possible to leave on Friday. After much discussion it was agreed to leave travelling arrangements in the hands of the Hon. Sec., Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Fixture Secretary. On the proposition of Mr. Loveridge seconded by Mr. Middleditch it was agreed the 3 officers mentioned and 2 Committee travel with the Team, the latter to be drawn for at the next meeting.

Swansea match; in lieu of cancelled game.

Mr. Burns read letter from Swansea asking if [it] was possible to playing [sic] a match at Swansea in lieu of game cancelled through snow. Failing this they suggested an evening game at Kingsholm on April 6th (on their return from Coventry) for 70% of gate. Mr. Burns said owing to the urgency he had consulted the Chairman and Secretary and they agreed to offer of 60%, the Gloucester club to pay local expenses and meal to the players. This action was confirmed.

Social Club Plans.

Mr. Merrett had been contacted. Plan not quite completed but he hoped to do so shortly.

Touch Judges, etc.

v. R.A.F.	-	Mr. G. Hudson
v. Malvern	-	Mr. Wadley (for Mr. Middleditch)
v. Guys Hospital	-	Mr. S. H. Davies

v. Berry Hill - Mr. F. Wadley

Mr. H. G. Wells - Letter of Resignation.

Letter of resignation from Mr. H. G. Wells was read. Agreed same be acknowledged with thanks for services to the Club.

Cathedral Fabric Fund.

Letter read from Admiral Bevan, Appeal Organiser, enquiring if [use of] Kingsholm Ground could be granted for Baseball Match between two U.S.A.F. teams on behalf of the Cathedral Fabric Fund. On the proposition of Mr. Loveridge seconded by Mr. Balchin it was agreed to grant use of the Ground free of cost and leave matter in hands of the Secretary.

Hospital Mobile First Aid Competition.

Letter of thanks read but they were endeavouring to obtain alternative accommodation for June 4th.

North Gloucester Combination.

Mr. Wadley reported from N. G. Combination. Cups would be presented by

Senior Division Col. Evans, County President

Junior Division Dr. Alcock

7-a-Side Shield Mr. T. H. Millington

Mr. Wadley said the N. G. Combination would be glad if a Gloucester team could play a County '7' as an attractive game prior to the Final of the 7-a-Side. This was favourably considered.

P. Ford - Record Board.

Mr. Sutton raised point as to whether Peter Ford's name should not be on last season's record board, he having been 'a reserve' for England v. France. It was agreed matter be deferred until next meeting.

Teams for Saturday next were read.

Meeting closed 8:50 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

22 March 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Tuesday, March 22nd, 1955.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice President, Messrs. G. J. Dance, S. H. Davies, T. Day, R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, G. Hudson, L. H. Middleditch, C. N. Smith, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apologies from Messrs. T. Millington and R. Morris.

Minutes of previous meeting read and signed as correct.

Glyn Williams.

Letter read from Glyn Williams acknowledging cheque for £27 0s. 0d.; Insurance pay for double period.

Cardiff Fixture.

Mr. Burns read letter from Rugby Union Secretary refusing extension of season and it was agreed letter be sent to the R.F.U. expressing intense surprise at their decision. Cardiff had offered to come to Gloucester on May 4th., Welsh Union having extended their season. It was further agreed Cardiff be again contacted with a view to them reconsidering a date in April.

Harlequins - April 2nd.

Mr. Burns reported that owing to the County Final being played at Twickenham, the Harlequins had offered to play at Kingsholm and accepted a Guarantee of £70. This was considered good news and his action was confirmed.

Cathedral Fabric Fund.

The Secretary reported his interview with Admiral Bevan who appreciated the generosity of the Club and would communicate further as early as possible.

N. G. Combination Monthly Meeting.

As their usual date clashed with the Swansea match it was agreed to offer them the following Wednesday evening.

Record Board - England Reserves.

After discussion it was agreed the players' representative explain that players should be travelling reserves to have their names on the record board.

Officials Appointed.

Touch Judge

v. Newport	-	Mr. T. Day
v. Newport United	-	Mr. S. H. Davies
v. Stroud	-	Mr. G. Hudson
v. Harlequins	-	Mr. S. H. Davies

United v. Hereford.

United v. Hereford match to be played if possible on Gordon League or Fieldings' Ground.

St. John's Ambulance Collection.

Letter of thanks read from Div. Supt. T. W. Clark and stating the collection amounted to £17 18s. 0d.

Bristol Referees' Society - Annual Dinner.

Secretary reported he had attended Bristol Referees' Society Annual Dinner.

British Empire Leprosy Relief Society.

Letter received and read asking permission to hold blanket collection on behalf of the fund. It was agreed same be not granted but to give consideration when Grants made at end of the season.

Newport Match.

Members be advised to be in their seats by 2:55; 20 minutes before K.O.

Stewards.

Messrs Dance and Middleditch and Mr. Burns to take charge of Grand Stand; Mr. Wadley, Car Park; and Mr. Morris, White Hart entrance.

Tour - Officials.

After further discussion it was agreed 3 Committee men in addition to the Officials accompany the team, the whole of the Committee names to go into the hat. The draw resulted as follows:-

(1) S. H. Davies; (2) A. G. Hudson; (3) R. Morris; (4) C. N. Smith; (5) T. H. Millington; (6) R. N. Loveridge; (7) H. M. Hughes; (8) F. Wadley; (9) L. H. Middleditch; (10) T. Day; (11) G. J. Dance.

The party would be 23 players 6 officials and 10 Committee.

Teams for Saturday were read.

Meeting closed 9:50 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

April 5 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Tuesday, April 19th, 1955.

Present: The President, Dr. Alcock (Chairman), Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice President, Messrs. S. H. Davies, T. Millington, T. Day, A. G. Hudson, L. H. Middleditch, R. Morris, F. Wadley, G. J. Dance, C. N. Smith, R. Sutton (Players' Rep.), H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apologies from Rev. H. M. Hughes and G. W. Hastings.

Minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

Cardiff Match.

Acknowledgement dated April 12th read, re. "Thanks for letter of 6th. The fact that you are now proposing to play Cardiff on May 4th and that the whole of the gate receipts will be given to a presented Charity puts a different complexion on the matter. Unfortunately however I am not able to put your request before my Committee until the 22nd inst. I will however telegraph you of my Committee's decision immediately after the meeting, but I am afraid this will leave you very little time."

Mr. Voyce reported on his efforts to date with the R.F.U. Should permission be received it was agreed Committee should meet April 28th at 8:30 p.m. (after 7-a-Side) to discuss arrangements for the match.

Leicester Dinner.

Letter of apology sent, owing to distance we were unable to be represented.

Players' Dance.

Arranged for Thursday May 5th.

Swansea Match.

Letter read from Swansea Club thanking us for our generous hospitality on Monday April 4th, and acknowledging cheque for £62 18s. 0d.

Gloucester Junior Band.

Letter appealing for grant towards the cost of £260 for instruments was declined.

Touch Judge Appointments.

v. Cardiff (?) - The Chairman

v. Exeter - Mr. R. Morris

Life Membership - Mr. R. Morris.

The President regretted the absence of 2 members but stated that they had enclosed their vote in a closed envelope. It was agreed these be accepted and to proceed. The President and Hon. Secretary to act as Scrutineers. Dr. Alcock declared as the vote was not unanimous Mr. Morris had not been elected.

Bristol's Letter re. Television.

Letter read from Bristol Club expressing their concern of the serious effect on their gates through the televising and broadcasting of International matches. They would like the opinion of the Gloucester Club whether a protest should be forwarded to the Rugby Union. It was agreed reply be sent; matter would be considered at a later date.

7-a-Side.

Members of Committee on Tour to select the side for 7-a-Side Tournament.

United Captain and Tour.

Mr. Sutton raised point as to whether a rule existed that "United" Captain goes on the Annual Tour, and the Chairman replied "No rule exists."

Social Club.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Minett has not yet produced any plans or estimate on proposed scheme under the Grand Stand and it was agreed he be informed his delay had let us down badly and his services are no longer required. It was further agreed to consider building a Club Room at end of the Pavilion and Mr. Rhodes be asked to prepare a plan with estimate of costs.

Meeting closed 9:40 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

10 . 5 . 55

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Tuesday, May 10th, 1955.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. S. H. Davies, T. Millington, R. N. Loveridge, T. Day, F. Wadley, L. H. Middleditch, G. J. Dance, C. N. Smith, A. G. Hudson, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apology received from Mr. Voyce, Vice President.

Minutes of previous meeting read and signed as correct.

Cardiff Match.

Secretary reported receipt of letter dated April 25th as follows: "At a Meeting of the full Committee of the R.F.U. held in London on Friday last the 22nd April, it was decided that permission could not be granted for the Gloucester RFC to play a match v. Cardiff on May 4th, 1955." Mr. Voyce had sent a telegram to this effect immediately after the Meeting.

Player's Dance.

No financial report yet received. The Chairman said he had attended the Dance and he considered there were a few undesirable elements present and hoped efforts to eliminate these would be made if further dances were held. Messrs. G. Hastings and R. Sutton agreed with these observations.

County Meeting and Television.

The Secretary reported the discussion on TV at the last County Meeting. Devon County had written of the serious effect on gates of their Clubs through the televising of International Matches. The County referred the matter back to their individual clubs for their views and report back for the next Monthly Meeting. Dr. Alcock proposed and Mr. Smith seconded that County Executive contact RFU as follows:- "The Rugby Football Union be asked to send out new Questionnaire to review feelings of Clubs in the light of experience gained in the last 2 seasons." This was carried.

Proposed Club Room.

Scheme and Plan submitted by Mr. Rhodes at an approximate cost of £3,500, which includes extra strengthening to provide for upper floor accommodation if required in the future. It was agreed to ask Mr. Wm. Jones to submit plan and quotation at the earliest possible date.

Sale - Thanks.

Letter read from Sale Club expressing their thanks for the generous hospitality on Easter Monday.

S. J. Morelands Advert.

Letter read from Messrs. Morelands asking for permission to re-paint the old advertisement on the Pavilion roof. Mr. Davies proposed and Mr. Balchin seconded that permission be given subject to satisfactory terms and conditions being offered.

Kingsholm School.

Application for use of Kingsholm for Physical Education; several lessons during slack week, was with regret declined.

Stroud Dinner Invitation.

It was agreed Mr. Gordon Hudson represent the Club at Stroud RFC Dinner on Friday next.

County President - G.R.F.U.

As Mr. Frank Evans was retiring as County President it was resolved to nominate Mr. W. G. Hicks of Bristol for Season 1955/56.

Gloucester Representatives.

Messrs S. H. Davies and A. Hudson.

Ground Spraying.

If there was reappearance of plantains and dandelions it was agreed ground be sprayed again this summer.

Annual Grants to Clubs.

Grants as follows were made to Clubs.

Fieldings	£10 - 0 - 0
Gordon League	£10 - 0 - 0
Spartans	£10 - 0 - 0
Coney Hill	£10 - 0 - 0
Widden Old Boys	£7 - 10 - 0
Old Centralians	£7 - 10 - 0
Student's Union	£7 - 10 - 0
Tredworth	£7 - 10 - 0
Old Cryptians	£7 - 10 - 0
Gloucester Old Boys	£7 - 10 - 0
Longlevens	£7 - 10 - 0
? Gloucester	£7 - 10 - 0
All Blues	£7 - 10 - 0
Civil Service	£5 - 0 - 0
Old Richians	£5 - 0 - 0
Shire Hall	£5 - 0 - 0
Wagon Works	£5 - 0 - 0

Donations.

Gloucester Cripples	£5 - 5 - 0
St. John's Ambulance	£10 - 10 - 0
Hospital Welfare Fund	£10 - 10 - 0
Remembrance Day	£5 - 5 - 0
Deaf	£5 - 5 - 0
Cancer Fund	£5 - 5 - 0

Glos. Playing Fields Assn. £2 - 2 - 0
Friends of Cathedral £2 - 2 - 0

Baggage Men as usual.

Annual General Meeting - Monday, June 20th, St. Aldate Hall.

Players' Meeting - Friday, June 10th.

Meeting closed 9:10 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

June 7th 1955.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Tuesday, June 7th, 1955.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice President, Messrs. S. H. Davies, T. Millington, R. N. Loveridge, G. W. Hastings, F. Wadley, C. N. Smith, G. J. Dance, T. Day, L. H. Middleditch, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns. Hon. Fix. Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

Apologies from Messrs. G. Hudson and R. Morris.

Players' Dance.
Nothing yet to report.

County and Television.

Mr. Hudson gave report of recent County Executive Meeting whose view it was that matter should be taken up by the Clubs. It was agreed on proposition of Mr. C. N. Smith seconded by the President that the RFU be asked to consider sending out a new Questionnaire to Clubs re. televising of RFU matches in the light of experience gained in the last 3 seasons and copy to be sent to County Union.

S. J. Morelands' Advert on Pavilion Roof.

Letter read from Messrs. Morelands offering £25 per annum. It was agreed to reply this was too low and whether they were prepared to increase same. In the meanwhile Mr. Loveridge to make enquiries.

County Union Annual Meeting.

Wednesday June 29th at Technical College. Mr. Burns to represent the Club in addition to the 2 Executive Members.

Rugby Football Union - Annual General Meeting.

Friday July 1st. The President asked to attend, if possible.

Worcester Street Hoarding Advertisements.

Mr. Loveridge (as Hon. Sec. to Ground Co.) reported big scheme and offer put forward (subject to approval by town planning) by [BLANK] Boro Billposting Co. They to erect entirely new fence for a guarantee of 10 years and pay £200 per year after the 3rd year for 7 years; they pay all rates thereon. After discussion Mr. Balchin proposed and Mr. Davies seconded that Ground Co. give favourable consideration to the application and this was agreed.

Donation - Thanks.

Letters of thanks for cheques received [and] read from Spartans, Old Boys, and Friends of Cathedral Fund.

R.A.F. Association - Application for Ground.

Letter read from Group Capt. O. D. Allerton, O/C Quedgeley, requesting use of Kingsholm Monday Sept. 12th for game of American Football on behalf of funds of R.A.F. Association. Agreed permission be not granted during the playing season.

County v. Police Match, Sept. 21st.

It was reported from County Executive Meeting County would like to play match arranged with Police Wednesday Sept. 21st. at Kingsholm. It transpired that this clashed with Gloucester v. Cheltenham at Cheltenham, same evening and it was agreed that it was not convenient to accept the County fixture at Gloucester.

Social Club - Proposed New Club Room.

Messrs. Wm. Jones submitted rough sketch plan and approximate estimate of £1,750. It was agreed Mr. R. Rhodes be asked to give estimate for similar building.

Annual General Meeting - Nomination of Officers.

Proposed by Mr. Millington, seconded by Mr. C. N. Smith;

President	Dr. Alcock
Vice President	Messrs A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. H. J. Balchin
Hon. Fixture Secretary	Mr. T. Burns

The Hon. Secretary stated he would like to be relieved of the position of which he had held for some 35 seasons. He was of the opinion that with the extra work of Season Tickets, programmes and the proposed Club together with the Memorial Ground a part time Secretary should be appointed who could arrange fixtures and assist materially an Hon. Treasurer. Mr. Smith considered at least assistance should be given to the Secretary and Treasurer. It was agreed reference be made by the President that the matter would be seriously considered at an early meeting of the new Committee.

The President, Vice Presidents, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Fixture Secretary expressed thanks for their re-nomination.

Mr. Norman Smith said for personal reasons he would not be standing again for the Committee and this was received with expressions of regret. Mr. Loveridge said he did not wish to let his name go forward but was asked to reconsider same in the Club's interests.

Election of United Captain.

On the proposition of the President, seconded by Mr. Hastings it was agreed that any player who had played for 1st XV or United on 5 occasions during the previous season may vote for United XV Captain.

Votes of Thanks - The Chairman.

Mr. C. N. Smith expressed appreciation to the Chairman for the admirable and tactful manner he had occupied the [post of] Chairman.

Programmes.

Mr. Millington said the Committee's thanks were due to Mr. Norman Smith for his splendid work on the programmes, and Mr. Middleditch in arranging with thoroughness the catering at the Ground and this was endorsed by the Secretary.

All these gentlemen suitably replied.

Meeting closed 9:50 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

24 / 6 / 55

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

ANNUAL MEETING

CENTRAL HALL, ST. ALDATE STREET

On Monday, June 20th, 1955 :: At 7-30 p.m.

COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR SEASON 1954-55.

The Committee have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the Season 1954-55, and regret that they are not able to record such a successful season as last year from the playing point of view. The Balance Sheet will show that the gates have been affected to a certain extent by the lack of success in winning matches, but it is interesting to note that the effect of the Televising of International Matches contributed to a loss in gate on two attractive home matches - Newport and Bristol - of £760 compared with last year, together with the loss of the home fixture with Cardiff of an average gate of £500, making a loss of income of £1,260.

It is never easy to follow a record season and the Club had to face the additional handicap of the loss of five outstanding players, the Captain, John Taylor, and the Vice Captain, John Gwilliam, recognised as one of the greatest pack leaders the game has produced ; to this may be added an exceptional crop of injuries to outstanding players making it necessary to call upon no less than 45 players during the season.

The team record reads: played 41, won 19, drawn 3, lost 19 ; points for 391, against 402.

In spite of the difficulties, the team has endeavoured to play fast open football throughout the season with a very young side, which augurs well for the future.

We congratulate the captain, George Hastings, upon gaining a place on the Barbarians' tour, and representing England in all internationals during the season ; also the 10 players who have appeared in County football and the one who has represented the R.A.F.

Due to the calls of the 1st XV the United have rarely been able to field a representative side, and the record is correspondingly poor, but the Committee is grateful to those players under their captain, Ivor Jones, who have been such a mainstay of the 1st XV.

The Committee appeals to the North Gloucestershire Combination to continue to give every encouragement to their players to represent the Club, and uphold its honour on the rugby field.

We are pleased to report that the Worcester Street stand has now been restored and additional terracing and concrete pathways laid down.

The Committee wish to record their thanks to the President, Dr. Arnold Alcock, for his counsel and help ; and to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Hudson, who has now completed 53 years of service to the Club.

Mr. H. J. Balchin has continued his able work of managing the finances of the Club, Mr. T. Burns has carried out the difficult task of Hon. Fixture Secretary with his usual efficiency, and Mr. Norman Smith has again given invaluable service to the Club in the production of our programmes.

The Committee also wish to thank the following organisations whose interest and assistance is indispensable to Rugby Football : The Referees' Society under Major F. Blackwell; the Combination; the Schools' Union; the St. John Ambulance; and the Press. Finally, we would like to thank all those who have supported the Club during the past year, and appeal for their continued interest during the coming season.

We look forward with confidence to next season when the experience the young players have gained during the past season will, we believe, pay good dividends.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB. Season 1954-55

REVENUE ACCOUNT

1953-1954	EXPENDITURE	1954-1955	1953-1954	INCOME	1954-1955
£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
250 0 0	Ground Company - Annual Rent	250 0 0	296 2 0	Subscriptions - 89 Members at £3 3 0	280 7 0
54 18 0	Income Tax - Schedule 'A'	54 18 0	792 0 0	509 " " 1 10 0	763 10 0
	Subscriptions to County and Rugby Football Unions	2 2 0	182 14 0	165 " " 1 1 0	173 5 0
487 13 10	Local Rates	484 13 10	558 15 0	660 " " 15 0	495 0 0
950 10 0	Expenses - Away Matches	842 0 6	230 0 0	423 " " 10 0	211 10 0
366 9 9	" Home Matches	384 15 9	5 5 0	47 " " 2 6	<u>5 17 6</u>
434 7 9	Printing, Advertising and Bill-posting	463 14 1		(Players)	
	Insurance of Players	58 0 0	4,717 4 6	Gate Receipts -	
671 17 4	Refreshments, Canteen Expenses and Teas	649 4 4	107 12 3	First Team Matches	2,999 7 0
	General Insurances	40 1 0	45 0 0	Second " "	<u>82 16 0</u>
45 9 0	Referees' Expenses	33 10 1	-	Grant from Teignmouth RFC	45 0 0
222 15 8	Equipment, Footballs, etc.	181 5 4		" " Torquay RFC	-
47 10 4	Postages and Telephones	51 18 2		" " Redruth RFC	<u>65 0 0</u>
334 15 0	Wages to Groundsmen	346 10 0	155 12 10	Hire of Ground -	
42 11 6	Special Ground Expenses	19 18 4	20 0 0	County Union	79 2 0
1,591 15 1	Repairs, Renewals and Improvements	1,575 5 9	-	English Universities	-
	Photographs	21 2 11	42 0 0	Gloucester Co-operative Society	-
56 14 1	Police Charges	39 14 2	40 0 0	Permal Sports Club	-
381 1 0	Guarantees to Visiting Teams	522 18 0	-	Conservative Association	<u>40 0 0</u>
37 2 2	Chemist's Account	24 15 2	37 16 6	Motor Car Park	
165 0 0	Grants to Local Clubs	125 0 0			119 2 0
108 10 0	Lighting and Fuel	132 11 6			32 5 6
11 11 0	Audit Fee	11 11 0	122 10 0	Investment Income -	
42 16 11	Sundry Expenses	13 15 0	148 10 0	Defence Bond Interest	122 10 0
-	Baggage Men's Expenses	25 0 0	59 11 4	Loan Interest	148 10 0
-	Club Blazer Badges and Ties	30 15 0	25 4 4	Treasury Stock Interest	59 11 4
-	Loss on Investment Realised	10 12 0		Trustee and other Bank Interest	19 5 9
536 1 6	Income Tax under-provided on Previous Profits	19 3 6	43 18 6	Savings Bonds Interest	<u>43 18 6</u>
	Corporation Duty	26 1 2			393 15 7
80 4 0	Laundry	74 10 6			
200 0 0	Memorial Fund Grant	200 0 0			
	Donations -				
5 5 0	Gloucester Cripples	5 5 0			
10 10 0	St. John's Ambulance	10 10 0			
10 10 0	Gloucester and District Hospitals Welfare Fund	10 10 0			
5 5 0	Remembrance Day	5 5 0			
5 5 0	National Institute for the Blind	-			
5 5 0	Gloucester Diocesan Assoc. for the Deaf	5 5 0			
2 2 0	Gloucestershire Playing Fields Assoc.	2 2 0			
-	Cancer Research	5 5 0			
-	Cathedral Fund	<u>2 2 0</u>	46 4 0		
356 8 0	Balance, being Excess of Income over Expenditure			Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income	1,094 15 6
<u>£7,674 16 3</u>		<u>£6,761 11 1</u>	<u>£7,674 16 3</u>		<u>£6,761 11 1</u>

BALANCE SHEET

1953-1954	SURPLUS AND LIABILITIES	1954-1955	ASSETS
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d. £ s. d.
	Income and Expenditure Account -		£
19,180	Balance as Last Account 19,180 10 10		Grand Stand and Stands Account -
	Less Excess of Expenditure		Balance as at Last Account 3,985 8 7
	over Income for Year to date <u>1,094 15 6</u>		Advanced on Loan as at Last Account 3,300 0 0
		18,085 15 4	Unsecured Loan due from the Trustees
	Sundry Creditors and Provisions:-		Memorial Ground Fund 300 0 0
671	Accrued charges and Income Tax 359 4 7		Investments (at cost) -
			Shares of £1 each in the Gloucester
			Football & Athletic Ground Co. Ltd. 3,067 0 0
			3% Defence Bonds 1,000 0 0
			3½% Defence Bonds -
			2½% Defence Bonds 2,300 0 0
			£2,382 14s. 5d. 2½% Treasury
			Stock 2,002 16 6
			£1,464 6s. 2d. 3% Savings
			Bond 1965/75 1,501 15 0
			Cash at Bankers - Current Account 624 3 10
			Deposit Account 20 1 3
			Cash on Deposit - Trustee Savings
			Bank <u>342 14 9</u>
			10,859 11 4
£19,851		£18,444 19 11	£19,851
			£18,444 19 11

I have examined the above Statement and compared the same with the Books, Vouchers, and Bank Books of the Club, and I certify the Balance Sheet and Accounts to be true and correct, and as shown by the books of the Club.

H. J. Balchin, *Hon. Treasurer*
15th June 1955.

WILIAM V. EGGLETON
Chartered Accountant,
Auditor
Russell Chambers, Gloucester.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB - FIXTURES 1955-1956

Hon. Secretary: A. HUDSON, The Chestnuts, Kingsholm, Gloucester.

1955				1956			
Sept	10	Lydney	H	Jan.	7	London Scottish	A
"	13	Dublin Wanderers	H	"	14	Leicester	A
"	17	Moseley	H	"	21	Wasps	H
"	21	Cheltenham	A	"	28	Army	H
"	24	Bristol	H	Feb.	4	Cardiff	H
"	29	Stroud	A	"	12	Bath	A
Oct.	1	Bedford	A	"	18	Swansea	H
"	8	Old Blues	H	"	25	Guys Hospital	A
		<i>Glos. v Devon, Bristol</i>		Mar	3	Northampton	A
"	15	Newport	H	"	10	R.A.F.	H
"	22	Coventry	A	"	17	Cardiff	A
		<i>Glos. v Somerset, Away</i>		"	24	Newport	A
"	29	Oxford University	H	"	31	Bradford	H
Nov.	5	Leicester	H	Apr.	2	Birkenhead Park	H
"	12	Moseley	A	"	3	Lydney	A
		<i>(Glos. v Cornwall, Away)</i>		"	7	Harlequins	H
"	16	Cambridge University	A	"	12	Cheltenham	H
"	19	Aberavon	A	"	14	Bristol	A
"	26	Llanelly	H	"	21	Exeter	A
Dec.	3	Neath	A	"	23	Penzance & Newlyn	A
"	10	Bath	H	"	24	Teignmouth	A
"	17	Coventry	H	"	28	Devonport Services	H
"	24	Stroud	H				
"	26	O.M.T.'s	H				
"	27	U.A.U.	H				
"	31	Neath	H				

Hon. Fixture Secretary: T. BURNS, 27 Tuffley Avenue, Gloucester

Players' Meeting held at Kingsholm June 10th 1955.

Chairman Rev. H. M. Hughes, The President, Dr. Alcock, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, T. Millington, S. H. Davies, F. Wadley, T. Day, L. H. Middleditch, T. Burns, A. Hudson.

Players Present; G. Hastings, R. Sutton, R. Hodge, P. Ford, R. Parry, C. Thomas, D. Ibbotson, D. Soloman, B. Abery, Peter Lewis, J. Bowdler, G. Jones, M. C. Jones, D. Hill.

The Chairman welcomed the players and invited them to elect their Captains for next season and also Players' Representative.

1 st XV.	Peter Ford	Proposed by R. Hodge Seconded by M. Jones. Unanimously elected.
United XV.	J. Lowe	Proposed by D. Hill Seconded by M. Jones.
	Peter Lewis	Proposed by Chairman Seconded by R. Hodge. On a vote Johnny Lowe was elected.
Players Representative for Committee	Mr Roy Sutton	Proposed by G. Hastings Seconded by P. Ford Carried unanimously.

Suggestions.

Mr. Don Hill thought a trainer would be helpful and also that a Dinner to players, officials and United number of guests during the Close Season, and Mr. Hodge thanked the Committee for the co-operation during the past season and particularly the enjoyable tour.

The Chairman in thanking the captains and players hoped to meet them at a Social Gathering prior to the first match.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

24 / 6 / 55

EXTRACT TAKEN FROM CITIZEN NEWSPAPER DATED TUESDAY JUNE 21ST, 1955.

GLOUCESTER RFC TO HAVE A SOCIAL CLUB

Plea to members to help maintain it

There was good news for members of Gloucester Rugby Football Club at their annual meeting in the Central Hall yesterday evening.

It was announced by the president (Dr. Arnold Alcock) that, at long last, a social club is to be started at the Kingsholm Ground.

The project has been approved by the committee," he said, "and in a very few weeks now, work will be commenced, and we shall have a social club for the members of this club.

"Details will be worked out later, and you ladies and gentlemen will be asked to do something about it. It is one thing to build it, and another thing to run it."

"It is a very great event in the history of the Gloucester Club," he said.

The new social club will be at the end of the changing pavilion.

Dr. Alcock, who thanked the meeting for re-electing him as president, also had something to say about the new Memorial Ground in Tuffley-ave.

Describing the ground as "one of the greatest things for rugby that has ever happened in this city since Kingsholm was taken over by the Gloucester Rugby Football Club," Dr. Alcock said that they had already spent over £7,000 on the ground without making any fuss, or having any large appeal.

"I do appeal to you, though, to do what you can," he said. "Any donations would be accepted with the utmost gratitude, because we have so much to do. After we have the ground in order we must think about putting up changing quarters for the players."

Mr. A. T. Voyce and Mr. Arthur Hudson were re-elected vice-president, Mr. Hudson was also re-elected hon. secretary, and Mr. H. J. Balchin and Mr. T. Burns were re-elected hon. treasurer and hon. fixture secretary respectively.

Mr. Voyce said that the Gloucester club's tradition still held and always would.

He spoke appreciatively of the rugby tuition which youngsters were getting at their schools, and in junior rugby. An important factor, in future, was going to be that rugby teams were more on a level than they used to be in the past. He thought that was a good thing.

Mr. Voyce thanked the local clubs for all they had done for the Gloucester club, and said that the committee supported everything in connection with the local clubs as much as they could.

Mr. Voyce also said that it would be possible to play on the Memorial Ground, next year, but he thought it would be wise to leave it for another year.

Reference to the Memorial Ground was also made by Mr. Arthur Hudson, who said: "It is an effort we have made to do something for junior football."

He appealed to members to "take an interest" in the Memorial Ground, and said he hoped it would be looked upon with as much pride as the Kingsholm Ground.

Mr. Burns said that he would endeavour to maintain fixtures at the present high level. "With one or two exceptions, I rarely find a club with as high a standard of fixtures as ours has," he said.

Gloucester's new captain, Mr. Peter Ford, expressed his confidence that in 1955-56, the club were going to have a better season than the last one.

Effect of TV

The serious loss of income suffered by the Club as a result of clashes with TV broadcasts of international matches, and the cancellation of the home fixture with Cardiff, were referred to in the committee's report for season 1954-55, presented by the chairman (the Rev. H. M. Hughes).

"The balance sheet will show that the gates have been affected to a certain extent by the lack of success in winning matches," stated the report, "but it is interesting to note that the effect of the televising of international matches contributed to a loss in gate on two attractive home matches (Newport and Bristol) of £760, compared with last year, together with the loss of the home fixture with Cardiff, of an average gate of £500, making a total loss of income of £1,260.

"It is never easy to follow a record season, and the club had to face the additional handicap of the loss of five outstanding players, including the captain, John Taylor, and the vice-captain, John Gwilliam, recognised as one of the greatest pack leaders the game has produced.

“To this may be added an exceptional crop of injuries to outstanding players, making it necessary to call upon no less than 45 players during the season.

“In spite of the difficulties, the team has endeavoured to play fast, open football throughout the season with a very young side, which augurs well for the future.

The committee congratulated the Gloucester captain, George Hastings, upon gaining a place in the Barbarians’ tour, and representing England in all internationals during the season.

They went on to mention that due to 1st XV calls the United had rarely been able to field a representative side, and the record was correspondingly poor, but the committee were grateful to those players, under their captain Ivor Jones, who had been a mainstay of the 1st XV.

The committee appealed to the North Gloucestershire Combination to continue to give every encouragement to their players to represent the Gloucester club, and uphold its honour on the rugby field.

Recording thanks to various officials of the club, and other organisations, the report mentioned that the hon. secretary, Mr. Arthur Hudson, had now completed 53 years of service to the club.

Confidence

The report concluded: “We look forward with confidence to next season, when the experience the younger players have gained during the past season will, we believe, pay good dividends.”

The revenue account for 1954-55 showed an excess of expenditure over income amounting to £1,094 - compared with a surplus of income over expenditure amounting to £356 in 1953-54.

Income from subscriptions showed a decrease compared with 1953-54, while the gate receipts showed a very substantial drop. The figures for gate receipts at First Team matches was £2,999 (£4,177 in 1953-54) while receipts at United matches fell from £107 to £82.

On the expenditure side, there was an item of £1,575 for repairs, renewals and improvements.

The club’s assets now total £18,444.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.

Presenting the accounts, the hon. treasurer (Mr. H. J. Balchin) said that the amount spent on repairs, renewals and improvements was about on a par with the previous year. The sum spent on improvements at the Worcester Street end of the ground was £1,290.

“That is a fine achievement and one which I think is greatly appreciated,” he added.

Mr. Balchin criticised the English Rugby Union for not allowing Gloucester to re-arrange the cancelled match against Cardiff, on a date during the first few days of May.

“You would have thought,” said Mr. Balchin, “that when the committee made application to the Rugby Union for permission to play against Cardiff at the beginning of May, the Union would have given that permission as compensation alone, especially bearing in mind that one of their internationals - the one at Cardiff - was postponed.

“Both the balance sheet and the public have suffered as a result of their failure to do so.”

Balance sheet

Mr. Balchin said it was the first time since he had been hon. treasurer that the club had shown excess of expenditure over income, but despite this he felt that the balance sheet as a whole was a “rosey one”.

Two new members, both ex-players, were elected to the committee. They were Mr. Wally Burrows and Mr. Ivor Jones.

The committee for 1955-56 (votes in brackets) is as follows: Messrs. A. G. Hudson (121), T. Day (94), T. H. Millington (89), R. N. Loveridge (88), R. Morris (86), F. Wadley (86), S. H. Davies (84), L. H. Middleditch (87), the Rev. H. M. Hughes (75), Messrs. W. Burrows (70), and I. Jones (65).

Not elected: Messrs. G. J. Dance, J. A. Haines, and F. W. James.

The President praised the work of the two members of the 1954-55 committee who will not be members during the coming year, Mr. C. Norman Smith and Mr. Dance.

The meeting agreed to an alteration of one of the rules which will have the effect of making it possible for an honorary life member to be elected by a four-fifths majority of the whole committee.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Press, proposed by Mr. Gordon Hudson.

At the beginning of the meeting officers and members stood in silence in memory of the late Mr. Charlie Williams, the club's oldest life member, who had died since the last annual meeting.

The president (Dr. Arnold Alcock) said Mr. Williams was a great player and a great rugby man.

END EXTRACT TAKEN FROM CITIZEN NEWSPAPER DATED TUESDAY JUNE 21ST, 1955.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Friday, June 24th, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President.

Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents.

W. Burrows, S. H. Davies, T. Day, A. G. Hudson, Rev. H. M. Hughes, I. Jones, R. N. Loveridge, L. H. Middleditch, T. H. Millington, R. Morris, F. Wadley, P. Ford (Capt.), R. Sutton (Players' Rep.), H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fixture Sec., and A. Hudson, Hon. Secretary.

The President took the Chair. He congratulated old members on their re-election and welcomed the new members. In his remarks he stressed the necessity for members of the Committee to observe secrecy as to what was discussed at their meetings.

Election of Chairman.

The President then invited the meeting to appoint a Chairman for the season. Mr. Millington said it gave him great pleasure to again propose the election of Rev. H. M. Hughes, who, he said, had exercised great tact in this office in past seasons and who was held in great respect by all members. This proposition was seconded by Mr. S. H. Davies and carried unanimously. Rev. Hughes expressed his thanks for the Committee's continued confidence in himself and said he looked forward to a rather more favourable season than last.

Sub-Committees, etc.

Selection: Messrs. T. Day, G. Hudson, R. N. Loveridge and R. Morris were elected as result of ballot.

Finance: Messrs. S. H. Davies, R. N. Loveridge, T. H. Millington.

Ground: Messrs. W. Burrows, S. H. Davies, L. H. Middleditch, I. Jones, F. Wadley, G. Hudson, T. H. Millington, T. Day.

Emergency: S. H. Davies, I. Jones, R. N. Loveridge, T. H. Millington, F. Wadley.

North Glos.

Combination Rep.: Mr. F. Wadley.

Baggage Men: Messrs. W. Cale, and G. Hudson.

Programmes: The question of this appointment was deferred.

Canteen.

Mr. Middleditch agreed to continue in charge of arrangements. One or two members expressed the view that the quality etc. of the food last year might be improved upon and with this in view Mr. Middleditch was asked to approach the waitresses and discuss with them the possibilities.

Insurance of Players.

It was agreed to continue previous years' arrangements with Rugby Union and S.W. Group.

Grants.

A letter was read from Secretary of the Deaf Association thanking the Club for their generosity in the grant of £5 5s. 0d. made.

Gordon League.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Gordon League appealing for financial assistance towards the cost of the drainage scheme they had been compelled to carry out on their ground. The total cost was estimated to be £477 of which the club expected to be able to raise £350. It was agreed that a grant of £10 10s. 0d. be made and that the use of Kingsholm ground be offered for an evening game, the proceeds to go to the Gordon League club.

Leicester F.C.

Reported letter received from Leicester club intimating that they had reluctantly decided to discontinue to run their "A" Team as from the end of 1954/55 season. It was decided to fill the vacancies in the United XV list with games with the North Glos. Rugby Combination and the Hon. Fix. Sec. was instructed accordingly.

Advert - Pavilion Roof.

Letter from Messrs. S. J. Moreland and Sons Ltd., was read in which they stated they were unable to increase their offer of £25. It was agreed that this matter lie on table pending consideration of any other offers received.

Social Club - Proposed New Club Room.

Hon. Sec. reported S. C. Rhodes & Co. had submitted a fresh estimate in the figure of £2000 approx. Wm. Jones & Son (Kingsholm) Ltd. Had submitted a revised estimate of £1775. It was proposed by Mr. Voyce seconded by Mr. Loveridge that the contract be given to William Jones & Son and that they be requested to obtain necessary permits and complete the work as soon as possible.

Appointment of General Secretary.

Mr. Hudson (Hon. Sec.) referred to the statement he had made at the Annual General Meeting regarding his future with the Club and intimated that he wished to be relieved of the secretarial work as soon as possible. He said that while he would always be prepared to give the Club any assistance that he could he was of the opinion that the work to be done had grown to such an extent as to fully justify the appointment of a paid official who would co-ordinate the various business of the Club. He instanced the programmes work, the new Social Club, assistance to the Hon. Treasurer, Canteen Caterer, etc., as examples where a paid Secretary would render the employment of outside help unnecessary and so keep the Club's affairs in the hands of its own officials.

The President expressed the great regret which he said would be felt by all members at Mr. Hudson's decision. Referring to Mr. Hudson's great services to the Club extending over a

period of more than 50 years as player and official he was glad that the Club could still have the benefit of his great experience, which would be available to his successor. He proposed:-

1. That Mr. Hudson shall continue to be Hon. Sec. of the Club.
2. That a Secretary and Assistant Treasurer be appointed at a salary of £250 per year.
3. That Mr. T. Burns be invited to accept this appointment.

This proposition was seconded by Mr. R. Morris.

Mr. Balchin spoke against the proposition which was however carried with one dissentient.

Mr. Burns thanked the Committee for the offer which he promised to consider and give an early reply.

Memorial Ground.

The Hon. Sec. referred to the need for help in removing stones and weeds from the Memorial Ground and Mr. Wadley was asked to try to interest the North Glos. Combination in the matter.

Meeting closed 10:00 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

26 . 6 . 55.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 26th July, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President

Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, W. Burrows, T. Day, G. Hudson, I. Jones, R. N. Loveridge, L. H. Middleditch, T. H. Millington, H. J. Balchin, Hon, Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fixture Sec., A. Hudson, Hon. Sec., P. Ford (Capt.).

Apologies R. Sutton and F. Wadley.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Matters arising:-

Canteen.

Mr. Middleditch reported that he had discussed the question of the provision of meals with the waitresses who had expressed their willingness to undertake the catering. They had gone carefully into the question of cost and it was estimated that a saving of from £2 to £3 per match could be effected while providing a varied and adequate menu. Mr. Middleditch said he was confident that a better meal would be provided. The ladies concerned were satisfied with the present cooking facilities. It was agreed that the new arrangements be put into operation in coming season.

Gordon League Appeal.

Mr. Millington reported he had attended a meeting of the Gordon League club when grateful thanks had been expressed for the grant of £10 0s. 0d. and for the offer of the use of Kingsholm ground. It was hoped to arrange a match with a North Glos. Combination XV.

Leicester FC.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. reported that he had allocated the dates, Nov. 5th and Jan. 14th made vacant through cancellation of "A" XV fixtures with Leicester Club, to North Glos. Combination.

Pavilion Roof Advert.

This matter was further discussed, and it was decided that, in view of the possibility of a better offer from the people with whom Mr. Loveridge was in touch, to defer a decision until next meeting.

Social Club.

It was reported that the permit from the Town Planning Authority had not been received.

Appointment of General Secretary.

Mr. Burns having intimated his willingness to accept the offer made it was proposed by Mr. Voyce, seconded by Mr. Balchin that the appointment be confirmed. This was carried unanimously. It was further agreed that arising from the appointment that the Club's bankers be notified that for future any two of the following officials are authorized to sign cheques on behalf of the Club:

Mr. A. T. Voyce
Mr. A. Hudson
Mr. H. J. Balchin
Mr. T. Burns

All cheques to be impressed with Gloucester R.F.C. stamp.

Baseball Match - Cathedral Fund.

It was agreed to allow use of the ground for the baseball match between two American Services teams on Thursday 28th inst., at 6:30 p.m., and the arrangements for the match made by Mr. Voyce were approved.

Girl Guides' Rally.

The President read a letter he had received from the Hon. County Treasurer of the Glos. Girl Guides expressing grateful thanks for the use of Kingsholm Ground for the Rally on the 23rd inst., and enclosing cheque for £25. It was unanimously agreed that this be donated to the Memorial Ground Trustee Fund.

Numbering of Jerseys.

On the suggestion of the President, who stated he did not subscribe to the superstition regarding No. 13, it was agreed that the club jerseys be numbered 1-15.

Deans Walk Gates.

The President drew attention to the fact that the Club name did not appear on the gates at the Deans Walk side of the ground and it was agreed that this should be done.

Club Tours.

The Captain asked whether it was possible to vary the itinerary of the annual tour in, say, 1957/58. He suggested that a tour on the Continent or to Ireland might be considered.

Social Evening - Local Clubs.

At the suggestion of the Captain, it was agreed to arrange a Social Evening with representatives of Local Clubs on the first convenient evening.

Referees.

Names of officials for September matches were listed for guidance of Sec. North Glos. Referee's Society.

Next Meeting; Tuesday August 30th.

Meeting closed 9:40 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

30 Aug. 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, August 30th, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President.

A. Hudson, Vice-President.

Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman.

Messrs. A. Hudson, Hon. Sec., H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, L. H. Middleditch, I. Jones, F. Wadley, W. Burrows, T. Day, R. N. Loveridge, T. H. Millington, R. Morris, P. Ford, (Capt.).

Apologies Mr. A. T. Voyce (in hospital).

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Matters Arising:

Catering.

Mr. Middleditch reported that the new arrangement was well in hand. He was authorised to purchase new cutlery etc., and to make good deficiencies in utensils.

Advert - Pavilion Roof.

Mr. Loveridge said he was still in negotiation with a certain Coy., and expecting an early offer. Matter deferred until [next] meeting.

Social Club.

It was reported that the Contractor had commenced work on the foundations of the new building. The Chairman suggested that members of the Committee should give early consideration to the formulating of Rules for the Club and to the question of furniture and fittings necessary on completion of the room.

Cathedral Fund.

The Secretary read a letter from the Appeal Organiser; Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Bevan, thanking the Chairman and Committee of the Gloucester R.F.C. for the use of Kingsholm for the Baseball Match on 28th. It would have been impossible, he said, to arrange this successful event elsewhere and I am to say how much the goodwill of the Committee is appreciated by the Dean and Chapter.

Social Evening - Local Clubs.

It was agreed that the question of a suitable evening should be mentioned by the Club's representative at the North Glos. Combination next meeting. Suggested Tuesday 27th Sept., suitable.

"Don Summers."

The Secretary reported that no reply had been received to his letter written on 7th July asking for payment of rent of £125 due. It was agreed that a further stronger letter be sent.

United XV v. Cardiff Athletic.

The Cardiff Club having asked if we would be willing to play the match at Cardiff on February 4th in the morning, so that their players could watch the Wales v. Scotland match in afternoon, the Secretary was directed to agree and to ask for tickets for our United XV players to view the game also.

Groundsman.

The Hon. Sec. reported that he had been in contact with a man who he was confident would be the right type for the job. After discussion of this question it was agreed that the Chairman, Hon. Sec., and the General Secretary should interview this man before a final decision was made.

Season Tickets.

The General Secretary reported that he had banked about £180 so far and that the demand at Mr. Hudson's shop was increasing. The need for assistance to be given to Mr. Gordon Hudson on Saturday mornings was urged and the Gen. Sec. promised to be on hand.

Touch Judges.

Lydney	Mr. W. Burrows
Dublin Wanderers	Mr. I. Jones
Moseley	Mr. R. Morris
Bream	Mr. T. Day
Cinderford	Mr. F. Wadley

Northampton Jubilee Dinner.

No members of the Committee was able to find it convenient to make the journey to Northampton to accept that Club's invitation to their Jubilee Dinner and the Secretary was instructed to reply accordingly.

Coaches for Away Matches.

It was agreed that the Hon. Sec. should seek an interview with the Manager of Bristol Tramways with a view to securing the best possible coaches for long journeys.

Watering of Ground.

The Captain enquired as to the possibilities of watering the ground. It was decided to approach the official in charge of the City Fire Brigade to see what was possible. The Secretary reported that he had ordered two sprinklers which he hoped would be delivered within a day or two.

New Flag.

The Hon. Sec. proposed that a new flag be obtained to replace present one which was somewhat dirty and torn. The President seconded this and it was agreed to obtain estimate of cost.

Meeting closed 9:40 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

20 Sept. 1955

Minutes of General Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, September 20th, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. Hudson, Vice-President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Messrs. L. H. Middleditch, G. Hudson, R. N. Loveridge, R. Morris, T. Day, F. Wadley, W. Burrows, I. Jones, T. H. Millington, S. H. Davies, P. Ford, (Capt.), A. Hudson, Hon. Sec., H. J. Balchin, Hon, Treasurer, T. Burns, General Secretary.

Apologies.

An apology was received from Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice-President, now convalescing after his recent operation.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

Catering.

Mr. Middleditch briefly reported. It was generally considered that meals under the new arrangement were satisfactory.

Advert - Pavilion Roof.

Mr. Loveridge reported that the negotiations with a certain company had broken down. He had however received an offer of £50 from Foyles, Ltd., subject to a condition to be agreed on. On the proposition of Mr. G. Hudson seconded by Mr. Middleditch, it was agreed that failing agreement with Foyles, Ltd., the offer of £25 from Morelands Ltd. be accepted.

Social Club.

It was reported that continued progress was being made by the contractors.

Meeting with Local Clubs' Representatives.

Discussion took place regarding the failure of players from local clubs to turn up when selected to play for the United XV, and it was decided that this matter should be brought up at the meeting with officials of North Glos. Rugby Combination and representatives of local clubs to be held on Tuesday next, 27th inst.

"Don Summers."

The Gen. Sec. reported that no reply had been received to his further letter requesting payment of rent of £125 outstanding. It was agreed that the Hon. Sec. should take the matter up with Mr. Williams, a prominent local supporter of the "Crusade."

United XV game with Cardiff Athletic - February 4th.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had not received a reply from the Cardiff Sec. regarding request for United XV players to be admitted to ground to see International match after playing Cardiff Athletic on the morning of February 4th. He would, however, send a reminder to the Cardiff Secretary.

Groundsman.

The Sub-Committee, composed of the Chairman, Hon. Sec. and Gen. Sec. reported on the interview with Mr. Pockett. This was considered satisfactory and on the proposition of the President, seconded by Mr. Morris it was unanimously agreed that the present groundsman, Mr. Keen, be given notice of termination of his employment by the Club. It was proposed by Mr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Loveridge, that Keen be given one weeks' notice with the addition of one weeks' "holiday pay". This was agreed.

Coaches - Away Matches.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had not yet had an interview with the Manager of Bristol Tramways. He had however spoken to Mr. Gullick stressing the Club's point with regard to the need for better coaches, and was awaiting a 'phone call from the Manager with a view to fixing an appointment to discuss the matter.

Watering of Ground.

The Chairman reported that requests for permission to obtain services of the Fire Brigade had been unsuccessful.

New Flag.

A letter from Smith & Sons quoting prices of £8 and £9 10s. 0d. was read. It was agreed to purchase the better quality flag in wool/nylon bunting.

BBC Television.

The Gen. Sec. reported that a letter had been received from the British Broadcasting Corporation expressing the wish to televise the second half of the match with Newport on Oct. 15th. Subject to the consent of the Gloucester Committee and the approval of the Rugby Union and Newport, the B.B.C. were prepared to pay a fee of one hundred guineas. It was agreed that the offer be accepted and the Gen. Sec. was requested to write the Secretary of the Rugby Union for the necessary permission in accordance with Bye Law No. 47 of Rugby Union Rules. The Gen. Sec. was also directed to communicate with the Newport Club with a view to ascertaining whether they had any objection to the match being televised.

Draw for Out Matches.

1st XV

Devon Tour	-	Mr. S. H. Davies
Cardiff	-	Mr. L. H. Middleditch
Bath	-	"
Northampton	-	Mr. G. Hudson
Cheltenham	-	"
Guy's Hospital	-	Mr. R. N. Loveridge
Coventry	-	"
Newport	-	Mr. R. Morris
Stroud	-	"
Neath	-	Mr. T. Day

Cambridge Univ.	-	Mr F. Wadley
Leicester	-	Mr. W. Burrows
Moseley	-	"
London Scottish	-	Mr. I. Jones
Aberavon	-	"
Bedford	-	Mr. T. H. Middleton
Lydney	-	"
Bristol	-	Rev. H . M. Hughes

United XV

N.G.C.	-	Mr. S. H. Davies
R.A.C.	-	Mr. L. H. Middleditch
Newport H.S.O.B.	-	Mr. G . Hudson
Cleve	-	Mr. R. N. Loveridge
Drybrook	-	Mr. R. Morris
Abergavenny	-	Mr. T. Day
Cardiff Univ.	-	Mr. F. Wadley
Hereford	-	Mr. W. Burrows
Berry Hill	-	Mr. I. Jones
Worcester	-	Mr. T. H. Millington
Bristol Aero	-	Rev. H. M. Hughes

Finance.

The Hon. Treasurer briefly reported on financial position to date. The sale of season tickets was considered to be satisfactory. In this connection the General Sec. made reference to the good work put in by the Hon. Sec. and the staff at his shop in issuing season tickets.

Mr. Gordon Hudson intimated that owing to pressure of business he felt he was unable to afford the time necessary as a member of the Selection Committee. He therefore wished to tender his resignation. This was accepted in view of the circumstances and Mr. S. H. Davies was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy. It was also agreed that Mr. Gordon Hudson take Mr. Davies' place on the Emergency Committee.

Dr. Alcock referred to the fact that he had been honoured by the signature of Princess Margaret which had been given on the Club's notepaper as in the previous case of the Princess Royal. He had had this framed together with a photo taken on the ground on the occasion of the Girl Guides Rally on July 23rd, and asked the Committee's acceptance of this. This was gratefully accepted and the President was thanked for his generosity.

County Match v. Police.

The Hon. Sec. drew attention to this game, arranged for Friday evening, 23rd inst., expressing the view that the date was most unsuitable, involving a number of players in three hard games during the week and was bound to have an adverse effect on the Club's game with Bristol on Saturday, 24th inst. After discussion it was agreed that a letter should be sent to the County Secretary expressing the Committee's concern in the matter.

Next meeting, Tuesday Oct. 4th.

Meeting closed at 10:10 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

4 Oct. 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 4th October, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. Hudson, Vice-President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Messrs. T. H. Millington, L. H. Middleditch, F. Wadley, S. H. Davies, T. Day, R. Morris, A. G. Hudson, R. N. Loveridge, W. Burrows, I. Jones, P. Ford, (Capt.), R. Sutton (Players' Rep.), A. Hudson, (as Hon. Sec.), H. J. Balchin, Hon, Treasurer, T. Burns, General Secretary.

Apologies.

Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice-President.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

Advert - Pavilion Roof.

Mr. Loveridge reported letting to Messrs. Foyles' now agreed at £50 p.a. and agreement was being drawn up.

Social Club.

Reported some little further progress had been made.

Meeting with Local Club Representatives.

Matters raised at the meeting with members of North Glos. Rugby Combination on Tuesday 27th inst., were discussed. The Hon. Sec. also referred to points raised at the North Glos. Comb. committee meeting on 26th inst. The feeling was expressed that while some little progress towards a better understanding between the Gloucester Club and Local Clubs had been made the position was still unsatisfactory.

"Don Summers".

The Hon. Sec. reported that he had had an interview with Mr. Thomas, organiser of the "Crusade" as the result of which he had received a letter from Don Summers endorsing a cheque for £55 with the promise to send further sums when money became available. Mr. Summers expressed the hope that in view of the poor financial position of the Gloucester Meeting, the Club might feel disposed to make some reduction in the agreed charge. It was agreed that the Gen. Secretary acknowledge receipt of cheque and ask for payment of balance outstanding as early as possible.

United XV game with Cardiff Athletic.

The Gen. Sec. reported no reply had been received to his further reminder to the Cardiff Hon. Sec.

Groundsman.

Reported Mr. Pockett had commenced his duties on ground on Monday last.

Coaches - Away Matches.

The Hon. Sec. reported that he had had a telephone conversation with the Local Manager of Bristol Tramways when he expressed the Club's view as to the need for a more comfortable coach for long journeys. The manager was giving his personal attention to the matter and hoped to obtain a 31-Seater coach for the journey to Bedford on which he would await the Club's report.

New Flag.

It was reported that the new flag had been delivered and it was decided to fly this at the Newport match.

B.B.C. Television.

The Gen. Sec. read letter from Secretary of the Rugby Football Union conveying the decision not to grant permission for the televising of the match with Newport on Oct. 15th. In his letter, the Secretary of the R.F.U. had added a "P.S." in which he said he had spoken on the telephone to the Welsh Rugby Union who were not in favour of the match being televised. As this appeared somewhat contradictory to the reply the Club had received from the Welsh R.U. Secretary, it was decided that a copy of this letter should be sent to the Secretary, Rugby Football Union. The Gen. Sec. was also directed to express the Committee's great disappointment at the decision.

Finance.

Referring to the fact that the sale of season tickets at Mr. Hudson's shop meant a considerable saving to the Club who would otherwise have to sell the tickets through an Agency. He proposed that a sum of £10 be paid to Mr. Hudson's staff for the work they had put in. This was seconded by the President and carried unanimously.

County v. Police Match.

The Gen. Secretary read a letter received from the County Rugby Union Hon. Sec. acknowledging the Club's letter of 22nd Sept., disapproving the decision to play the match on Friday 23rd Sept. The County Hon. Sec. said he was placing the Club's [letter] on the Agenda of his next Executive Committee Meeting.

Glos. Police.

In response to an application from Police Headquarters, it was agreed to allow the use of Kingsholm ground for a match v. Somerset Police on Nov. 15th. Mr. G. Hudson suggested that Police Headquarters might be approached with a view to securing the release of players required by the Club v. Cambridge University on the following day. It was decided that this matter be left to the Hon. Sec. to discuss over the 'phone with Police Headquarters.

Touch Judges.

v. Old Blues	-	Mr. I. Jones
v. Drybrook	-	Mr. R. Morris

Newport Match.

Committee men were appointed to assist Stewards in dealing with the crowd expected at this match.

Mr. Gordon Hudson raised the question of finding substitutes for players crying off late on Fridays. A suggestion that this should be a matter for the Committee man in Charge working in conjunction with the Captain and the Gen. Sec. was agreed to.

Meeting closed 9:45 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

18 Oct. 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 18th October, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. Hudson, Vice-President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, S. H. Davies, I. Jones, W. Burrows, R. Morris, T. Day, F. Wadley, R. N. Loveridge, T. H. Millington, L. H. Middleditch, P. Ford, (Capt.), A. Hudson, (as Hon. Sec.), H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treasurer), T. Burns, (Gen. Secretary).

Apologies.

Mr. A. T. Voyce, Mr. G. Hudson.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

Advert - Pavilion Roof.

Mr. Loveridge reported that the letting was now all in order subject to signature of the agreement. It was agreed that the Rent of £50 be paid to Memorial Ground Trustees Fund.

Social Club.

Owing to the apparent lack of progress on the new building, which it was understood was due to waiting for bricks, it was decided that the Hon. Sec. should speak to the contractor to ascertain the prospects of completion of building by Xmas. It was also decided to discuss the question of Rules etc., for the running of the Club at the next meeting.

Don Summers.

Nothing further to report.

Motor Coaches - Away Matches.

The Hon. Sec. and the Captain expressed the view that the 31-seater coach provided for the journey to Bedford was fairly satisfactory and it was decided to continue with this vehicle.

Cardiff Athletic.

The Gen. Sec. had nothing further to report.

B.B.C. Television.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had written Sec. of Rugby Football Union as directed but there were no further developments.

Police Match - Nov. 15th.

The Hon. Sec. said he had communicated with the Deputy Chief Constable regarding the release of players who would be required for the Cambridge University game. The D.C.C. was quite in sympathy and said he would approach the Somerset Police with a view to fixing another date.

Newport Match.

The arrangements for this match were discussed. There had been a hold up particularly at Car Park entrance owing to a late rush by spectators. The Stand was full immediately after 2:55 p.m. and a few season ticket holders were unable to obtain seats. Some 80-90 tickets for Inside Rails had been sold. In view of difficulties it was considered that arrangements had not been unsatisfactory. It was decided that same arrangements be made for Oxford University match.

Club Ties.

It was agreed that a player should become entitled to receive another Club colours tie after three years' service with the 1st XV.

Touch Judges.

Oxford University	-	Rev. H. M. Hughes
Coventry Extra 1 st	-	Mr. I. Jones

Meeting closed 9:10 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

Nov. 1st 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 1st November, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, S. H. Davies, T. H. Millington, L. H. Middleditch, F. Wadley, T. Day, G. Hudson, R. Morris, I. Jones, W. Burrows, P. Ford, (Capt.), A. Hudson, (as Hon. Sec.), H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treasurer), T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

“Don Summers”.

It was reported that no further payment in respect of rent outstanding had been received.

Motor Coaches.

The President reported that the coach in which the team travelled to Coventry left a good deal to be desired. In the discussion which followed it was pointed out that any change would involve dispensing with H. Banks whose services as a driver over a period of years had been so much appreciated. In the circumstances it was agreed to carry on with present arrangements.

Arising from the discussion the captain put forward the suggestion that the team might travel overnight by motor coach for the game with Cambridge University. It was agreed that this should be arranged subject to the players' being able to travel.

Cardiff Athletic.

Nothing to report.

Oxford Match - Arrangements.

It was reported that there was some little dissatisfaction over seating arrangements, particularly in the Patrons section of the Stand. It was considered this was probably due to the fact that the regular steward, Mr. Margretts, had not been on duty owing to illness. Some little trouble had also occurred in the Car Park. It was arranged Messrs. Davies and Burrows should be on duty in the Car Park at the Leicester match on Saturday next with a view to reporting as to whether the present system of entry was satisfactory. The Gen. Sec. was directed to send a letter to Mr. Margretts expressing the Committee's hope of a speedy recovery from his illness.

County Matches.

The Gen. Sec. read a letter from the Hon. Sec. of the County R.U. in which it was stated that other Counties in the S.W. Group had suggested changes in the dates for County Championship games. The club was asked for suggestions to be put before the County Executive at their meeting on the 4th inst. The Gen. Sec. stated he had replied to the letter and had expressed the hope that no changes would be made in the dates already [arranged] until at least 1959/60 season.

Social Club.

In view of the slow progress of the building operations the opinion was expressed that it was unlikely that the Club Room would be ready for Xmas. The Chairman urged members to give consideration to the questions of the subscription charge and membership qualifications for discussion at the next meeting.

Tour 1956 - Hotel Arrangements.

The Gen. Sec. read a letter from the proprietor of the Marine Hotel, Penzance, offering accommodation during the Club's Tour in April 1956. It was considered too early to come to a decision, and the matter was deferred.

Ground.

The Captain drew attention to the fact that there appeared to be quite a number of holes in the playing surface, and the Gen. Sec. promised to make an inspection in daylight.

Touch Judges.

v. Leicester	-	R. Morris
v. U.G.C.	-	W. Burrows
v. Cheltenham Utd.	-	S. H. Davies

Teams for Saturday [were] read.

Meeting closed 9:45 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

22 Nov. 1955

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 22nd November, 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Mr. A. T. Voyce, Vice-President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Messrs. H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treasurer), L. H. Middleditch, R. Morris, A W. Burrows, S. H. Davies, T. H. Millington, R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, T. Day, A. G. Hudson, P. Ford, (Capt.), R. Sutton (Players' Rep.), T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

Apology from Mr. A. Hudson, Vice-President and Hon. Sec.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

"Don Summers".

Gen. Sec. reported that a further cheque for £30 had been received with a promise that payment of balance outstanding would be made as soon as possible.

Motor Coaches.

The President, who accompanied the team to Cambridge on the 16th, expressed the general opinion of members of the party that the motor coach was unsatisfactory. The heating system was inadequate and the vibration too pronounced for comfort. As the next two journeys to away games before Xmas would be by train it was decided to leave this matter for further discussion later.

Cardiff Athletic v. United XV.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had not heard from the Cardiff Club Sec. in spite of further reminders. It was suggested that it might be advisable to try to establish contact by 'phone.

Car Park.

Mr. S. H. Davies reported that there had been very little congestion at the Leicester [match] but as the number of cars coming into the Car Park had been smaller than usual it was decided to make observation of the position at the Llanelly match. The Gen. Sec. was to see the Police Supt. With a view to securing police co-operation.

Ground.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had made a thorough inspection of the ground. He did not think that the playing surface was as bad as had been feared and the use of the motor roller had effected a good deal of improvement.

County Matches.

The reply from the County Hon. Sec. regarding the Club's letter of 22nd Sept. expressing the view as to the unsuitability of the date arranged for the game with the British Police. In this it was stated that the County Executive Committee sympathised with the Club's point of view and that efforts would be made to avoid a repetition of the circumstances arising in the arranging of this match.

Gloucester Police.

Application for use of Kingsholm ground on Tuesday, 21st Feb, 1956 in lieu of Nov. 15th v. Somerset Police received by Hon. Sec., who had confirmed this date. This was approved.

Headingley Old Boys R.F.C.

It was agreed that no action be taken regarding appeal for funds to purchase new ground.

Gloucester Boy Scouts Association.

Application from the Asst. District Commissioner for permission to hold a pageant or display at Kingsholm on Saturday July 20th 1957 was favourably considered. The Gen. Sec. was instructed to write suggesting that the application be renewed within 6 months of the date on which the event would take place.

Social Club.

It was reported that building operations had been temporarily suspended, the workmen having been moved to another job. Dissatisfaction was expressed at the slow rate of progress in the construction of the building. It was revealed that the Contractors had verbally estimated in July that it would take just over 3 months to complete the job. In the circumstances it was agreed that the General Secretary should write the Contractors expressing the Committee's disappointment at the rate of progress and to ask for a date by which it could be expected that the building would be finished.

Matters affecting the organisation and running of the Club were raised and discussed. Mr. Voyce suggested that it might be possible to admit local players to membership. It was decided however that this should not be done until it was ascertained to what extent the Club would be patronised by members.

In regard to fittings necessary on the suggestion of Mr. Loveridge it was agreed that the Gen. Sec. should contact the representative of local breweries to obtain the benefit of their advice.

It was the general opinion that the fee for membership be 10/6d, open [to] Club members only. The question as to whether it would be possible to extend membership to 10/- ticket holders to be considered later.

On the suggestion of the Captain it was agreed that a letter of thanks for the services of Woodruff & Wilkes in Cambridge University game be sent to Cheltenham Club.

Meeting closed 9:20 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

13 / 12 / 55

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 13th Dec., 1955.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, T. H. Millington, I. Jones, S. H. Davies, R. N. Loveridge, L. H. Middleditch, F. Wadley, A. G. Hudson, H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treasurer), P. Ford, (Capt.), A. Hudson (as Hon. Sec.), and T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

Apologies Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, T. Day, W. Burrows, and R. Sutton (Players' Rep.).

The President took the Chair.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

Motor Coaches - Out Matches.

Letter from Black & White Motorways Ltd. with a list of coach hire quotations for forthcoming away matches was read. In the ensuing discussion it was pointed out that there were only one or two journeys remaining where it would be necessary to travel by motor coach, and it was finally decided to continue with existing arrangements.

Cardiff.

The Gen. Sec. reported that in spite of repeated reminders he was still without a reply from the Cardiff Club. He had however established contact per 'phone with the Cardiff Club Gen. Sec. who had promised that the Hon. Fix. Sec. would be writing shortly.

Car Park.

It was reported that as the result of Police supervision parking of cars was much more orderly at the Llanelly match. It was agreed to carry out the suggestion of the Police Supt. to fix a notice board directing cars leaving by Deans Walk exit to park left, and by Worcester Street to park right. The Gen. Sec. was asked to detail at least one policeman to supervise parking.

Ground.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had made arrangements with the Civil Service Club for the use of the heavy roller when the state of the ground permitted. This necessitated the use of a motor lorry to tow the roller and tractor from the Civil Service ground as the tractor was not licensed for the road.

Social Club.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had written the Building Contractors asking them to state a date by which the building would be completed. He had subsequently spoken to Mr. Derek Jones who had stated that it was hoped to finish in February.

Representatives of local Brewery Companies had been interviewed on the site and these had expressed their readiness to assist in any way possible. One of these intimated that his firm had samples of chairs etc., which might be suitable. After further discussion, on the question of

equipment of the bar it was decided to call a special meeting as soon as possible. In the meantime the Gen. Sec. was asked to inspect the samples of chairs, etc., referred to. Application by Wm. Jones Ltd. for payment of £850 on account was left for consideration by the Finance Committee.

Entertainment - Tax Exemption.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had received a further letter from the Collector of Customs & Excise, Bristol, suggesting an alternative wording to the dissolution rule previously suggested to which the Committee had taken exception. It was considered that a new rule worded as suggested by the Excise Officer would be acceptable and the Gen. Sec. was directed to reply accordingly.

Advertising.

An application by More O'Farrell, Ltd. of Birmingham for permission to erect a display panel on Kingsholm Ground at a rental of £60 p.a. was considered. It was decided that in accordance with Club's previous practice permission could not be given.

Groundsman.

It was mentioned that the groundsman had fared very indifferently in the matter of tips from visiting clubs. On the proposition of Mr. Loveridge seconded by Mr. Voyce it was agreed that an Xmas Gift of £5 be given to Mr. Pockett.

Heating - Visitors Room.

It was agreed to replace the old worn out stove by electrical heating and Gen. Sec. was directed to approach Messrs. Mitchell Ltd. in the matter.

Players' Dance.

Figures of an account showing a balance of £1 3s. 5d. in hand was considered satisfactory.

Finance.

On the suggestion of Mr. Millington it was agreed that an up-to-date statement be prepared for presentation on first Tuesday in January.

Appeal Fund - Olympic Games.

A letter from Mr. W. J. Hathaway suggesting a collection on the ground at one of our Home matches in support of the Appeal Fund was read. With a view to obtaining further information the Gen. Sec. was asked to discuss this matter with Mr. Gilshenan of the "Citizen".

Referees.

v. Coventry	-	Mr. Parfitt
v. Stroud	-	
v. O.M.T.'s	-	Mr H. S. Smith
U.A.U.	-	

Touch Judges.

v. Coventry	-	Mr. I. Jones
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v. Stroud - "
v. O.M.T.'s - Mr. G. Hudson
U.A.U. - Mr. T. Day

Meeting closed 9:45 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

10 Jan 1956