

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 10th January, 1956.

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

Apologies Messrs. A. T. Voyce, H. J. Balchin, and A. G. Hudson.

The President took the Chair.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

Cardiff.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had now received a letter from the Cardiff Hon. Sec. and correspondence was proceeding with a view to agreement on dates for games in 1957/58.

Car Park.

It was considered that parking during recent matches had further improved, the Notice Board direction for parking left or right proving most effective.

Ground.

The Gen. Sec. stated that owing to the necessity for synchronising weather conditions with proper ground conditions no opportunity had yet arisen to use the heavy roller. The *Dennis* Motor Roller had been used with good effect and the heavy roller would be used when conditions permitted.

Social Club.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had inspected the samples of chairs at the Stroud Brewery warehouse and considered them very suitable.

In considering a request from the Contractors for a further payment of £900 on account disappointment was again expressed at the slow progress with the building. The question of a further payment was referred to the Finance Sub-Committee for consideration at its meeting on 17th inst. In the meantime the Gen. Sec. was asked to try to obtain a definite date for completion from the Contractors.

The President made the suggestion that when imminent the probable opening date could be given publicity through the medium of the programmes.

Entertainments - Tax Exemption.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had written the Customs & Excise authority intimating that the Club had no objection to the suggested alteration of Club Rules.

Groundsman.

The Gen. Sec. read a letter thanking the Committee for Xmas gift of £5.

Heating of Visitor's Room.

The Gen. Sec. reported that two electric stoves had been fixed on the walls of the visitors' dressing [room] and were proving most adequate. It was decided to dispose of the old iron stove and piping as scrap.

Olympic Games Appeal Fund.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had discussed this matter with the Citizen representative, who said the subject had been ventilated in the "Pink un" in an issue in November but that as far as was known nothing further had developed. In the circumstances it was felt that no action could be taken in the absence of an organised appeal.

Schools.

A letter was read from Mr. Ted Parfitt, Hon. Sec. of Schools (15 Group) thanking the Club for the use of Kingsholm for the Boys Match Glos. v Bristol on 29th Dec. Mr. Parfitt stated that receipts etc. were not yet known but would be notified to us later.

G. Rowberry.

A letter from Mr. G. Rowberry to Mr. Voyce was read. This referred to the late starts in recent matches and contained suggestions regarding several minor matters which the Committee considered were adequately covered. It was decided no action necessary.

Programmes.

The Gen. Sec. reported that Messrs. S. Moreland and Sons, Ltd. had agreed to take over the advertisement space vacated by the Hippodrome for the remainder of season for the sum of £25.

Students Union - M. Miles.

The Gen. Sec. was directed to reply to a letter from the Hon. Sec. of Students Union Club giving an assurance that Michael Miles, selected for the United XV, would be given a fair trial.

Royal Navy.

In reply to a request from Hon. Sec. Royal Navy for a match at Kingsholm on Wednesday February 6th 1957 on guarantee terms, it was decided to offer a game on Thursday 7th February, provided that the amount required as guarantee was not too high. In this connection the Gen. Sec. was directed to refer to the fact that the gate on the occasion of the last Thursday game, with the Army, was approx. £60.

Players' Representative.

A number of matters as follows were raised by Mr. R. Sutton on behalf of Players.

1. Request for a ceiling to be provided in the home teams' dressing room. Proposed by Dr. Alcock, seconded by Mr. Morris and agreed this be done.
2. Players living outside the City to be notified of date of Annual General Meeting. It was agreed that this could be done when notice was given of Players' Meeting.

3. Suggested that a member of the Selection Committee should always travel with the team for away games. It was agreed that the Gen. Sec. should travel with the team when no member of Selection Committee available.

Mr Sutton thanked the Committee for the arrangements made on the occasion of away game with London Scottish. The outing had been much enjoyed by the players.

Touch Judges.

United XV.

v. N.G.C.	-	Mr. Jones
v. Wasps	-	Mr. Day
v. Leicester	-	Mr. Davies

Meeting closed 9:15 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

24 . 1 . 56

Meeting of Finance Sub-Committee held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday 17th January 1956.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, T. H. Millington, S. H. Davies, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Gen. Sec.

The Hon. Treasurer presented Figures of Income and Expenditure for the period of 1955/56 season to 31st December. These disclosed a decrease in membership subscriptions of more than £200 while gate receipts were also disappointing.

In discussing the items of expenditure attention was directed to the serious increase under the various headings and concern was expressed at the heavy cost of the away games at Cambridge, London and Leicester.

In view of the unfavourable position revealed by the Hon. Treasurer's figures it was decided to have a further meeting of the Sub-Committee on Tuesday, 31st January. In the meantime the Hon. Treasurer was asked to prepare a further statement which would give figures in greater detail with comparative 1954/55 figures.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

7 . 2 . 56

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 24th January, 1956.

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

Apologies R. N. Loveridge, L. H. Middleditch, I. Jones.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

Cardiff.

The Gen. Sec. reported that correspondence was proceeding re. fixtures for 1957/58. Three dates had now been offered by Cardiff, one of which, Nov. 23rd at Cardiff, was acceptable. Another date offered was Dec. 31st, which was unattractive for so important a fixture. The other date was February 1st.; already filled by Bristol who had been unable to make arrangements to accept another date in lieu.

In the circumstances the Cardiff Secretary had been asked to agree to reverse the venues of the suggested dates of 23/11 and 31/12.

Regarding the United XV game with Cardiff Athletic arranged for the morning of February 4th, the Gen. Sec. was instructed to ask the Cardiff Sec. whether it was possible to forward 20 tickets so that our party would be assured of seeing the International match in the afternoon.

Ground.

The Gen. Sec. reported that arrangements had been made to bring the heavy roller to Kingsholm and the ground would be rolled when suitable conditions permitted.

Social Club.

It was reported that the building was nearing completion and the question of furniture and fittings was an urgent matter. Mr. Voyce said he had inspected samples of chairs at two local establishments which he thought would be most suitable. On his suggestion it was agreed if possible for types to be brought to Kingsholm to be viewed by the Committee on Saturday next.

Royal Navy.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had received a reply from the Navy Sec. offering Thursday, January 31st in lieu of February 6th, previously suggested. A reply had been sent accepting this date subject to the amount of the guarantee required being satisfactory.

Cambridge University.

The Gen. Sec. was directed to make a suitable reply to a letter from the Hon. Fixture Secretary of the Cambridge University R.F.U. in which he had referred to the concern expressed by his Committee at the disappointing display of the Gloucester team in the game with the University on Nov. 16th.

Schools.

A letter from the Hon. Sec. of the Gloucester and District Schools R.U. (15 Group). In enclosing the Schools' Balance Sheet for 1954/55 the Schools Sec. had referred to the adverse effect the charge for the use of Kingsholm was having on the Schools' finances. As a result he had been instructed to ask if the Gloucester Committee would agree to meet a Sub-Committee of the Schools R.U. to discuss the matter. After discussion it was agreed to reply that it was hoped to arrange the desired meeting later in the season. On proposition of Mr. A. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Morris, it was further agreed to reduce the nominal charge for the use of the ground by the Schools to £10 for a Saturday match and £5 for mid-week matches.

Referees.

v. Army	-	Mr. S. B. Olsen, Notts. Society
v. Cardiff	-	Mr. D. Thatcher, London
v. Swansea	-	Mr. D. Lishman, Leicester

Touch Judges.

Army	-	Mr. R. Morris
Cardiff	-	Rev. Hughes
Newport H.S.O.B.'s	-	Mr. G. Hudson
Cardiff Athletic	-	Mr. W. Burrow

Players' Dressing Room.

Referring to the provision of a ceiling to the home team changing room authorised at the last meeting the President said it had been overlooked that the room would be deprived of the light from the glass in the roof and that if the ceiling was fixed electric light would be required even in daytime. He deprecated the idea from a health point of view and moved that the minute covering this be rescinded. This was seconded by Mr. Sutton, Players Representative, and agreed. It was proposed by Mr. S. H. Davies, seconded by Mr. P. Ford that heating be provided for the room by means of an electric stove fixed to the wall. This was agreed.

Social Club.

A copy of the drafted rules were read and a few alterations were made. On the proposition of Mr. Voyce, seconded by Mr. S. H. Davies, it was agreed that the rules as amended be submitted with the application to the Licensing Authority. In view of the fact that so little of the present season would remain after completion of the new building it was suggested by Mr. Voyce that subscriptions be made payable as from a later date and that admission to the Club for the remainder of this season should be by season ticket. Agreed that the Gen. Sec. and Mr. L. H. Middleditch sign cheques etc.

Meeting closed 10:20 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

7 Feb. 1956

Meeting of Finance Sub-Committee held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday 31st January 1956.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, R. N. Loveridge, S. H. Davies, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

The Hon. Treasurer presented details of expenditure for the period of the present season to the end of December with comparative figures for the previous season under various headings.

The figures revealed a serious increase in the main items of expenditure and after discussion at considerable length it was decided to recommend the strict need for economy.

Among the items where it was thought a saving could be affected, advertising, printing and refreshments were mentioned.

Pending the realisation of the Club's holding of £2,300 2½% Defence Bonds it was agreed to pay a further amount of £500 to the Contractors on the Social Club building.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

7 . 2 . 56

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 7th February, 1956.

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

Apologies R. Sutton, L. H. Middleditch.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising.

Cardiff.

The Gen. Sec. reported that correspondence was still proceeding with the Cardiff Hon. Sec. He read a letter received which had given assurance that the United XV players would have been able to see the International game on the 4th inst. A letter had also been sent to the Cardiff Sec. expressing the hope that his Committee would favourably consider giving us another date for match at Kingsholm in lieu of last Saturday's cancelled game. It was proposed by Mr. Voyce and agreed that a further letter be sent suggesting Thursday April 19th as the most suitable date.

Social Club.

The Gen. Sec. reported that the copy of Rules had been handed to the Clerk to the Licensing Authorities. The shop's prices for the type of chairs agreed upon were also quoted. It was proposed by Mr. Voyce, seconded by Mr. A. G. Hudson that 12 Armchairs @ £3 9s. 6d., 6 ordinary chairs @ £2 4s. 6d., and 3 Round Formica Top Tables @ £5 2s. 6d. each be purchased. These prices were subject to a further discount of 2½% for payment within 7 days of invoicing. The proposition was agreed.

A suggestion was made that Season Ticket holders be admitted as members for the remaining period of the playing season and up to August 10th free of charge for membership. This raised the question as to whether the Rules could be altered without legal sanction and after further discussion it was agreed to consider the matter further at the next meeting. In the meantime the General Sec. would obtain the advice of the Clerk to the Licensing Authority.

Royal Navy.

No reply to last letter received.

Cambridge University.

The General Sec. read copy of letter he had sent in reply to the letter received from the Cambridge Hon. Fixture Secretary.

Schools' Union.

The General Sec. reported no reply yet received to letter sent as directed at last meeting.

Players' Dressing Room.

The Capt., Mr. Peter Ford, stated the electric stove which had been installed was proving satisfactory.

British Red Cross Society.

A letter from the County Secretary of the British Red Cross Society asking for permission for the use of Kingsholm for a County Rally to be held on June 30th or July 7th next, was read. On proposition of Mr. Loveridge, seconded by Mr. Davies, permission was given, charge of £25 to be quoted.

Bristol University.

In reply to a letter from G. Hannaford, a Gloucester player at the University, requesting a game with the United XV on Thursday, March 15th, it was considered that a match on the suggested date would be impracticable in view of the light factor.

Referees.

Swansea match, February 18th - Mr. D. L. Lishman, Leicester Society
R.A.F. match, March 10th - Mr. R. J. Ford, Hants. Society

Touch Judges.

Bath - Mr. T. Day
Bath United - Mr. S. H. Davies
Swansea - Mr. I. Jones
Cheltenham Utd. - Mr. A. G. Hudson

New Rating Assessment.

The question as to whether an appeal against the new assessment should be made was raised as the result of a circular issued by the Rugby Football Union. In view of the amount of the rates in £ proposed for 1956/57 it was considered that the chances of a successful appeal were negligible. It was however decided to make enquiry at the Local Office of the Rating Authority as to the possibility of relief accruing under Sec. 8 of the Rating & Valuation Act, 1955.

North Glos. Combination.

Mr. F. Wadley reported that he had been asked to convey the N.G.C. Committee's thanks for the arrangements made on the occasion of the recent game with the United XV.

Finance.

The Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee Meetings held on 17th and 31st January were read, and on the proposition of the President, seconded by Mr. Voyce these were adopted and signed.

The recommendations made by the Sub-Committee were discussed at considerable length, the President, the Chairman, Mr. Voyce, Messrs. Millington and Loveridge as well as the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Sec. stressing the urgent need for economy. The Hon. Sec. in his remarks made reference to the somewhat false views held by a number of people with regard to the Assets appearing in the Balance Sheet in recent years. Observing that non-liquid assets amounted to much more than half of the amount shewn as assets the Hon. Sec. said that after

allowing for the estimated £2,500 required for the Social Club it could be seen that little would remain in a year or two unless it was possible to avoid running at a loss.

The Chairman urged the need for economy wherever possible and said that co-operation of the players was invited with this end in view.

Meeting closed 9:50 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

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Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 21st February, 1956.

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

Apologies L. H. Middleditch.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

It was reported that Mr. Middleditch was still confined to his house and the Gen. Sec. was asked to send a letter expressing the Committee's hopes of a speedy recovery.

Cardiff.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had received a reply from Cardiff Hon. Sec. who stated that his Committee fully appreciated the disappointment occasioned by the cancellation of the game on the 4th inst., and would be discussing the possibility of re-arrangement at their meeting on 21st inst. The letter further stated that Thursday, April 19th, would appear to be the only possible date.

Social Club.

The Hon. Sec. reported that he had been notified by Messrs. Johnson's that the chairs had arrived. He had asked for these to be held at the shop until the tiles had been laid.

Regarding the question raised at the last meeting as to alteration of Rules the Gen. Sec. said he had spoken to the Chief Clerk at the Licensing Authority office and had been informed that any Rule except that governing opening hours of the bar could be altered as desired by the Social Club.

Royal Navy.

No reply received yet.

Cambridge University.

No reply received yet.

Schools.

Reported that a statement had now been received covering the gate receipts of the match played on Dec. 29th. Reference was made to the small amount received from the sale of tickets. Mr. Balchin drew attention to the fact that the tickets were not numbered and the Gen. Sec. was asked to discuss this matter with the Secretary of the Schools' Union.

British Red Cross.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had received a letter from the County Secretary of the Society intimating that it had now been decided not to hold the Rally this year.

New Rating Assessment.

The Gen. Sec. said he had seen the Local Authority who had confirmed that Section 8 of the Rating & Valuation Act, to which attention had been directed by the R.F.U., was of interest only to clubs which made no charge for admission and no benefit could possibly accrue to the Gloucester Club.

Gloucester Referee's Society (Bristol).

Invitation to Annual Dinner on Friday March 9th. As no member of the Committee was able to accept the Gen. Sec. was directed to reply tactfully when thanking the Society for the invitation.

Bath.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had already replied to a letter from the Bath Club asking for our Committee's consideration to play an evening game in lieu of the match cancelled on February 11th. The dates suggested were April 12th or 26th. The Bath Sec. had been informed that we have a match with Cheltenham on April 12th, and that we returned from our tour on April 25th, which would make April 26th difficult. It was decided to defer further consideration until Cardiff game had been fixed.

Glos. R.F.U.

In reply to letter from Hon. Sec. County R.F.U. asking for permission to use Kingsholm for the purpose of a County Trial game in week ending Sept. 29th next, it was agreed to offer Wednesday, Sept. 26th.

St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

In reply to request from Div. Supt. for permission to make annual collection it was agreed to allot Harlequins match on April 7th. In intimating this the Gen. Sec. was asked to refer to the derogatory paragraph in the Gloucester A.F.C. programme and to ask for the Div. Supt.'s remarks on the matter.

Proposed Rumanian Tour.

The Hon. Sec. reported an action taken as the result of a letter from Mr. Richard Smale regarding a proposed tour by a Rumanian Rugby Federation team in September next. The suggested dates were 1st, 5th, 8th, 15th, and 19th Sept., of which Llanelly, Leicester and Bristol had accepted 1st, 8th, and 19th respectively. Estimated cost £600 per match. The Hon. Sec. reported he had immediately telegraphed Mr. Smale provisionally accepting Saturday, 15th Sept. This had been followed up by the Gen. Sec. by a further telegram and a letter in confirmation.

Mr. Voyce said that the question of the proposed tour had been discussed at the recent meeting of the R.F.U. when the credentials of Mr. Smale to act had appeared to be doubtful.

On the proposition of Mr. Millington seconded by Mr. Morris, the action taken by the Club's officers was confirmed.

It was further decided to follow up the matter and the Gen. Sec. was asked to contact the Leicester or Bristol Club with a view to ascertaining what action they were taking.

Referees.

Bradford - East Midlands Official

Birkenhead Park - North Midlands Official
Harlequins - Ivor David
Cheltenham - W. J. Parfitt
Devon Services - Warwick Official

Touch Judges.

Guys Hospital - Mr. T. Day
Northampton - Mr. G. Hudson
Bristol Aero - Mr. I. Jones
Hereford - Mr. W. Burrows

Tour.

Arrangements for the tour were discussed. It was decided to travel by Motor Coach, the party to travel on Saturday morning and lunch at Taunton. Proposed Headquarters, Continental Hotel, Plymouth, and the Gen. Sec. was directed to endeavour to effect necessary arrangements.

Social Club.

Disappointment was expressed at the apparent lack of initiative on the part of the contractors with regard to the construction of the bar counter shelving and it was decided to call in the Cheltenham Shop Fitting Co., with a view to obtaining their expert advice and an estimate. It was proposed by Mr. Voyce, seconded by Mr. Loveridge that the Groundsman be approached by the Gen. Sec. to see if he would be willing to take charge of the bar.

County Representative to Rugby F.U.

On the proposition of Mr. Millington, seconded by Mr. Loveridge, it was agreed to nominate Mr. Voyce as the County's representative to the Rugby Football Union Committee.

Swansea Game.

Reference was made to the covering of the ground for the Swansea game. This had been done on Friday afternoon mainly due to the efforts of the Captain and Messrs. I. Jones and G. Hudson to whom the thanks of the Committee were expressed. Referring to the emergency which had arisen the Hon. Sec. remarked on the poor attendance of Committee men and stressed the necessity for a greater interest on such occasions.

Meeting closed 9:50 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

6 / 3 / 56

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 6th March, 1956.

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

The President was voted to the Chair.

Apologies Rev. H. M. Hughes, A. T. Voyce, L. H. Middleditch.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters arising:-

Cardiff.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had now received a reply from the Cardiff Hon. Sec. intimating that, subject to confirmation of his full Committee which would be meeting on 6th inst., his Club would come to play at Gloucester on Thursday, April 19th.

Royal Navy.
Still no reply.

Schools.

The Hon. Sec. reported that on request of Schools officials he had in anticipation of the Committee's approval, given permission for the use of Kingsholm for the Final Trial on Saturday, March 17th, preceding the game with Cardiff Athletic. Action approved.

Bath.

It was decided to further defer application for another game at Bath in lieu of the cancelled game on February 11th until Cardiff confirmation of April 19th received.

St. John's Ambulance.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had written the Div. Supt. as directed and had received a reply in which the Supt. denied that he or any other official of the Brigade was in any way responsible for the reference to collections at Kingsholm which appeared in the programmes of the Gloucester A.F.C.

Rumanian Tour.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had been in touch with the Leicester Club Sec. who appeared to be in the same position as ourselves with regard to the proposal. He had also again written Mr. Smale, the Rumanian Rugby Federation representative informing him that our provisional acceptance of the date, Sept. 15th was of course subject to sanction of the tour by the R.F.U. A further letter had been sent to the Secretary R.F.U. to try to ascertain whether there was any likelihood of the tour materialising.

In the discussion which followed it was pointed out that the application for permission to play the game should be forwarded through the County Hon. Sec. and the Gen. Sec. was directed to do this.

Tour.

Arrangements for the Tour commencing on 21st April were discussed, and the Gen. Sec. reported that the Continental Hotel, Plymouth would be pleased to accommodate our party. It was agreed to make this Hotel the Headquarters, subject to charges being considered reasonable and the Gen. Sec. was requested to obtain details of these.

Social Club.

The Gen. Sec. stated he had been in touch with the Cheltenham Shop Fitting Co. who had promised to send a representative to see what was required in the way of construction of shelving etc., in the bar. The representative had however not yet turned up and in the conversation with the Company little hope was held out that the work could be carried out within 10 weeks at earliest. The Gen. Sec. said he was still in touch with the C. O. Bay Co., regarding shelving and was hopeful that something would materialise from this quarter.

The tiles had now arrived and the Contractor hoped these would be put down within the next few days.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had seconded the Groundsman regarding taking charge of the bar and that Mr. Pockett had expressed his willingness to do so subject to an increase in wages of £2 p.w.

At this point it was suggested and agreed that a Special Meeting to further discuss the Social Club be held on Tuesday next, 13th inst.

Players' Dance.

On matter being raised by the Player's Representative, it was agreed that arrangements for the Dance be made by the Players' Committee as last year. Reference was made as to necessity for numbering of tickets.

Touch Judges.

R.A.F.	-	Mr. W. Burrows
Cardiff University	-	Mr. F. Wadley
Cardiff	-	Mr. W. Burrows
Cardiff Athletic	-	Mr. S. H. Davies

Meeting closed 9:40 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

21 . 3 . 56

Minutes of Special Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday 13th March, 1956.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Messrs. R. Morris, T. H. Millington, F. Wadley, I. Jones, W. Burrows, A. G. Hudson, T. Day, R. N. Loveridge, S. H. Davies, A. Hudson, (as Hon. Sec.), H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treasurer), P. Ford, (Capt.), R. Sutton, (Player's Representative), T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

Social Club.

It was reported that the floor tiles had now been laid. The Gen. Sec. said that some second-hand shelving had been delivered and which he considered would be quite satisfactory. This view was endorsed by members who had seen the shelving. The contractors had stated that the counter was in process of construction. They had viewed the shelving and hoped to fix this during the next few days.

Barman.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had again discussed with the Groundsman the question of taking charge of the bar and he appeared to be confident that he could manage the extra duties. He had agreed the additional wages of £2 p.w. provisionally based on the assumption that the bar would be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays and on Saturdays until closing time.

It was proposed by Mr. Voyce and seconded by Mr. Balchin that the provisional arrangement with the Groundsman to take charge of the bar and to be paid an additional £2 per week, be confirmed, this to be a temporary measure.

As an amendment it was proposed by Mr. Loveridge seconded by Mr. Morris that the Groundsman be paid £1 for first XV match days and 10/- for training nights or 2nd XV match days.

After further discussion it was decided to leave the question of payment for the extra duties, subject to the maximum of £2 p.w. to the discretion of the Gen. Sec.

Fittings.

The Gen. Sec. said all necessary fittings could be obtained at short notice from a local dealer who had assured him that his prices were competitive.

Sub-Committee.

It was agreed that the following members form a Sub-Committee to deal with Social Club matters:-

Mr. Balchin, Mr. Middleditch, Mr. Morris, Mr. Day, Mr. Jones, Mr. A. G. Hudson, The Captain, Players' Representative, and the Gen. Sec.

Sub-Committee to meet on Saturday next, if necessary.

Subscription.

It was agreed that a fee of 1/- be charged for membership for remainder of 1955/56 season and small tickets to be printed for this purpose.

Insurance.

The President raised the question of Insurance of Stock, etc., and it was agreed to leave this to the Sub-Committee to arrange with Mr. Voyce.

Meeting closed 9:25 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

21 . 3 . 56

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, March 20th, 1956.

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

Apologies Messrs. A. Hudson, R. Sutton, L. H. Middleditch, and I. Jones.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:-

Cardiff.

The Gen. Sec. reported that the Cardiff Sec. had now confirmed Thursday, April 19th for the game at Kingsholm.

Royal Navy.

The Gen. Sec. reported that a letter had been received from Royal Navy R.U. Sec. agreeing Thursday, Jan. 31st, 1957 at Gloucester. They asked for a guarantee of £40 with an increase to £50 if the gate receipts warrant this. This was agreed.

Rumanian Tour.

Nothing further to report.

Tour.

The charges for meals, etc., received from the Continental Hotel, Plymouth, were considered reasonable, and agreed.

Social Club.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Tuesday, 13th March were read, confirmed, and signed.

The Gen. Sec. read a letter from the contractors in which they complained of criticism over the delay in the completion of the bar counter and shelving. After discussion it was agreed that an appointment be made for the Chairman and Gen. Sec. to see Mr. Derek Jones with a view to expediting completion.

Referring to the election of the Sub-Committee at the meeting held on 13th inst., Mr. G. Hudson was of opinion that this matter was dealt with too hurriedly and asked for the composition of the Committee to be reconsidered. Some discussion took place on this and it was finally proposed by Dr. Alcock, seconded by Mr. Voyce that the minute relating to the appointment of the Sub-Committee be rescinded and a new Committee elected. This was agreed and the following members were elected:-

Messrs. Morris, Wadley, Burrows, Day, Jones, Davies, G. Hudson, Balchin, Ford, Sutton, and the Gen. Sec.

Touch Judges.

Newport	-	Mr. R. Morris
Newport United	-	Mr. I. Jones
Bradford	-	Mr. S. H. Davies
Birkenhead Park	-	Mr. G. Hudson
Harlequins	-	Mr. T. Day

Meeting closed 9:10 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

10 / 4 / 56

Minutes of Social Club Sub-Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 20th March, 1956.

The members of the Sub-Committee appointed at the General Committee meeting preceding met and on the proposition of Mr. T. Day seconded by Mr. W. Burrows, Mr. S. H. Davies was elected as Chairman.

The Gen. Sec. reported on the present position of the new Room and said he was hopeful that the bar counter and shelving would be fixed within the next few days.

It was decided that the main sources for the supply of drinks should be the Cheltenham Original and the Stroud Breweries. Other sources to be influenced by the demand.

The type and quantities of fittings, glassware etc., were agreed upon. These to be obtained from L.V.S. who guaranteed immediate delivery of everything required.

In view of the uncertainty about the opening of the Club it was decided to call another meeting when the result of the interview with the contractor was known.

[Signed] A. Alcock

10 / 4 / 56

Minutes of Social Club Sub-Committee held on Tuesday 27th March, 1956.

Chairman: Mr. S. H. Davies, Messrs. R. Morris, T. Day, F. Wadley, P. Ford, R. Sutton, and the Hon. Sec.

In view of the more satisfactory report following the interview of the Chairman (Rev. Hughes) and the Gen. Sec. with the contractors it was thought that it would be possible to open the Club on the evening of the 29th inst., and that the occasion would be marked by an informal gathering of Officials and Players.

It was agreed that the Barman be paid £2 for this week in view of the work to be done in preparation.

Prices of drinks were fixed:-

Beer (draught)	1s. 2d. per pint.
Beer (bottled)	1s. 6d. per bottle

Spirits

Whiskey & Gin	2s. 0d.
Sherry & Port	1s. 9d.

Minerals Usual Prices

It was agreed to recommend that the quantity of free beer to be supplied to players including visitors should be 5 gallons.

[Signed] A. Alcock

10 / 4 / 56

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 10th April, 1956.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Messrs. R. N. Loveridge, S. H. Davies, T. Day, R. Morris, F. Wadley, A. G. Hudson, I. Jones, P. Ford, (Capt.), R. Sutton, (Players' Representative), H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treasurer), A. Hudson, (Hon. Sec.), T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

Apologies Rev. H. M. Hughes, (Chairman), T. Millington, W. Burrows, L. H. Middleditch.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Rumanian Tour.

A cable from the Rumanian Rugby Federation confirming the date, Sept. 15th, for a game at Kingsholm was read by the Gen. Sec., who reported that application to play the game had been made in accordance with rule to the County R. F. Union Sec.

In the cable received the Rumanian authorities stated that arrangements for the Tour would be made by Mr. Prentice (Sec. of Rugby Union) and it was agreed that a copy of the cable be sent to the latter. It was also agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to the Moseley Club for their ready co-operation in releasing the date.

Tour.

Mr. Roy Sutton, Players Representative, reported that he had been approached by a number of the players who wished to spend the Tuesday night at Teignmouth and travel home on Wednesday morning. This met with no support, however, and on the proposition of Mr. Balchin it was agreed that the return journey be continued on Tuesday night. It was agreed that in addition to the Hon. Sec., Hon. Treasurer, and the Gen. Sec., the following members of the Committee should make the trip:-

Mr. R. Morris, Mr. T. Day, Mr. I. Jones, and Mr. G. Hudson.

Schools.

A letter from Mr. I. P. Barrow, in reply to the Gen. Secretary's letter regarding the charge for the use of Kingsholm on Thursday, 29th Dec. was put by for further consideration at the end of the season. It was decided that in accordance with Club usual practice permission could not be given for the sale of the Boys International Match tickets on the ground at the Cheltenham match.

"Don Summers".

It was reported by the Gen. Sec. that the balance of the account was still unpaid. A reminder had recently been sent and a reply had been received to the effect that the matter would receive attention of Mr. Summers' return from the Continent.

Social Club.

It was agreed that further chairs were required and it [was] decided to order the same number as originally acquired from Messrs. Johnson. The President made reference to gifts of 3 tables

from Mr. Ted Warner and 2 tables from Mr. H. G. Halls and suggested that letters be sent to these gentlemen thanking them for their generosity.

A tender of £35 18s. 10d. for curtains with hard-board pelmets was accepted. It was expected that these would be fixed in time for Cheltenham match.

Rugger Film.

Mr. Voyce suggested that the Players' might be interested in a Rugger Film Show and the Gen. Sec. was directed to try to arrange for this through the County Hon. Sec.

Dublin Wanderers.

A letter to the Hon. Sec. from the Wanderers' R.F.C. Dublin was read. In this the Irish Club expressed the hope that the Gloucester Club would make an effort to visit Dublin to afford them the opportunity to return the hospitality extended to them on their visit to Kingsholm in Sept. last. It was agreed that the Gen. Sec. should endeavour to make arrangements for a game at Dublin in 1957/58 season.

Touch Judges.

Cheltenham	-	Mr. R. Sutton
Bristol	-	Mr. R. Morris
Bristol United	-	Mr. I. Jones
Cardiff	-	Rev. H. M. Hughes

F. Long.

It was agreed to award a club tie to this player.

Meeting closed at 9:50 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

8 . 5 . 56

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 8th May, 1956 (7:45 p.m.).

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

Apology L. H. Middleditch.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters arising:-

Rumanian Tour.

It was reported that nothing had transpired since the letter to the Secretary, Rugby Football Union. The Gen. Sec. was directed to write the Sec. R.F.U. again to ascertain present position and to contact Bristol or Leicester with the same object in view.

Devon & Cornwall Tour.

The Hon. Sec. gave a report on the Tour which, as regards hotel and travel arrangements, had been most enjoyable and attended by lovely weather. After a promising start at Exeter our displays in the other two games had been most disappointing. He paid tribute however to the heroic efforts made by the Captain, Mr. P. Ford, whose example on the field had been poorly supported by the team as a whole.

Don Summers.

The Gen. Sec. reported that an acknowledgement from Mrs. Summers had been received to his reminder in which she stated her husband was away on a preaching tour in the U.S.A. It was decided that a further letter should be sent requesting immediate payment of the balance of £40 owing to avoid making the default public.

Rugger Films.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had received a letter from the County R. U. Secretary intimating that films were available. It was decided that Tuesday, August 14th would be the most suitable date for the show, and All Blacks, British Lions, and County match films to be obtained.

Dublin Wanderers.

The General Sec. said he had written the Irish club with a view to ascertaining if Sept 7th 1957 was acceptable for a game at Dublin. He had asked also for suggestions for another game on Monday Sept 9th.

Bath.

A letter was read from the Bath Secretary asking if it would be possible for us to go to Bath for an evening game early next season, on either 13th or 20th Sept.

In view of the Rumanian game on 15th Sept., it was decided it would not be possible to accede to the request.

Cambridge University.

The Gen. Sec. read a letter from the University Fixture Sec. in which he said that his Committee at their last meeting had quite appreciated and accepted without hesitation the points mentioned in our letter of 30th January. In this letter to the University Fixture Sec., extenuating reasons had been given for our poor display against the Varsity XV on Nov. 16th. The Cambridge Fixture Secretary also wished to confirm the dates arranged for 1957 and 1958.

Stroud Annual Dinner.

It was agreed for Mr. S. H. Davies to accept invitation on behalf of the Club.

Glos. & District Referees Annual Dinner.

It was understood that Dr. Alcock and Mr. A. Hudson had accepted invitations.

Schools.

A letter from Mr. Stanley Langston, President of English Schools R.F.U. was read. In this, Mr. Langston made a request for the return of the £10 retained by the Gloucester Club on the occasion of the Final Trial of the English Schools R.F.U. (15 Group) on March 17th.

After a full discussion it was decided that as the United XV game followed the Boys game on March 17th, the £10 in question must be deemed to be the Club's share of the gate and that the Schools' officials be informed accordingly. The Gen. Sec. was also directed to point out that in view of increasing expenditures a fixed charge would be made for Schools games in future.

It was further decided to retain £60, based on 10% of an estimated gross gate of not less than £600, taken at the Boy's International on April 21st., and to remit the balance held in the Club's account to Mr. H. E. Dawes, the local Schools' Treasurer.

Finance.

The Hon. Treasurer proposed that the Finance Sub-Committee meet on Tuesday next, 15th inst. Agreed.

Social Club.

It was decided to open the Club Room and Bar on Saturday evening, 12th inst.

Club Flag.

The Gen. Sec. reported that the Club Flag was missing. This had apparently been taken from his office on Saturday evening, April 28th. It was suspected that members of the Devonport Services team had taken the flag and the Gen. Sec. was directed to make enquiry of the Services Secretary with a view to securing return of the flag.

Players' Dance.

It was reported that the Dance held on Monday April 30th had proved very successful.

Tewkesbury Monks R.F.C.

On the suggestion of Mr. Voyce it was decided that the Club's representative should support this Club's application for membership of County R.U.

Visitor's Dressing Room.

To be re-decorated in maroon and cream colours during close season.

Meeting closed 10:00 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

29 . 5 . 56

Finance Sub-Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 15th May, 1956.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes (Chairman), Dr. Alcock, R. N. Loveridge, T. H. Millington, A. Hudson, (Hon. Sec.), H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treasurer), T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

The Hon. Treasurer furnished details of Receipts and Expenditure under various headings and expressed the view that, excluding the outlay on the new Social Club Room, the provisional figures showed that receipts slightly exceeded expenditure.

A number of bills had however to come in and it was agreed to hold another meeting prior to the General Committee Meeting on Tuesday, 29th inst., when it was expected that final figures of the Bank Accounts would be available.

Grants were proposed as follows:-

Gloucester Cripples	£5 5s. 0d.
St. John's Ambulance	£5 5s. 0d.
Hospital Welfare Fund	£5 5s. 0d.
Deaf & Dumb Assn.	£5 5s. 0d.
Glos. Playing Fields Assn.	£2 2s. 0d.
Friends of Gloucester Cathedral	£2 2s. 0d.

Baggage Men - £13 0s. 0d. and £10 0s. 0d. as before.

It was decided to recommend that in view of the financial position of the Club grants to local clubs be not made for 1955/56.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 29th May, 1956.

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

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Rumanian Tour.

The Gen. Sec. reported a letter had been received from Sec. Rugby F.U. in which it was intimated that permission was now granted to invite the Rumanian XV to play at Gloucester, all arrangements, financial and travel, to be made direct with Federatia Roumania de Rugbi, Bucaresti. A letter had already been sent to the Rumanian Secretary asking for confirmation of the date of the proposed match, viz. Saturday, 15th Sept., and for the amount of the guarantee provisionally agreed at £600, and for details as to name of team, colours, etc.

The Gen. Sec. was directed to reply to letter from Hon. Sec. Leicester Club suggesting offering a lower guarantee in view of lesser number of matches to be played.

It was decided that season ticket holders also pay for admission to this match.

Don Summers.

A reply to a further request for payment had been received from Mrs. Summers in which she said matter would receive attention on her husband's return from U.S.A. on May 23rd.

Dublin Wanderers.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had received a reply from the Irish Club Sec. who stated his Club were most anxious for a game to be arranged, and that no difficulty would be met regarding a game with another club. It was agreed that correspondence should be continued with a view to arranging suitable dates.

Bath, and Cambridge University.

Replies as directed had been sent to these clubs.

Schools.

In reply to request from the Hon. Sec. of local Schools R.F.U. for a meeting with his Committee it was decided to suggest Friday 8th June, for a meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Annual General Meeting.

Friday 15th June; 7:30 p.m.

Finance.

The Hon. Treasurer being inadvertently absent it was decided to defer the Sub-Committee meeting until Tuesday, 5th inst., at 7:00 p.m. with a view to presenting final accounts to the full meeting following.

Social Club.

The Gen. Sec. reported that Club had been opened on Saturday, 12th inst. But there had been a disappointing attendance, one player only being present.

Report was given on the robbery which occurred on Friday, 18th May, when cigarettes etc, to the estimated value of £15 had been stolen. The burglars had been apprehended by the Police and would be brought before Magistrates on Friday, 1st June. The Gen. Sec. was asked to be present at the hearing of the case.

Club Flag.

It was reported that the flag had now been found at Devonport and would be returned. The Hon. Sec. of the Services Club had suitably apologised.

Visitors' Dressing Room.

It was decided that estimates for the work to be done should be obtained; one of the Contractors to be H. G. Smith.

County R.F.U.

On proposition of Mr. R. N. Loveridge seconded by Mr. L. H. Middleditch, Messrs. A. Hudson and S. H. Davies were unanimously nominated as Club's Representatives for 1956/57.

Alteration of Club Rules.

Attention was directed by the Hon. Sec. to the alteration to Rule 13 as agreed at the last A.G.M.

It was agreed to add a new Rule to comply with Customs & Excise Regulations regarding the issue of a certificate of exemption from Entertainment Tax.

Meeting closed 9:40 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

5 - 6 - 56

Minutes of Finance Sub-Committee Meeting held at Kingsholm, Tuesday, 5th June 1956.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, (Vice-President), A. Hudson, (Vice-President; Hon. Sec.), R. N. Loveridge, S. H. Davies, T. H. Millington, H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treasurer), T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

The Hon. Treasurer presented his final figures which after provisions made for expenditure of £2,020 on the new Social Club Room showed an excess of expenditure over income of £1,897 for the year. All accounts to date had been paid. With the elimination of capital expenditure the accounts showed an actual profit of £123 on the years' working.

A full discussion took place and some minor amendments were agreed subject to which the figures were approved for submission to the General Committee.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 5th June, 1956.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Messrs. T. H. Millington, W. Burrows, L. H. Middleditch, F. Wadley, R. Morris, R. N. Loveridge, T. Day, A. G. Hudson, S. H. Davies, P. Ford, (Capt.), R. Sutton, (Players' Representative), 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:-

Rumanian Match.

There was nothing further to report.

Don Summers.

A further cheque for £20 received with promise to pay balance as early as possible.

Dublin Wanderers.

The Gen. Sec. reported a further letter had now been received in which it was intimated that the Irish Club could not accept Sept. 7th, 1957, and asking for any possible other date. The Gen. Sec. was asked to re-consider the position with a view to finding a suitable date.

Schools.

Meeting of Sub-Committee (Finance) with the Schools Executive Committee (under 15 Group) arranged for Friday 8th inst. was confirmed.

A.G.M.

In view of the short time remaining until June 25th the date originally fixed it was agreed to defer the Annual General Meeting at Wheatstone Hall until Thursday July 5th.

Social Club.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had attended the Court at the hearing of the case against the two men who had broken into the Social Club Room. The men had been remanded for trial at the next Quarter Sessions on 15th June.

Visitors' Dressing Room.

The Gen. Sec. reported that he had arranged for Mitchell & Co. to make temporary alterations to the electrical fittings in order that the present ceiling could be taken down by the groundsmen. This would afford the contractors a better chance to see what was required to be done. It was agreed that estimates should be obtained to include the home team dressing room.

Sir Thomas Rich's School; Gordon League.

In view of heavy programme of matches already arranged and the necessity to avoid excessive wear owing to the re-turfing and re-seeding it was decided not to grant the use of

the ground for matches in September next for which applications had been made. It was however agreed to re-consider the applications should they desire to obtain the use of the ground at the end of the season.

Sporting Quiz.

It was agreed to give publicity to the event which was being held by the National Milk Publicity Council at Agricultural House, Tewkesbury Road, on Thursday, 21st June.

Finance.

The Hon. Treasurer presented his report which was adopted for submission to the Club's Auditors.

It was decided after discussion not to recommend to the Annual General Meeting any increase in the price of season tickets, Mr. Voyce's proposal that the 30/- tickets be increased to £2 2s. 0d. not being approved

Nomination of Officers.

President	Dr. A. Alcock	Proposed by Mr. A. Hudson Seconded by Mr. A. T. Voyce
Vice Presidents	Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson	Proposed by Mr. T. H. Millington Seconded by Mr. L. H. Middleditch
Hon. Sec.	Mr. A. Hudson	Proposed by Rev. H. M. Hughes Seconded by Dr. Alcock
Hon Treasurer	Mr. H. J. Balchin	Proposed by Rev. H. M. Hughes Seconded by Mr. A. T. Voyce

(In making this proposal the Chairman thought that the work of this office should now be done wholly by the Gen. Sec.; the Hon. Treasurer exercising any necessary supervision. This was agreed).

Committee En bloc as last year.

The Chairman read extracts from the draft annual report to be presented at AG.M.

England Trial.

Reference was made to Rugby Union Trial match which according to R. U. Handbook was to be played in Gloucestershire on Dec. 1st 1956. Apparently no arrangements had yet been made as to venue, etc. The view was expressed that in event of offer to play the game at Kingsholm we would state a preference for the South African match in following season.

Maintenance of Ground.

The President urged the necessity for any minor repairs etc. in preparation for the match with Rumanian XV when a big crowd could be expected. He mentioned that Mr. Harry Smith had promised a plaque with Club badge etc, to be fixed in Social Club Room.

Meeting closed 9:40 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

15 . 6 . 56

Meeting with Schools (under 15 Group) Committee at Kingsholm, Friday, 8th June, 1956.

Gloucester RFC: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Dr. Alcock, Messrs. A. Hudson, T. H. Millington, R. N. Loveridge, S. H. Davies, T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

Schools: Messrs. W. C. Blackford, H. E. Dawes, J. Hickey, J. Lloyd, H. A. Edwards, J. Strongroom, (Hon. Sec.).

A most cordial atmosphere prevailed.

Mr. Blackford, at Chairman's suggestion, opened the discussion and in putting the case for the Schools stated that the charge made for use of Kingsholm meant the difference between a profit and loss on any game played. He expressed the Schools' appreciation of the great help given by Gloucester Club in past seasons.

Mr. S. Dawes gave details of Schools' finance and referred to accounts which showed a loss whenever a charge was made.

Finally decided to recommend that charge for future be 10% of gate to include gateman's expenses.

Players' Meeting held at Social Club Room, Kingsholm, Friday, 15th June, 1956.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, T. H. Millington, S. H. Davies, R. N. Loveridge, R. Morris, W. Burrows, F. Wadley, T. Day, G. Hudson, L. H. Middleditch, I. Jones., T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.), and 33 Players.

The Chairman in opening the meeting expressed his appreciation of the number of players present. He reminded the players of the importance of the election of the Captains of the 1st and United XV's and urged the necessity to give every support to the men elected.

Captain 1st XV P. Ford proposed by G. Hastings, seconded by C. Thomas was unanimously elected.

United XV J. Lowe proposed by C. Rich, seconded by B. Green
 R. Sutton proposed by B. Sibery, seconded by P. Ford

Ballot resulted in election of R. Sutton by 12 votes to 9.

Players' Rep. G. Hastings There were 2 nominations; G. Hastings being elected by ballot over D. Ibbotson.

Mr. Peter Ford thanked the Players for his re-election and expressed the hope that the club would have a good season provided players gave him their full support.

Suggestions.

Training to commence Thursday August 9th. Captain to train with players and, if necessary, Selection Committee to meet later or on another evening of week.

Rugby Films.

August 14th.

R. Sutton urged that more importance be attached to job of Committee-man i/c United XV.

G. Hastings thought that home players might mix more with those of visiting teams after games.

The Chairman asked players for suggestions as to amount of fee for membership of Social Club and amounts mentioned varied from 5/- to 10/-.

Suggested United XV game with Cinderford on Sept. 15th be re-arranged for an evening game so that players could see Rumanian game.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held after the Players' Meeting, Friday 15th June, 1956.

Present: Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, T. H. Millington, S. H. Davies, R. N. Loveridge, R. Morris, T. W. Burrows, F. Wadley, T. Day, A. G. Hudson, L. H. Middleditch, I. Jones, T. Burns, (Gen. Sec.).

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Rumanian Match.

Nothing further to report.

Don Summers.

Nothing further to report.

Dublin Wanderers.

Nothing further to report.

Schools.

The Chairman gave a report on the meeting with representatives of the Schools' Committee on the 5th inst. and it was agreed to recommend to the new Committee that

[three lines blank]

A.G.M.

The Gen. Sec. reported arrangements made for hire of Wheatstone Hall where seating capacity was approx. 150.

Social Club.

Nothing further to report.

Visitors' Dressing Room.

The Gen. Sec. reported that the electrical contractors had been asked to expedite the work necessary in order that estimates could be obtained.

Letting of Ground.

The Gen. Sec. reported he had received a letter from the Gordon League Sec. who appreciated the Club's position in view of the necessity to have regard to the condition of the turf.

Nomination of Officers - A.G.M.

On proposition of Mr. Middleditch, seconded by Mr. Morris it was unanimously agreed to nominate Mr. T. H. Millington as a Vice-President at the Annual General Meeting. The President and Mr. H. J. Balchin spoke in support, both paying tribute to service rendered to the Club by Mr. Millington as a player and official.

Mr. Millington proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Hughes for the exemplary manner in which he had exercised the office of Chairman during the past season. This was carried with acclamation. In acknowledging, the Rev. Hughes wished all Committee members the best of luck in the ballot at the A.G.M.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

17 . 7 . 56

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

ANNUAL MEETING

WHEATSTONE HALL, ST. BRUNSWICK ROAD

On Thursday, July 5th, 1956 :: At 7-30 p.m.

Committee's Report for Season 1955-56.

The Committee have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the Season 1955/56.

It is regretted that for the second year in succession the Committee have to record a somewhat unsuccessful match record, brightened however by one or two outstanding performances such as the wins over Newport and Dublin Wanderers at Kingsholm, and several creditable displays in Wales. It is also pleasing to recall the excellent form and results during the Christmas Holidays.

It is interesting to note that on the whole our gates have not been unduly affected by the adverse result of games and this tends to prove that our supporters have the true spirit of rugby at heart and do not follow a winning team only but appreciate good rugby played by either team.

There is still no doubt that the club is feeling the loss of the many outstanding players of the record-breaking season of 1953/54 but the Committee is confident that the experience gained by the young players introduced during the last two seasons will bear fruit in the near future.

The match record reads: played 43, won 16, drawn 4, lost 23; points for 376, against 390.

It is not easy to captain a side in adversity and we are grateful to Peter Ford for the enthusiasm and hard work which he has put in as skipper during the season. We congratulate our Captain upon the consistently high standard of his play and his enthusiastic example and leadership both on and off the field.

The success of a team depends largely upon the quality of its reserves. The United XV under the captaincy of John Lowe never seemed to settle down into a match winning side, and when calls were made by the 1st XV, well as they performed, the substitutes were rarely the best available in local football. We thank John Lowe for his leadership in most difficult circumstances.

The Committee views with some concern the somewhat casual interest taken by local clubs in the fortunes of the premier side of the City which has been evident for several seasons past. While loyalty to one's club is to be commended it should be remembered that the Gloucester Club is and always has been representative of local clubs and surely has the moral

right to the full support of those clubs. Almost every player has the natural ambition to gain honours in higher class company and we make a special appeal to the North Gloucester Rugby Combination Clubs to encourage their players to present themselves for the trials at Kingsholm next season so that the senior club may have the quality of reserves necessary in first class football today.

Due to the abnormally dry summer of last year followed by an exceptionally dry autumn the playing pitch has worn rather more than usual but the work of re-turfing and re-seeding is well in hand and given reasonable weather it is hoped that the playing pitch will be in good condition by the beginning of next season.

The Committee were pleased to be able to open the Social Club for an experimental period from Easter to the end of the season. The new building and its appointments has given rise to much favourable comment and in the light of the experience gained will no doubt prove of great benefit to players and members alike in future. All players and season-ticket holders will be eligible for membership during the coming season.

The Committee again desires to record its appreciation of the services rendered by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Hudson, The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. J. Balchin, and the Fixture Secretary, Mr. T. Burns, and also to Dr. Arnold Alcock, the President for his unfailing interest in all matters relating to Rugby Football and in the Gloucester Club in particular.

Owing to the increased work in the administration of the club together with the formation of the Social Club it was found necessary to appoint a paid General Secretary. Mr. T. Burns was able to accept the post for which the Committee was deeply grateful and thanks are due to him for the efficient manner in which he has carried out his duties.

The Committee wish to thank the Local Clubs, the Referees' Society and the Schools' Union for their continued support, the Press for its invaluable help in reporting the activities of the Club, the Officers of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade for their loyal attendance at all matches, and all who have supported the Gloucester Club at home and away during the past season.

The Statement of Accounts will record the serious increased cost of administering a club of our standing but the Committee after lengthy consideration have decided not to raise the cost of season tickets but to maintain them at the same prices which have stood since the War. We have done this in the confidence that members will continue their support during the coming season in the knowledge that a season ticket of the Gloucester Rugby Club is the cheapest investment in the world of sport in these days.

We look forward with confidence to the coming season and the Committee will do everything in its power to ensure that the grand traditions of the Gloucester Rugby Club will be maintained for the benefit of players and spectators alike.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB. Season 1955-56

REVENUE ACCOUNT

1954-1955	EXPENDITURE	1955-1956	1954-1955	INCOME	1955-1956
£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
250 0 0	Ground Company - Annual Rent	250 0 0	280 7 0	Subscriptions -	
54 18 0	Income Tax - Schedule 'A'	45 12 0	763 10 0	86 Members at £3	270 18 0
	Subscriptions to County and		173 5 0	" " 1 10 0	663 0 0
2 2 0	Rugby Football Unions	2 2 0	495 0 0	" " 1 1 0	161 14 0
484 13 10	Local Rates	467 6 11	211 10 0	" " 15 0	465 0 0
842 0 6	Expenses - Away Matches	926 16 5	5 17 6	374 " " 10 0	187 0 0
384 15 9	" Home Matches	421 18 0		44 " " 2 6	<u>5 10 0</u>
463 14 1	Printing, Advertising and Bill- posting	496 8 0		(Players)	1,753 2 0
	Insurance of Players	78 15 0	2,999 7 0	Gate Receipts -	
649 4 4	Refreshments, Canteen	680 3 4	82 16 0	First Team Matches	3,662 9 6
	Expenses and Teas			United " "	<u>56 4 0</u>
40 1 0	General Insurances	44 7 5	45 0 0	Grant from Teignmouth RFC	30 0 0
33 10 1	Referees' Expenses	41 10 2	-	" " Penzance RFC	50 0 0
51 18 2	Postages and Telephones	45 16 0	65 0 0	" " Redruth RFC	<u>-</u>
346 10 0	Wages to Groundsmen	420 18 0	32 5 6		80 0 0
19 18 4	Special Ground Expenses	33 8 1		Car Park Receipts	51 15 0
1,575 5 9	Repairs, Renewals and	219 12 11	79 2 0	Hire of Ground -	
	Improvements		-	County Union	-
21 2 11	Photographs	26 19 11	40 0 0	Schools	60 0 0
39 14 2	Police Charges	61 1 4		Mission, Etc.	<u>115 0 0</u>
522 18 0	Guarantees to Visiting Teams	490 0 0		Investment Income -	
24 15 2	Chemist's Account	37 17 0	122 10 0	Defence Bond Interest	81 5 0
132 11 6	Lighting, Heating and Fuel	184 6 1	148 10 0	Loan Interest	148 10 0
11 11 0	Audit Fee	11 11 0	59 11 4	Treasury Stock Interest	59 11 4
13 15 0	Sundry Expenses	40 13 9	19 5 9	Trustee and other Bank	6 14 7
25 0 0	Baggage Mens Expenses	50 0 0		Interest	
19 3 6	Income Tax on Interest and	212 10 0	43 18 6	Savings Bonds Interest	43 18 6
	Surplus (provided)		-	Premium on Conversion	<u>10 0 0</u>
26 1 2	Corporation Duty	25 15 3			349 19 5
74 10 6	Laundry Charges	77 19 0			
200 0 0	Memorial Fund Grant	-			
-	Secretary's Salary	250 0 0			
181 5 4	Equipment, Footballs, etc.	183 18 6			
125 0 0	Grant to Local Club	10 10 0			
10 12 0	Losses on Sale of Investments	18 19 9			
-	National Health Insurance	13 19 10			
30 15 0	Club Blazer, Badges and Ties	-			
	Donations -	£ s d			
5 5 0	Gloucester Cripples	5 5 0			
10 10 0	St. John's Ambulance	5 5 0			
10 10 0	Gloucester & District				
	Hospitals Welfare Fund	5 5 0			
5 5 0	Remembrance Day	5 5 0			
5 5 0	Gloucester Diocesan	5 5 0			
	Assoc. for the Deaf				
	& Dumb				
2 2 0	Gloucestershire Playing	2 2 0			
	Fields Assoc.				
5 5 0	Cancer Research Fund	-			
2 2 0	Cathedral Fund	<u>2 2 0</u>	30 9 0		
-	Balance, being Excess of		1,094 15 6	Balance being Excess of Expenditure	-
	Income over Expenditure	227 5 3		over Income	
<u>£6,761 11 1</u>		<u>£6,128 9 11</u>	<u>£6,761 11 1</u>		<u>£6,128 9 11</u>

BALANCE SHEET

1954-1955	SURPLUS AND LIABILITIES	1955-1956	ASSETS
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d. £ s. d.
	Income and Expenditure Account -		£
-	Balance as Last Account	18,085 15 4	Grand Stand and Stands Account -
18,085	Excess of Income over		Balance as at Last Account
	Expenditure for Season	<u>227 5 3</u>	Advanced on Loan as at Last Account
		18,313 0 7	Unsecured Loans -
	Sundry Creditors and Provisions:-		Trustee Memorial Ground
359	Accrued charges and Income Tax	234 0 7	Social Club
			300 0 0
			<u>2,020 12 3</u>
			2,320 12 3
			Investments (at cost) -
			Shares of £1 each in the Gloucester
			Football & Athletic Ground Co. Ltd.
		3,067	3,067 0 0
		1,000	-
		2,300	3% Defence Bonds
		2,002	2½% Defence Bonds
			1,800 0 0
			£2,382 14s. 5d. 2½% Treasury
			Stock
			2,002 16 6
		1,502	£1,464 6s. 2d. 3% Savings
			Bond 1965/75
			<u>1,501 15 0</u>
			8,371 11 6
			Cash at Bankers -
			Deposit Account
		21	20 10 6
		343	Cash on Deposit - Trustee
			Savings Bank
			96 0 2
		624	Current Account
			<u>451 18 2</u>
			569 8 10
£18,444		£18,547 1 2	£18,445
		£18,445	£18,547 1 2

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*
19th June 1956.

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

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB - FIXTURES 1956-1957

Hon. Secretary: A. HUDSON, The Chestnuts, Kingsholm, Gloucester. Tels. 22757, 22978 (bus.)

1956			1957				
Sept.	8	Lydney	H	Jan.	5	London Scottish	H
"	13	Stroud	H	"	10	Army	H
"	15	Bucharest (Rumania)	H	"	12	Leicester	H
"	20	Moseley	H	"	19	Wasps	A
"	22	Exeter	H	"	26	Cambridge University	H
"	27	Cheltenham	H	"	31	Royal Navy	H
"	29	Bristol	A	Feb.	2	Bristol	H
Oct.	6	Bedford	H	"	7	<i>S.W. Counties v South</i>	
"	13	Old Blues	H			<i>African Universities at</i>	
"	20	Newport	A			<i>Kingsholm</i>	
"	27	Coventry	A	"	9	Bath	A
		<i>Glos. v Cornwall, Kingsholm</i>		"	16	Swansea	A
Nov.	3	Leicester	A	"	23	Neath	H
"	10	Moseley	A	Mar.	2	Northampton	H
"	17	Aberavon	H	"	9	R.A.F.	H
"	24	Llanelly	A	"	16	Guys Hospital	H
Dec.	1	Oxford University	A	"	23	Cardiff	A
"	8	Bath	H	"	30	Newport	H
"	15	Coventry	H	April	6	Harlequins	A
"	22	Stroud	A	"	10	Cheltenham	A
"	26	O.M.T.'s	H	"	13	Cardiff	H
"	27	Universities A.U.	H	"	20	New Brighton	H
"	29	Neath	A	"	22	Sale	H
				"	23	Lydney	A
				"	27	Devonport Services	A
				"	29	Teignmouth	A
				"	30	Weston-super-Mare	A

General Secretary: T. BURNS, 27 Tuffley Avenue, Gloucester. Tel. 21290.

EXTRACT TAKEN FROM CITIZEN NEWSPAPER DATED TUESDAY JULY 6TH, 1956.

LOCAL CLUBS CRITICISED FOR POOR SUPPORT OF GLO'STER RFC

Reluctance to release their players

The unsatisfactory degree of support being given by many local club players to Gloucester Rugby Club at the present time, led to some plain speaking at the Gloucester club's annual meeting, held in the Wheatstone Hall last night.

An appeal was made by Gloucester's committee chairman, the Rev. Mervyn Hughes, for a "new approach" to the matter on the part of local rugby.

And allegations that "there must be something wrong with the comradeship in the Gloucester club," were made and refuted.

Confidence was expressed that the Red and Whites would do much better next season.

It was announced by the captain, Peter Ford, that Ieuan Sheen would be Gloucester's vice-captain for 1956-57.

Won't release them

Mr. Hughes told the meeting that last season it had been most difficult at times to get local clubs to release players at a late moment to help the United.

He pointed out that the honour of rugby in Gloucester ultimately depended on the performance of the Gloucester 1st XV.

"I do hope that local football will bring a new approach," he declared.

"It is a sad thing if the local rugby clubs' strength is to be to the disadvantage of Gloucester's First Fifteen."

A question was put from the body of the hall: "Why is it that local players refuse to turn out for the Gloucester Club?"

Mr. Hughes contended that it was lack of ambition.

It was then suggested by two questioners that there must be something wrong with the comradeship in the Gloucester club.

This allegation was refuted by England International George Hastings, Gloucester's players' representative, and a former captain of the club.

"If a player comes to Gloucester he obviously wants to improve his standard of rugby," he said.

Mr. R. C. Upham, a former Gloucester player, urged the appointment of a coach as an experiment for next season.

"I think it would make a vast difference to this club," he said.

Committee's view

The committee's report for season 1955-56 also made it clear that Gloucester are disappointed with the attitude of local clubs towards the Red and Whites.

Observed the report: "The committee views with some concern the somewhat casual interest taken by local clubs in the fortunes of the premier side - which has been evident for several seasons past.

"While loyalty to one's club is to be commended it should be remembered that the Gloucester club is, and always has been representative of local clubs and surely has the moral right to the full support of those clubs.

"Almost every player has the natural ambition to gain honours in higher class company and we make a special appeal to the North Gloucester Rugby Combination Club to encourage their players to present themselves for the trials at Kingsholm next season so that the senior club may have the quality of reserves necessary in first class football today."

Gates

The report pointed out that on the whole Gloucester's gates have not been unduly affected by the adverse result of games. "This tends to prove that our supporters have the true spirit of rugby at heart and do not follow a winning team only but appreciate good rugby played by either team," added the report.

"There is still no doubt that the club is feeling the loss of the many outstanding players of the record-breaking season of 1953-54 but the committee is confident that the experience gained by the young players introduced during the last two seasons will bear fruit in the near future.

Gloucester's playing record for the season is given as: Won 16, drawn 4, lost 23; points 376, against 390.

The revenue account for season 1955-56 showed an excess of income over expenditure amounting to £227. In the previous season there was an excess of expenditure over income amounting to £1,004 - but in that year £1,575 was spent on repairs, renewals and improvements, compared with only £219 last season.

Presenting the revenue account, the hon. treasurer, Mr. H . J. Balchin, drew attention to the amount of their credit balance on the year's working, and told the meeting:

"We are really, this year, absolutely depending on the interests on our investments to cover our expenditure."

Mr. Balchin pointed out that the increase in gate receipts, amounting to £633, had more than compensated for the loss on season tickets.

Replying to a question, the president (Dr. Arnold Alcock) said that Gloucester had always been looked upon as a wealthy club but their realisable assets were actually only £1,800.

Committee

The following were elected as the 1956/57 committee: A. G. Hudson, G. J. Dance, R. N. Loveridge, L. H . Middleditch, R. Hodge, The Rev. H. M. Hughes, W. Burrows, S. H. Davies, T. Day, I. Jones, R. Parry.

Expressing regret at the loss of the services of Mr. R. Morris from the committee, the president said Mr. Morris had given most excellent service to the club.

On the proposition of Mr. Tom Goddard, seconded by Mr. Norman Gillett, the officers were elected as follows:-

President: Dr. Arnold Alcock; Vice-Presidents: Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson and T. H . Millington; hon. secretary: Mr. A. Hudson; hon. treasurer: Mr. H . J. Balchin; fixtures and general secretary: Mr. T. Burns.

Thanking the members for re-electing him as president, Dr. Alcock said he wanted to thank the City Council and congratulate them on their wisdom in allowing the club still to occupy the Memorial Ground site. It was a very great thing for the future of the club.

Mr. Voyce said that the Rumanian players who would be coming to Kingsholm in September were a side who gave a great exhibition of rugby. The Gloucester players would have to start training a lot earlier this year to be ready for them.

The meeting agreed to amend one of the rules to enable a representative of the Gloucester and District Schools Rugby Union (15 Group) to be co-opted to attend committee meetings for liaison purposes.

Season tickets not going up

Despite the serious increased cost of administering a club of Gloucester's standing, the committee have decided not to raise the cost of season tickets but to maintain them at the prices which have stood since the war.

In their annual report the committee state that they have come to this decision in the confidence that members will continue their support during the coming season.

Fewer local derbys?

Should Gloucester RFC have more than one fixture a year with neighbouring clubs Cheltenham, Stroud and Lydney? Speaking from the body of the hall, a member contended that the standard of rugby in these games did not warrant the present two fixtures a year - especially as Gloucester had only one fixture a season with clubs like Swansea and Llanelli.

The president, Dr. Arnold Alcock said that the matter would be considered in committee - but also pointed out "You have to consider the County spirit."

END EXTRACT TAKEN FROM CITIZEN NEWSPAPER DATED TUESDAY JULY 6TH, 1956.