

Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Company

Minutes of Directors' Regular Meetings; 7th June 1899 to 14th June 1979

(Part VIII - 1941-1950)

1941

Directors' Meeting held at 19 St. John's Lane, Thursday October 23rd, 1941, at 11:30 a.m.

Present: Messrs. A. F. Fielding (Chairman).
H. H. Berry, Arthur Hudson, Dr. Alcock, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was received from Mr. F. W. Ayliffe.

The Minutes of the last Directors' Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Balance Sheet to August 31st 1941, as audited by Mr. R. N. Loveridge and signed by him, was read as follows;

Income, including Balance from 1940	£116	14s.	0d.
Payments and Expenses	<u>£ 36</u>	<u>17s.</u>	<u>4d.</u>
Leaving a Balance at Bank of	<u>£ 79</u>	<u>16s.</u>	<u>8d.</u>

The Balance Sheet and draft Report were duly adopted on the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Dr. Alcock.

Resolved that Mr. Fielding and Dr. Alcock should sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Board.

Resolved that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders should be held on Thursday November 6th, at 11:30 a.m.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

15 / 10 / 42.

1942

Directors' Meeting held at 19 St. John's Lane, Gloucester, on Thursday October 15th, 1942, at 11:30 a.m.

Present: Messrs. A. F. Fielding, Chairman.
H. H. Berry, Arthur Hudson, Dr. Alcock, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was received from Mr. F. W. Ayliffe who was away from Gloucester for the benefit of his health.

The Minutes of the last Directors' Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Balance Sheet to August 31st 1942, as audited by Mr. R. N. Loveridge and signed by him, was read as follows;

Income, including Balance from 1941	£ 86 11s. 8d.
Payments and Expenses	<u>£ 37 0s. 5d.</u>
Leaving a Disposable Balance of	<u>£ 49 11s. 3d.</u>

The Balance Sheet and a draft Report were duly adopted on the proposition of the Chairman.

Resolved that Dr. Alcock and Mr. Arthur Hudson sign the Balance Sheet and Report on behalf of the Board.

Resolved that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders should be held on Thursday October 29th, at 11:30 a.m.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

21 / 10 / 43.

[There follows a transcript of a manuscript note attached to the above page; apparently recording a list of Shareholders. Auth. unknown; date possibly c.1943.]

Football Club			3067
Alcock, Arnold	146 London Road.	Dr.	1
Berry, Herbert Henry	38 Heathville Road	None	23
Fielding, Arthur Fitton	104 Stroud Road	None	2
Hudson, Arthur	The Chestnuts, Longford	Sports Outfitter	20
Newth, Wm. John	(dec'd) (In Chancery)		10
Voyce, Anthony Thomas	25 Eastcourt Road	Insurance Co. Manager	27
Ayliffe, Francis Wm.	Barnwood Road	Now dead	-
			<hr/>
			3150
			<hr/>

1943

Directors' Meeting held at 19 St. John's Lane, Gloucester, on Thursday October 21st, 1943, at 11:30 a.m.

Present: Messrs. Arthur Fielding, Chairman.
Arthur Hudson, H. H. Berry, Dr. Alcock, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last Directors' Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Balance Sheet to August 31st 1943 as audited by Mr. Loveridge and signed by him, was read as follows;

Income, including Balance from 1942	£53 14s. 3d.
Payments and Expenses	<u>£12 8s. 9d.</u>
Leaving a disposable Balance of	<u>£41 5s. 6d.</u>

The Balance Sheet and draft Report were duly adopted on the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Berry; also that Dr. Alcock and Mr. Berry sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Board.

Resolved that the Annual Meeting of Shareholders should be held at the Secretary's Office on Thursday, November 18th, at 11:30 a.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

Dep. Chairman

3 / 2 / 44.

1944

Directors' Meeting held at 19 St. John's Lane, Gloucester, on Thursday February 3rd, 1944, at 11:30 a.m.

Present: Dr. Arnold Alcock, Arthur Hudson, H. H. Berry, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Mr. Fielding and Mr. Voyce.

The Minutes of the last Directors' Meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Fielding resigns Chairmanship; and in his letter expressed sincere thanks for the help he had always received from all members of the Board, and the Secretary, during his recent period of indifferent health.

Dr. Arnold Alcock, on the proposition of Mr. Hudson seconded by Mr. Berry was elected Chairman of the Company.

The Secretary, Mr. Starr, having given notice of his resignation at the Annual General Meeting (on Thursday, November 18th, 1943) on the proposition of Dr. Alcock seconded by Mr. Berry, Mr. R. N. Loveridge, 26 Clarence Street, was elected Secretary, and Mr. H. G. Kingscott appointed Auditor.

Football Rent Account.

Mr. Hudson paid a cheque of £120, as £30 a year for the four years of War, this being done by orders of the Gloucester Rugby Football Club Committee.

£20 Honorarium to the ex-Secretary.

Dr. Alcock proposed and Mr. Berry seconded a cheque for £20 should be given to Mr. Starr on his retirement. Carried, and Mr. Starr expressed his thanks and appreciation.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

14 / 12 / 44

[Attached to this page is a copy of the letter addressed to Sidney S. Starr from Arthur Fielding dated 26th January 1944, in which Mr. Fielding tenders his resignation as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Co., Ltd.; transcription below.]

Telephone 2988.

Northside,
Stroud Road,
Gloucester.

26 / 1 / 44

My Dear Starr,

When you next call a Directors' Meeting of the Football Ground Co. will you please ask the Directors to accept my resignation.

Please thank them on my behalf for their patience with me in the past and I hope the time will soon be coming when their activities will be renewed.

I also wish to thank you personally for your help and the trouble you have taken to keep me informed whilst I have been in somewhat indifferent health.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Fielding

A Meeting of Directors of the Gloucester Football and Athletic Ground Company Limited held at 26 Clarence Street, Gloucester, on Thursday, the 14th day of December 1944, at 11 o'clock.

Present: Dr. Arnold Alcock, Chairman.
Messrs. A. Hudson, A. T. Voyce, Directors.
Mr. R. N. Loveridge, Secretary.
In attendance; Mr. H. G. Kingscott, Hon. Auditor.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd February 1944 were read and signed by the Chairman as correct.

The Chairman asked Mr. Kingscott to report on the audit of the accounts for the year to 31st August, 1944.

Mr. Kingscott thanked the Directors for his appointment as Auditor of the Company, and stated that he wished to offer his services in an Honorary Capacity. He did not wish to begin his work with criticisms of the past, but at the same time he wished to make certain observations to the Directors to obtain their instructions.

He stated that in his opinion the position of the accounts as between the Club and the Company needed clarifying. Accounts have been audited, circulated to the Shareholders, and lodged with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies for years to the 31 August, 1943.

Accounts for the year to 31 August 1944 had been submitted for audit.

In the accounts for the four years to 31 August 1940, 1941, 1942, and 1943, no revenue was shown to be receivable from the Club, nor were there any charges made for Income Tax Schedule 'A' for the years 1940/41 onwards, nor for Interest due to the Club on the £3,300 loan.

For the year to 31 August 1944 revenue showed £150 being five years rent at £30 per annum. On enquiry he found that the Club had paid annually Income Tax Schedule 'A', the liability of the Company. The net Schedule 'A' value of the Ground is £372 and as tax at 10/- in the £1, the Club was paying £186 plus the £30 nominal rent.

He suggested therefore that for the five War years to 31 August 1944, rent receivable should be fixed at £250 per annum as in previous years, and that the accounts should also show the Company's liability for Income Tax and also Interest on £3,300 loan at 4½ per cent per annum. If these items be dealt with *In Contra* between the Club and the Company, the Company was indebted to the Club for £117 11s. 0d., which would be included among the Sundry Creditors. The Auditor of the Club's accounts should be informed so that he can make the necessary amendments in the Club accounts.

Mr. Kingscott further pointed out that the number of shareholders in the Company was reduced by deaths to six, and explained that the minimum number of shareholders in a Public Limited Company is seven. He explained the provision of the Companies' Act in this matter and suggested that one of the members should transfer one share to someone not at present a shareholder.

He said it was obvious that with the Club holding the bulk of the shares in the Company, and being at the moment the sole tenant of the Company with powers to sub-let, the affairs of the Club and the Company have [been] allowed to partially merge. He hoped that the Directors would take steps to see that the affairs of the Company be kept quite separate, and be treated as a separate entity in accordance with the Memorandum and Article of the Company.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Kingscott for his report and it was resolved that the accounts for the year to 31 August 1944, should include revenue due for the Club at £250 per annum for five years, and should also include the Company's liability for Income Tax Schedule 'A' for the years 1939/40 to 1943/44 inclusive and 5 years interest on Loan.

The Chairman expressed his willingness to transfer one share to Mr. R. N. Loveridge, the Secretary, and also one to Mr. H. G. Kingscott. The Directors agreed to this suggestion.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock.

14 / 9 / 45.

1945

A Meeting of Directors of the Gloucester [Football] and Athletic Ground Co., Ltd. was held at the Registered offices of the Company on 31st January 1945.

Present: Dr. Arnold Alcock, Chairman.
Messrs. A. Hudson and A. T. Voyce
R. N. Loveridge, Secretary.

The Secretary produced a Transfer of twenty three shares in the Gloucester Football and Athletic Ground Co., Ltd. from the Executors of the late Herbert Henry Berry to Dr. Arnold Alcock.

It was resolved that the transfer be registered in the Books of the Company.

The above Certificate made out in favour of Dr. Alcock having been prepared, it was resolved that the seal of the Company be affixed to the Share Certificate made out in favour of Dr. Arnold Alcock for twenty three shares numbered 1203 to 1222 and 1173 to 1175.

The seal was accordingly affixed and the Certificate was handed to Dr. Alcock.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock.

14 September 1946.

A Meeting of the Directors of the Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Company Limited held at the Registered Offices on the 14th September 1945, at 11:00 a.m.

Present: Dr. Arnold Alcock, in the Chair.
Messrs. A. Hudson and A. T. Voyce
with R. N. Loveridge, Secretary.
In attendance; Mr. H. G. Kingscott, the Auditor.

The Minutes of the meetings held on the 14th day of December 1944 and the 31st day of January 1945 were read and signed by the Chairman as correct.

The Auditor produced audited accounts for the years to 31st August 1944 and 31st August 1945, and explained them to the Directors.

The first year showed that the excess of Income over Expenditure was £2 14s. 9d. and for the second the Expenditure exceeded Income by £15 5s. 3d.

At the 31st August 1945 the Company owed the Gloucester Rugby Club £127 16s. 0d and the Balance on Revenue Account was £28 15s. 0d.

The auditor promised to clear up the Company's Income Tax position to date and report at the next meeting of Directors.

There was a short discussion after which it was proposed by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Voyce and resolved that the accounts be approved for submission to the Annual General Meeting.

It was resolved that the Annual General Meeting be held on a day to be arranged by the Hon. Auditor.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock.

10 / 1 / 47

A Meeting of the Directors of the Company held on Friday the 28th September 1945, at 11:00 a.m.

Present: Dr. Arnold Alcock, Chairman.
Messrs. A. Hudson and A. T. Voyce.
R. N. Loveridge, Secretary.

The Secretary produced a transfer from Arnold Alcock to Richard Nugent Loveridge for one fully paid up share of £1 of the Company, and a transfer from Arnold Alcock to Hubert George Kingscott for one fully paid up £1 share of the Company, each duly executed and stamped, which Transfers required to be registered.

It was Resolved;

That the transfers of one share each to Richard Nugent Loveridge and to Hubert George Kingscott from Dr. Arnold Alcock now produced be registered and that the new Share Certificate be sealed and issued forthwith.

Arnold Alcock.

10 / 1 / 47

1946

[There were no Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors recorded in this Journal during Calendar Year 1946.]

1947

A Meeting of Directors held at 1 Barton Street, Gloucester, on the 10th day of January 1947, at 11:00 a.m.

Present: Dr. A. Alcock, Chairman.
Messrs. Hudson and Voyce, Directors.
Mr. R. N. Loveridge, Secretary.
In attendance, Mr. H. G. Kingscott, Auditor.

The Minutes of the meetings held on the 14th September 1945, and 28th September 1945, were read and signed by the Chairman as correct.

the Auditor produced accounts for the year to 31st August 1946.

He explained that it had now been agreed with the Inland Revenue authorities and with the Gloucester Rugby Football Club that the Income Tax Schedule 'A' on the Football Ground should be assessed on the Club, but that the Club should deduct Income Tax at the standard rate from the rent paid to the Ground Company.

The Income Tax matters had been adjusted to date with the Rugby Club, and the Company had received £388 11s. 0d. in settlement.

With this receipt the profit for the year amounted to £382 9s. 0d.

The Balance Sheet showed that the Balance on Revenue Account amounted to £411 4s. 0d., and that the Cash at Bank was £394 7s. 0d.

It was resolved that the accounts be approved for submission to the Shareholders at the Annual Meeting.

It was further resolved that the Annual Meeting be held on the 30th day of January 1947 at 10:30 a.m., and the Secretary was instructed to have the Notices convening the meeting printed and circulated to the Shareholders.

On the proposition of the Chairman it was resolved that £300 be invested in the Trustee Savings Bank, and the Secretary was instructed to take the necessary action.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock.

December 11th, 1947.

A Meeting of Directors held at 1 Barton Street, Gloucester, on the 11th December 1947, at 11:00 a.m.

Present: Dr. A. Alcock, Chairman.
Messrs. Hudson and Voyce.
Mr. R. N. Loveridge, Secretary.
In attendance, Mr. H. G. Kingscott, the Auditor.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th January 1947 were read and signed by the Chairman as correct.

The auditor produced the accounts for the year to 31 August 1947, which showed a Net Profit for the year of £51 8s. 0d. The total on the Profit and Loss Account was £462 12s. 0d.

The accounts were approved for submission to the Shareholders, and it was resolved to recommend that the Balance on Profit and Loss Account be carried forward.

It was resolved that the Annual General Meeting be held on Wednesday the 31st day of December 1947, at 10:30 in the forenoon.

It was reported that the Gloucester Corporation had requested the Company to sell a plot of land 35 feet square adjoining Wm. Jones Ltd. property and with a frontage to Worcester Street. The site was required for a Public Convenience.

It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Hudson that a plot of land 35 feet square be sold to the Gloucester Corporation for seventy pounds, the purchaser paying all legal charges, and for the service of the Company's Valuer. This proposition was unanimously carried.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock.

10 / 12 / 48.

1948

A meeting of Directors held on Wednesday the first day of December, 1948.

Present: Dr. Alcock.
Mr. A. Hudson.

The Conveyance of a plot of land 35 feet square, from the Company to the Gloucester Corporation, prepared by the Company's solicitors, was produced

It was Resolved that the Seal of the Company be affixed thereto, and that Dr. Alcock and Mr. A. Hudson should sign, as Directors.

The Sealing was thereupon executed.

Arnold Alcock.

Chairman

10 / 12 / 48

A Meeting of Directors held on the 10th day of December 1948 at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

Present: Dr. A. Alcock, Chairman.
Messrs. Hudson and Voyce, Directors.
R. N. Loveridge, Secretary.
In attendance, Mr. H. G. Kingscott, the Auditor.

The Minutes of the meetings held on the 11th December 1947, and the 1st December 1948 were read and signed by the Chairman as correct.

The auditor produced a draft of the accounts to 31 August 1948 and the draft Notice to the Shareholders. The documents were approved and it was resolved that the Annual General Meeting be held at 1 Barton Street, Gloucester, on 30th December 1948, at 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Alcock proposed that Mr. H. G. Kingscott be elected a Director to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Arthur Fielding. Mr. Hudson seconded the proposition and it was carried unanimously that Mr. H. G. Kingscott be elected a Director to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Arthur Fielding.

Mr. Kingscott's election was subject to approval of the Shareholders.

Mr. Kingscott explained that his election as a Director, which he acknowledged with thanks, made it necessary for him to resign as Auditor of the Company.

Mr. Kingscott promised to see Mr. Victor Mundy, asking him to become the Company Auditor, in order that his appointment might be made at the Annual General Meeting.

Dr. Alcock proposed that Mr. R. N. Loveridge, the Company's Secretary, be elected a Director. Mr. Hudson seconded the proposition and it was resolved accordingly. It was explained that Mr. Loveridge would be proposed as an additional Director at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

At the outset of the meeting, the Chairman paid tribute to the work which Mr. Arthur Fielding had done for Rugby Football in Gloucester, for the Gloucester Rugby Football Club, and for the Company. The meeting stood for a moment in memory of Mr. Fielding.

A Vote of Thanks to the Chairman concluded the business of the meeting.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

Chairman

15 / 7 / 50

1949

[There were no Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors recorded in this Journal during Calendar Year 1949.]

1950

A Meeting of Directors held at 1 Barton Street, Gloucester on Thursday the 13th July 1950, at 11 a.m.

Present: Dr. A. Alcock, Chairman.
Messrs. A. Hudson, A. T. Voyce, H. G. Kingscott.
R. N. Loveridge, Secretary.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th day of December 1948 were read and signed by the Chairman as correct.

Audited accounts for the year to the 31st August 1949 were laid before the meeting, and after a short discussion were approved for submission to the Annual General Meeting of the Company.

The Secretary produced a draft of the Notice to the Shareholders and the Directors' Report. This was approved and it was resolved that the Annual General Meeting be held at 1 Barton Street, Gloucester, on Thursday the 10th day of August, at 11 a.m.

The Chairman proposed that a further £300 be transferred to the Current Banking Account to the Deposit Account with the Trustees Savings Bank. This was carried, and the Secretary was instructed to take the necessary action.

Mr. Hudson referred to the fencing round the Company's property fronting onto Worcester Street. In years past the Company had received revenue for advertisements painted on the fence, and as the advertisers had to keep spaces well painted, it meant that the fencing was well preserved. In recent years it had been the Directors' policy to have their property, including the Stands, kept free of advertising matter.

Mr. Hudson stated he had an enquiry about advertising spaces on the fence and he wondered if the Directors would consider letting them, as in the past. In this way revenue could be earned, and the painting of the fencing would be carried out free of charge to the Company.

After discussion it was resolved that Mr. Hudson should make further enquiries and report at the next meeting.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock.

21 / 9 / 50.

A Meeting of Directors held on Thursday the 21st day of September 1950, at 11 a.m.

Present: Dr. A. Alcock, Chairman.

Messrs. A. Hudson, R. N. Loveridge, H. G. Kingscott, A. T. Voyce.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th July 1950 were read and signed by the Chairman as correct.

The question of letting spaces on the Company's fence to advertisers was referred to again. After thoroughly discussing the matter it was resolved;

'That the spaces be re-let to advertisers and that Messrs. F. Loveridge & Son be appointed the Agents for the Company.'

It was decided that the Agents be paid the following rates of Commission, viz. 10% on letting, and 10% on collection, and that the Company should reimburse the Agent for the initial advertising of the spaces up to a maximum of £5.

It was reported that the Gloucester Rugby Football Club and the Supporters' Club wanted accommodation for the erection of a Club premises and that the site asked for was under the big Stand.

Mr. Voyce explained that in view of this he had made enquiries about a piece of land adjoining the Company's property and which was originally part of the Company's land. This land with a workshop erected thereon was owned and occupied by Mr. H. N. Pitt, 5 Kingsholm Road.

It was explained by Mr. Voyce that the building on the land would serve very well for a Club premises, but unfortunately it was a temporary building and licenses had to be obtained annually for its retention by Mr. Pitt.

After a discussion it was agreed that Mr. Voyce had done well to open up negotiations, and his action in instructing Messrs. Bruton Knowles & Co. for a report was approved. The value placed on the property by Messrs. Bruton Knowles was considered much too high.

It was resolved that Mr. Voyce be, and he is hereby given authority to negotiate on behalf of the Company and to purchase at a price not exceeding £400.

The Secretary reported that the Company bankers, Lloyds Bank Limited, Gloucester, required specimen signatures of the Directors of the Company.

It was resolved that the Bankers be informed that they be authorised to honour all cheques or other orders drawn and to accept and act upon receipts for money deposited with or owing by the Bank on the account kept in the name of the Company with the Bank provided such cheques, orders, or receipts are signed by one Director and the Secretary.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock.