

Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Company

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

(Part VI - 1926-1930)

1926

Directors' Meeting held on November 25th, 1926.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), John T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), H. H. Berry, W. G. Ayliffe, Arthur Hudson, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was received from Mr. Madge, Solicitor.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Balance Sheet to August 31st, 1926.

The Chairman read the Balance Sheet showing

Balance from 1925 + Income £44 7s. 1d	£379 10s. 7d.
Expenses	<u>£255 15s. 5d.</u>
Leaving a Balance on the year of	£123 5s. 2d.

Mr. Fielding explained the years' working had turned out remarkably near the estimated income and expenditure.

Mr. Brookes proposed the adoption of [the] Balance Sheet which was seconded by Mr. Hudson and carried.

Report, and 2½% Dividend.

The Chairman read a suggested report and proposed paying a dividend of 2½% which less Tax would amount to £63. This was seconded by Mr. Ayliffe, and carried.

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Brookes, that Mr. Fielding and Mr. Berry should sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Board.

On the motion of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Hudson it was decided to hold the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders at 5:15 p.m. at the New Inn Hotel, Gloucester, on Monday, December 13th.

"For Sale" Board.

Mr. Brookes proposed and Mr. Hudson seconded that the "For Sale" Board on the land near Jones the Builders' yard should be taken down as that portion of the Ground was used for parking cars, now.

Thanks were voted to the Chairman for his services in conducting the affairs of the Company.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding

Chairman

13 / 12 / 26.

Directors Meeting held on Monday December 13th, 1926.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), J. T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), W. G. Ayliffe, Arthur Hudson, H. H. Berry, Directors.
Mr. A. E. Palmer, representing Mr. Madge.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported the "For Sale" Board had been taken down as ordered at the last meeting.

Mr. Albert Palmer, on behalf of Mr. Madge, gave an outline of the actions to be taken and the general procedure; likewise an estimated cost to wind up the Company so as to become the actual property of the Football Club.

A general discussion followed, Mr. Palmer answering many questions. No resolution was suggested but Mr. Palmer was thanked for his attendance and lucid information he had given.

The Directors then attended the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

21 / 9 / 27

1927

Directors' Meeting held on Wednesday, September 21st, 1927.

Present: Messrs. Arthur Fielding (Chairman), J. T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), Arthur Hudson, H. H. Berry, Directors.

Mr. A. E. Palmer, representing Mr. Walter Madge, the Solicitor to the Company.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

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

The Secretary reported a Mr. Tombs had enquired if the Company were prepared to sell that portion of the Ground not used by the Club, running alongside the Twyver, and that he, the Secretary, informed Mr. Tombs that as the Company from time to time had prepared plans and gone to expense over verbal enquires, and all ended in nothing, if Mr. Tombs would put in writing his offer the same would in due course be brought before the Directors.

A deputation from the Finance Committee of the Football Club consisting of Messrs. Keys, Kingscott, and Carter attended to hear from Mr. A. E. Palmer how and by what proceedings the Club could become, through Trustees, the actual owners of the Ground.

A long discussion followed. Many and varied questions were put to and answered by Mr. Palmer who was thanked by the Chairman on behalf of the Board for the trouble he had gone to in the matter.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

28 / 11 / 27

Directors' Meeting held on November 28th, 1927.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), John T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), A. Hudson, H. H. Berry, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

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

Football Club and Liquidation.

Mr. Brookes stated on behalf of the Football Club that the Committee had carefully and fully considered the matter of Liquidating the Company and having regard to the great expense it would entail had decided not to further entertain such a procedure; but seeing the work in connection with the Company was considerably less than it was formerly, the Football Committee thought the Secretary's salary should be somewhat reduced.

Mr. Starr unreservedly replied that he was perfectly content to leave the matter entirely in the hands of the Directors, feeling quite satisfied that the Board would deal fairly with him, bearing in mind the number of years he had served the Company, particularly in the early years at practically a nominal fee.

The Chairman commented on the amicable way in which Mr. Brookes had introduced the subject as well as the fact that Mr. Starr had taken it in the right way, and he, the Chairman, decided that the matter should be deferred for consideration at the next Directors' meeting.

Balance Sheet for 1927.

The Chairman read the Balance Sheet to August 31st, 1927, showing;

Income, including Balance £60 15s. 2d. from 1926	£388 1s. 2d.
Expenses	<u>£254 12s. 11d.</u>
Leaving a disposable Balance of	£133 8s. 3d.

It was remarked that the years' working had again turned out as estimated.

Mr. Fielding moved the adoption of the Balance Sheet which was seconded by Mr. Brookes and carried.

[Dividend of] 2½%.

Resolved on the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Hudson to recommend paying a Dividend of 2½% less Tax which would amount to £63. Carried.

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

Resolved that the Annual General Meeting be held at the New Inn Hotel on Monday, December 12th, at 5:15 p.m.

The suggested Report was read and passed.

With regard to Mr. H. A. Dancey's re-election as a Director, his term having expired, it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by the Deputy Chairman that the Secretary should write Mr. Dancey asking if he wished to offer himself for re-election; if he did the fact should be embodied in the Report. If, however, he did not, then in the Report should be; "*To consider and decide on reducing the number of Directors to six.*"

Thanks were tendered to the Chairman and Secretary for their services during the past year.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding

3 / 12 / 28

1928

Directors' Meeting held on Monday, December 3rd, 1928.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), John T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), H. H. Berry, Arthur Hudson, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

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

Arising out of the Minutes the question of the Secretary's salary was raised. Mr. Brookes stated he had talked over the matter with Mr. Starr and he (Mr. Brookes) proposed the future salary should be thirty pounds per annum. This was seconded by Mr. Hudson, and carried. The Secretary accepted the resolution.

Balance Sheet - 1928.

The Chairman read the Balance Sheet to August 31st, 1928, showing;

Income (including Balance of £70 8s. 3d.)	£400 18s. 0d.
Expenses	<u>£254 13s. 11d.</u>
Leaving a disposable Balance of	£146 4s. 1d.

showing the expenses as only one shilling more than the previous year, thus demonstrating the Company was run with every regard to economy. The adoption of the Balance Sheet was carried on the proposition of Mr. Brookes, seconded by Mr. Berry.

The Chairman read the suggested Report and moved it be adopted. Mr. Hudson seconded and it was carried.

[Dividend of] 2½%.

The Chairman proposed pay a dividend of 2½% less Tax which would amount to £63. This was seconded by Mr. Berry and carried.

Resolved that the Chairman and Mr. Berry sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Board.

Resolved that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders be held at the New Inn Hotel, Gloucester, on Monday December 17th, at 5:15 p.m.

A letter was read from Mr. William Dancey, the Advertising Agent, that his business had been transferred to Messrs. Hitchings and Graham. Some discussion followed, and it was decided to leave the business with them, but that the Secretary of the Club and Company should interview him with hope of increasing the number of Advertisers by offering them easier terms.

[Signed] J. T. Brookes.

December 9th, 1929.

Directors' Meeting held on Monday, December 17th, 1928.

This meeting followed the Annual Meeting of Shareholders and was a special meeting to consider two letters received from the Football Club.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), John T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), H. H. Berry, Arthur Hudson, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Football Club Rent reduced to £250.

A letter was read from the Football Club giving details of the extraordinary repairs the Club had carried out in 1927, viz. £60 on the Deans Walk fences and now the Club had committed themselves to a further amount of £200 for new fence at the back of St. Mark Street and alongside the Twyver. Besides they were contemplating having to renew the Worcester Street fence.

After consideration Mr. Brookes proposed and Mr. Harry Berry seconded that the Directors agreed to the reduction. Carried.

Loan of £1,500 from Football Club.

Another letter was read from the Football Club offering a loan of £1,500 to the Company at £5 per cent per annum, which was unanimously accepted. This was in accordance with a letter and advice from Mr. Madge on October 23rd, 1925. A copy of the suggested Receipt drawn up by Mr. A. E. Palmer (Grimes, Madge & Lloyd) was submitted to the meeting and agreed on.

The Secretary was directed to see Mr. S. Primble, Conservative Benefit Society, and see if arrangements could be made [to] pay the £1,500 off on December 24th, providing it was convenient to the Football Club.

The loan of course was made entirely on the understanding that the full amount be paid to reduce the Mortgage of £3,300 due to the Conservative Benefit Society.

[Signed] J. T. Brookes.

December 9th, 1929.

[Attached to this page are four documents: (i) a letter dated December 14th, 1928 from Mr. A. Hudson, Secretary of the Gloucester Rugby Football Club to Sidney S. Starr, Secretary of the Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Co., Ltd., and is in reference to the aforementioned loan. (ii) a carbon copy of Mr. Starr's reply to the above, dated December 18th, 1928. (iii) a draft of the proposed *Receipt for the Loan*, to be issued by the Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Co., Ltd., for same. (iv) a carbon copy of the authorised version of the Receipt. Transcriptions of the four documents below.]

(i)

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Ground : KINGSHOLM, GLOUCESTER.

Secretary :

A. HUDSON,
KINGSHOLM FOOTBALL GROUND
GLOUCESTER.

Decr. 14 1928

Sidney S. Starr, Esq.
Secretary, Kingsholm Football & Athletic
Ground
Co. Ltd.

Dear Sir,

My Committee would be glad if your Directors could arrange for the Club to take up £1,500 of the Mortgage on the Ground, at the Rate of 5%.

Yours faithfully
A. Hudson.
Secy.

(ii)

THE GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL & ATHLETIC GROUND Co. Ltd.

CHAIRMAN: Mr. ARTHUR F. FIELDING

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. J. T. BROOKES

Secretary:
SYDNEY S. STARR,
11, London Road, Gloucester.

Telegrams:
"SIDNEY STARR,
GLOUCESTER."
Telephone No. 2457.
(WHEELERS)

Dec. 18th, 1928.

Dear Mr. Hudson,

In reply to yours of the 14th re Loan of £1500.

I have pleasure to inform you that at a Directors' meeting held last evening the Board unanimously decided to accept same on the terms mentioned in your letter, viz. the Interest to be £5 per cent per annum, and if convenient to the Club, would like the transaction to take place before the coming Quarter day - December 25th.

Yours faithfully,

Sidney S. Starr.

*Mr. Arthur Hudson,
Glo. Football Club,
Kingsholm,
Gloster.*

(iii)

*Received this day of 1928 from
The Gloucester Rugby Football Club - the sum of One
thousand five hundred pounds being an advance on loan to
the Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Co., Ltd. on the
understanding that the same amount (£1500) is at once paid
to the Gloucester Conservative Benefit Society by the
Company in reduction of the principal due on Mortgage from
the Company to the Society and that this Loan of £1500
carries interest in favour of the Gloucester Rugby Football
Club at the rate of £5 per cent per annum from the date the
Loan by the society is reduced by the same amount £1500.*

For & on behalf of

*THE GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL
& ATHLETIC GROUND CO., LTD.*

2d
Stamp

Secretary

(iv)

THE GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL & ATHLETIC GROUND Co. Ltd.

Chairman: Mr. ARTHUR F. FIELDING

Deputy Chairman: Mr. J. E. BROOKES

Secretary:
SYDNEY S. STARR,
11, London Road, Gloucester.

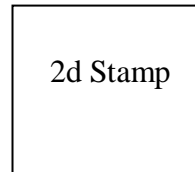
Telegrams:
"SIDNEY STARR,
GLOUCESTER."
Telephone No. 2457.
(WHEELERS)

Received this 24th day of December 1928 from The Gloucester Rugby Football Club - the sum of One thousand five hundred pounds being an advance on Loan to the Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Co., Ltd. on the understanding that the same amount (£1500) is at once paid to the Gloucester Conservative Benefit Society by the Company in reduction of the principal due on Mortgage from the Company to the Society.

And that this Loan of £1500 carries interest in favour of the Gloucester Rugby Football Club at the rate of £5 per cent per annum from the date the Loan by the Society is reduced by the same amount £1500.

For & on behalf of

THE GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL & ATHLETIC GROUND CO., LTD.



Sidney S. Starr

1929

Directors' Meeting held on Monday, December 9th, 1929.

Present: Mr. J. T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman) who presided, Mr. H. H. Berry, Director.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was received from Mr. Arthur Fielding, who was unwell.

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

Poole's Advert on Old Pavilion.

Arising out of the Minutes of December 3rd, 1928 regarding Advertisements, the Secretary reported efforts had been made to increase them but without any success, up to date. Messrs. Hitchings and Graham reported Messrs. Poole as in arrears of £5 for the past year, and that they (Messrs. Poole's) were contemplating re-painting the top of the Old Pavilion, but asked the Directors to meet them in the cost. The Directors decided if Messrs. Poole would pay £2 10s. 0d. of the £5 outstanding, and repaint the roof of the Pavilion and put their new advertisement on the Directors would forego £2 10s. 0d. of rent owing and allow them the next years' rent £5.

Balance Sheet for 1929.

The Chairman read the Balance Sheet to August 31st, 1929, which showed:-

Income, including Balance for 1928 of £83 4s. 1d.	£374 16s. 4d.
Expenses	<u>£245 5s. 0d.</u>
Leaving a Disposable Balance of	£129 11s. 4d.

And on the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Berry the following was resolved;

'To adopt the Balance Sheet, and the suggested Report, which the Chairman read.

To recommend the payment of 2½% dividend, less Tax.

That the Deputy Chairman and Mr. Berry sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Directors.

That the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders be held at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, December 23rd, 1929, at the New Inn Hotel, Gloucester.'

[Signed] J. T. Brookes.

23 / 12 / 29.

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel, Gloucester, on Monday, December 23rd, 1929.

Present: Messrs. J. T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman) who presided, H. H. Berry, Arthur Hudson, Director.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Chairman alluded to the absence of Mr. Fielding through indisposition and expressed the hope that he would soon be able to again attend the Board meetings.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Arising out of the minutes the Secretary reported that Messrs. Poole had accepted the Directors' terms respecting their Advertisement and the repainting of the roof of the Old Pavilion, and that Messrs. Poole's had had the work done.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

9 / 4 / 30.

1930

Directors' Meeting held at 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9th, 1930.

Present: Messrs. A. F. Fielding (Chairman), J. T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), H. H. Berry, Arthur Hudson, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

This being the first meeting of the Directors since the Annual General Meeting, Mr. Berry proposed and Mr. Hudson seconded the nomination of Mr. Arthur Fielding as Chairman. Carried.

Mr. Fielding nominated Mr. J. T. Brookes as Deputy Chairman, which the meeting confirmed.

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

The Secretary produced the certificate that the Annual Return and Balance Sheet had been duly received by Somerset House.

Also an acknowledgement from the Inland Revenue Authority that there would be no liability for Tax under Schedule "D" for 1930-1931.

Transfer of Football Shares.

The Secretary produced a Transfer of 3047 Shares of £1 each fully paid from Messrs. Arthur Fitton Fielding and John Thomas Brookes, the present registered holders of the Shares, to Messrs. Arnold Alcock M.B., B.S., 12 Barton Street, Gloucester, and the said Arthur Fitton Fielding and John Thomas Brookes duly executed and stamped which Transfer required to be registered.

On the proposition of Mr. Berry seconded by Mr. Hudson it was resolved that the Transfer of the 3047 £1 Shares of the Company from Messrs. Arthur Fitton Fielding and John

Thomas Brookes to Messrs. Arnold Alcock, Arthur Fitton Fielding and John Thomas Brookes be registered and that the new Share Certificate be prepared and sealed forthwith.

A cheque for £74 7s. 0d. was signed for Income Tax under Schedule "A".

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

28 / 5 / 30.

Directors' Meeting [held] at 5 o'clock at the Secretary's office, on Wednesday, May 28th, 1930.

Present: Messrs. A. F. Fielding, Chairman, J. T. Brookes, Deputy Chairman, Arthur Hudson, Director.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

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

The Certificate for the 3047 Shares was duly sealed and signed and handed to Mr. Hudson as Secretary of the Football Club.

Further Loan of £500 from Football Club.

A letter was read from Mr. Arthur Hudson to the effect that the Football Club Committee was anxious to loan a further sum of £500 to the Company so as to reduce the Mortgage due to the Conservative Benefit Society. Mr. Fielding proposed and Mr. Brookes seconded that same be accepted, providing the Society would accept the amount. Carried.

The Secretary reported he had interviewed Mr. Primble, Secretary to the Benefit Society who had agreed to receive the amount on June 24th (Quarter day) as Interest must be paid up to that date.

The Secretary was directed that on receipt of the cheque from the Club, he should enquire if the Bank would allow any interest on the amount for the short time to June 24th. If they would he was to place the amount on deposit. If not, he should pay the amount into [the] Current Account and pay the sum to Mr. Primble at once, by Company cheque.

Secretary's Office.

The Secretary mentioned that owing to the firm (Messrs. J. C. Wheeler & Son, Ltd.; from whom he rented his office) having moved to other premises in King Square he may have to find new quarters but that should not interfere with his work for the Company.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

1 / 7 / 30.

Directors' Meeting held on Tuesday, July 1st, 1930, at 19, St. John's Lane, Gloucester; the new office of the Secretary.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), John T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), H. H. Berry, Director.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Arising out of the Minutes, the Secretary reported the Bank could not allow Interest on the £500 for such a few days before June 24th. The amount, therefore, had been banked in [the] Current Account and a cheque paid for £500 off the Mortgage with the Conservative Benefit Society.

New Registered Office.

The Secretary reported he had secured a room for an Office at 19 St. John's Lane. He had notified same to the Companies Registration Office, Somerset House, and had forwarded fee 5/- and had received acknowledgement. Also the Plate had been placed near the door indicating the Registered Office, as prescribed by law.

The Late Mr. W. G. Ayliffe's Shares.

The Secretary produced a Transfer of 22 Shares from the Executors of the Will of Mr. William George Ayliffe, deceased, to Mr. Francis William Ayliffe of Wingrove, Barnwood Avenue, Gloucester, duly executed and stamped, which Transfer now required to be registered.

The Secretary reported that the Probate of the Will of the late Mr. W. G. Ayliffe had been duly registered in the Company's Register. On the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Berry, it was resolved that the Transfer of the 22 Shares of the Company from the Executors of the Will of the late Mr. W. G. Ayliffe to Mr. Francis William Ayliffe now produced be registered and that the new Certificate be prepared, sealed and issued forthwith.

This having been done, the Secretary informed the Board that Mr. Francis William Ayliffe was now the owner of 22 Shares which qualified him to be appointed a Director. Mr. Brookes proposed and Mr. Berry seconded that Mr. Francis William Ayliffe be and is hereby elected a Director of the Company. Carried.

Cheques for the Interest due to the Football Club and the Gloucester Conservative Benefit Society were signed to June 24th, 1930.

New Office and Company registration plate fixed thereto, were inspected by the Directors and the Board expressed themselves satisfied with the change from the old position.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

19 Dec. 1930.

Directors' Meeting held at the Company's Office, 19 St. John's Lane, on Friday, December 19th, 1930, at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Messrs. A. F. Fielding (Chairman), J. T. Brookes (Deputy Chairman), A. Hudson, H. H. Berry, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Balance Sheet as audited to August 31st 1930 was read;

showing an Income (including a Balance of £66 11s. 4d. from 1929) of	£355 13s. 10d.
Expenses	<u>£241 19s. 1d.</u>
Leaving a Disposable Balance of	£113 14s. 9d.

On the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Berry the suggested Report was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Hudson seconded by Mr. Berry it was recommended to pay a dividend of 2½%, less Tax, which will amount to £61 0s. 8d.

Proposed by Mr. Brookes, seconded by Mr. Berry that the Chairman and Mr. Hudson sign the Report on behalf of the Board.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. Berry seconded that the Annual Meeting of Shareholders be held at the Company's Office on Monday, January the 5th, 1931, at 5:15 p.m.

The Secretary drew attention to the fact that the amount for displayed advertisement on the hoardings had dropped each year since 1922, when it was £80 4s. 1d. to £38 14s. 0d. this year though the Agents had used every endeavour to get them renewed.

On the proposition of Mr. Brookes the Chairman was thanked for his services during the past year.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding

15 / 12 / 31