

Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Company

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

(Part V - 1921-1925)

1921

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel on Monday, 14th March, 1921.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey, F. H. Bretherton, H. J. Berry, A. F. Fielding, A. G. Winfield, A. C. Williams, J. T. Brookes, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apology was received from Mr. S. W. Bingle.

This being the first meeting since the Annual General Meeting the Secretary stated the first business was the election of a Chairman.

Mr. Bretherton proposed and Mr. A. G. Winfield seconded that Mr. Harry A. Dancey be elected Chairman. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Dancey then nominated Mr. H. J. Bretherton as Deputy Chairman. This was also unanimously carried.

The Chairman announced that the Football Club paid their rent £250 on January 10th, and that £200 was the same day placed on deposit.

There being two vacancies on the Board to make up the total of 10 Directors, the Secretary read the names of all Shareholders qualified, and on the proposition of Mr. Dancey seconded by Mr. Fielding, Mr. William George Ayliffe, 4 Northgate Street, Gloucester, Game Dealer, and Mr Walter Thomas Warner, Denmark Road, Gloucester, Purveyor, were both unanimously elected Directors.

Mr. Arthur Hudson made an offer of £35 for the four Summer Months on the same conditions as in 1920. Resolved to accept same on the proposition of Mr Fielding seconded by Mr. J. T. Brookes.

Property Tax £37 10s. 0d. was ordered to be paid.

The Secretary having made application for an increase in his salary, pointing out he had held the Office at £20 for about 30 years and that now things were looking brighter for the Company he asked the Directors to consider the matter. The Secretary retired from the meeting while the question was discussed, and re-entering the room was informed by the Chairman that on the proposition of Mr. Bretherton seconded by Mr. Williams and

supported by Mr. Winfield it was resolved to increase the salary from £20 to £40 a year. The Secretary thanked the meeting for the Board's consideration.

During the Meeting, Mr. Fielding informed the Board that certain alterations and improvements were being considered by the Football Club with respect to the Pavilion and Stands, for next season, but before anything was done the Director would be acquainted with the plans.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

September 2nd, 1921.

Special Meeting of Directors on the Ground, in Football Committee Room, Friday, June 17th, 1921.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey (Chairman), J. T. Brookes, A. G. Winfield, Arthur F. Fielding, A. C. Williams, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Berry.

Improvement and Increase of Accommodation in Grand Stand.

Mr. Arthur Fielding having explained to the Meeting that after careful consideration the Committee of the Football Club found they - the Club - were not in a position at present to carry out the extension of the Grandstand as at first contemplated, but were hoping to make some improvements to the old one so as to increase the number of seats under cover.

After the points of detail had been explained and suggestions made by the Chairman for strengthening the structure of the Stand, Mr. Fielding proposed and Mr. Williams seconded and it was resolved unanimously, that permission be given to the Football Club to carry out the suggested alteration to the Grand Stand, subject to the same being done to the satisfaction of the Chairman of the Company.

Mr. Dancey added that when the matter had attained a definite form he would order another meeting of the Directors so that all might clearly understand what it was proposed to do, as it was his intention to err, if at all, on the side of safety.

The Directors then carefully inspected the Stand and many useful suggestions were mentioned.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

September 2nd, 1921.

Directors' Meeting at Kingsholm, Friday, September 2nd, 1921.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey (Chairman), A. C. Williams, F. H. Bretherton, A. F. Fielding, J. T. Brookes, A. G. Winfield, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was received from Mr. H. J. Berry.

The Minutes of the Meetings held March 14th, and June 17th, were read and confirmed.

Painting Gymnasium.

The Chairman explained that Messrs. Winfields' had taken and painted an advertisement on the top half of the side of the Gymnasium and when this had been done it made the lower part look very bad. He therefore obtained price for painting the lower part, 3 coats, while the painters were on the Ground; this amounted to £5 7s. 0d. and he ordered the work to be done. The Board confirmed the Chairman's action.

Alterations to Pavilion.

The Chairman explained to the Board the alterations and improvements being made to the Pavilion by the Football Club, and stated he was satisfied by the way the work had been carried out by the Builder, Mr. Wm. Jones. All the Directors present inspected [the] work and concurred with the Chairman's remarks.

The Secretary reported that three large trees to which Corporation Ventilating Shafts were attached were dead and he was instructed by the Meeting to give notice to the Corporation to remove the shafts and it was left to the Chairman and Secretary to dispose of the dead trees to the best advantage.

Jones' Account for Repairs.

An account for £32 9s. 10d. from Mr. Wm. Jones for repairs to fences, Gymnasium roof, new door, etc., was ordered to be paid.

Painting all outside Woodwork of Pavilion and Gymnasium.

It was resolved to obtain tenders for painting 3 coats all outside woodwork, spouting, and down pipes of the Gymnasium and Pavilion, from Messrs. A. Cromwell; Wood and Pimms, Burton Barnes, and Jno. Pollard.

Rates.

The Secretary reported that the Assessment Committee had ordered Messrs. Eves to re-value the Ground and Buildings, but to the present he had not had the revised demand note.

Football Club's Terms for Season 1921-1922.

A deputation from the Football Club consisting of Messrs. Hudson, Leaver, Fox, and Rust waited on the Directors to talk over and arrange the Terms of Rent etc., for season 1921-1922. Mr. Hudson, who acted as spokesman for the deputation, explained that the Committee of the Football Club were of opinion that they ought to pay £250 as rent, and only £150 towards the Wartime dilapidations for the coming season, instead of £250 for dilapidations, as last season.

The Chairman, however, pointed out the Company had and were continuing spending money on repairs badly needed. Also, as Trustees for the Shareholders, the Directors had to remember for seven years the Shareholders received no dividend.

After some mutual conversation the deputation retired and the Board went fully into the matter. Mr. Fielding, on behalf of the Club, undertook that the Football Club should do even more of the repairs than they had done up to the present.

Finally, it was resolved to offer the following terms;

The Club to pay £250 rent, and £150 towards dilapidations and renewals. Also the Club shall at the end of the season pay in addition 10% of the profits made as shown in their Balance Sheet, up to a maximum of £500. It being understood also besides this the Club will continue to help with the needed repairs, painting, etc.

The deputation were then admitted to the meeting and on behalf of the Club accepted these terms.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

December 5th, 1921.

Directors' Meeting at the Chairman's Office, Monday, 5th December, 1921.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey (Chairman), J. T. Brookes, A. C. Williams, A. G. Winfield, W. G. Ayliffe, Walter Warner, S. W. Bingle, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was received from Mr. H. J. Berry.

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

Before commencing the business the Chairman said he was sure they would all join him in congratulating Mr. F. H. Bretherton on his being appointed a Justice of the Peace for the City. All present expressed their desire to do so, and the Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Bretherton to that effect.

Mr. Dancey next warmly welcomed Mr. Ayliffe and Mr. Warner to the Board and expressed the opinion that both would be an acquisition to the management of the Company.

Dead Trees.

The Chairman stated the Secretary and himself had been unable to get any offer whatever for the dead trees referred to at the last meeting but that Mr. W. Jones (the Builder) had offered to fell them, taking all risk with hope he may get something for them to pay for the labour.

Mr. Brookes proposed and Mr. Warner seconded that Mr. Jones offer be accepted. Carried.

The Secretary reported the Corporation had removed the 3 ventilating shafts and paid the rent of the six up to August 31st.

Painting.

The Chairman said Messrs. Wood & Pimms' tender being the lowest viz. £34 for Painting the Woodwork of the Gymnasium and Pavilion; they had carried out the work.

Hockey and Sheep Grazing.

Mr. Arthur Hudson having offered £15 for the sheep grazing and right to play hockey on the spare part of the Field from September 1st 1921 to April 30th, 1922. It was unanimously resolved to accept the same.

Summer Letting - 1922.

Mr. Arthur Hudson again offered £35 for the Summer Months, 1922, viz. from May 1st to August 31st, on the same terms as last year. This was also accepted, on the proposition of Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Bingle.

St. Marks Fence.

The Chairman said it was absolutely necessary to at once repair the fence against St. Marks Street and thought a considerable amount of the old material could be used if carefully done.

The Board decided to leave the matter with the Chairman to direct Mr. Jones in the matter.

Balance Sheet and Report.

The Chairman read the Balance Sheet for year ending August 31st, which showed a

Balance of £270 8s. 3d.

and the Board recommended a dividend of 5% £157 10s. 0d.

leaving a Balance of £112 18s. 3d.

to be carried forward towards need repairs.

Report.

A draft of the report was read by the Chairman and duly adopted.

Resolved that the Chairman and Mr. C. A. Williams [*sic*] sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Board.

Resolved that the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders be held at the New Inn Hotel, Gloucester, on Tuesday, December 13th, 1921, at 6:00 p.m.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

May 8th, 1922.

1922

Directors' Meeting at the Chairman's Office, Monday, May 8th, 1922.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey, A. C. Williams, A. F. Fielding, F. H. Bretherton, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

This being the first meeting since the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders, Mr. Bretherton proposed and Mr. Fielding seconded that Mr. Harry A. Dancey be elected Chairman. Carried. Mr. Dancey took the chair, nominating Mr. F. H. Bretherton as Deputy Chairman. This was also agreed.

Apologies were announced from Messrs. H. J. Berry, S. W. Bingle, J. T. Brookes, W. G. Ayliffe, and Walter Warner.

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

The Chairman stated this meeting had been summoned as he had been approached by the Rev. A. H. Powell (new Vicar of St. Aldate's) with regard to his buying the Angle Corner of the Ground at the extreme end of Worcester Street opposite the White Hart Hotel, and he (Mr. Dancey) was of the opinion that the Rev. Powell would be prepared to pay 6/6d. per square yard.

The Chairman produced a plan showing the particular part and after due consideration Mr. Fielding proposed and Mr. Williams seconded that the Chairman be authorized to proceed with the negotiations at the rate of 6/6d. per square yard, but not to consider any offer below 6/- per yard, and on the understanding that the depth be not less than 100 feet. Carried.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

June 20th, 1922.

Note.

The late W. J. Neuth's Shares (10) and Dividend.

After the meeting the Chairman and Secretary met Mr. John S. Dudbridge of Stroud, who for a time in 1913 represented the Trustees of the late W. J. Neuth, who stated the Estate was in Chancery with a very large number of creditors; so many that if he accepted the dividend it would be indivisible, and recommended the Company to show it in their accounts as unclaimed dividend.

Meeting on the Ground on Monday, May 29th, 1922.

Present: The Chairman, (H A. Dancey), Deputy Chairman (F. H. Bretherton), A. G. Winfield, J. T. Brookes, A. C. Williams, W. T. Warner, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was received from Mr. Bingle, Mr. Berry, and Mr. Ayliffe.

The Chairman drew attention to the covering of the Inspection Trap near the Pavilion pointing out that it was now only covered with a wooden covering, which may be a source of danger. Resolved that an iron plate should at once take the place of the wooden one and the Chairman instructed Mr. Jones the Builder to take off two layers of bricks and sink the iron plate so as to be below the ground level, and then cover up with clinkers and make a note on Pavilion to distinguish the spot, whenever inspection is needed.

Sale of Land to Rev. Powell.

The Chairman explained to the meeting that he had concluded negotiations for the portion of ground offered to the Rev. Powell as agreed at the last Directors' meeting, but this Special Meeting was called to consider the advisability or otherwise of selling to the Rev. Powell an additional 50ft. of Frontage. On the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Williams it was resolved unanimously that as this would probably greatly interfere with the Club's arrangements they could not see their way to sell more than 20 feet and that the price to be asked for this be £65.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

June 20th, 1922.

Meeting at the Ground on Tuesday, June 20th, 1922.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey (Chairman), F. H. Bretherton (Deputy Chairman), W. G. Ayliffe, A. G. Winfield, A. F. Fielding, Walter T. Warner, A. C. Williams, J. T. Brookes, Directors.

W. H. Madge, Solicitor.

Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were announced from Mr. H. J. Berry, and Mr. Bingle.

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

The Chairman explained that he had signed the Contract for the Sale of the Land as stated in the previous minutes to the Rev. A. H. Powell, but now the Gloucester Conservative Benefit Society had refused, as Mortgagees, to sanction the sale, which placed him (the Chairman) in an awkward position and he had summoned this meeting to know the opinion of his fellow Directors.

Every Director present expressed their views in favour of the sale and surprise at the action of the Benefit Society. Mr. Madge however pointed out that one of the strongest objections he understood was that a portion of the purchase money would be retained by the Company to pay for the necessary new fencing. After due consideration of the matter it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Warner that the Directors write the members of the Committee of the Benefit Society to meet the Directors on the Ground as early as possible to further discuss the whole matter.

The Chairman was asked to obtain tenders for the erection of the new fence needed in time for the joint meeting.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

July 10th, 1922.

Meeting at the Ground, on Monday, 10th July, 1922, at 2:30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey (Chairman), S. W. Bingle, A. Fielding, W. T. Warner, J. T. Brookes, W. G. Ayliffe, A. C. Williams, A. G. Winfield, Directors.

W. H. Madge, Solicitor.

Wm. Dancey, Agent.

J. E. Dutton, Auditor.

Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Mr. F. H. Bretherton and Mr. H. J. Berry.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Removal of Office.

The Secretary reported he had removed his office to 11 London Road, Gloucester, and had in accordance with law given Notice to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and had received from the Registrars an acknowledgement of same which had been placed with the Certificate of the Company in the front of the Minute Book of General Meetings.

Conservative Benefit Society and Sale of Land to Rev. Powell.

The Chairman exhaustively explained how matters had developed with regard to the sale of the proposed land [*sic*] to the Rev. A. H. Powell, pointing out that the Conservative Benefit Society, as Mortgagees, had in the event of their consenting laid down certain clauses to be in the conditions of the sale, and Mr. William Dancey explained to the Meeting how the sale was negotiated by him.

The ground to be as a garden, but with no added restrictions. Mr. Madge also gave the position as from a legal point and also that he had seen Mr. Powell's solicitors, when he was in London, and they had informed him they considered such clauses as Mr. Madge suggested to them as reasonable, but that they would have to act on the instructions of their client, Mr. Powell.

At 3 o'clock a deputation from the Conservative Benefit Society consisting of Mr. Pippard, Grand Master, Mr. S. Pringle, Secretary, and Messrs. H. W. Bennett, James Morgan, and J. E. Dutton attended the meeting, inspected the angle piece of land and thoroughly discussed the whole situation, pointing out their particular reasons why safeguarding clauses as to the nature and value of any use to which the land may be put to or buildings built thereon.

After a very exhaustive discussion between the Directors and the deputation, the Directors retired from the meeting for a time, while the deputation conferred, and on the resumption of the Meeting the deputation reported that they had decided to recommend the Benefit Society to sanction the sale of the land subject to £200 being paid off the Mortgage, and that the Solicitor, Mr. Walter Madge, to use his best efforts to get inserted in the conditions of sale such clauses as will safeguard the land being used for any purpose that would decrease the value of the adjoining portion of the ground. If, however, the Rev. Powell refused to consent to the insertion of safeguarding clauses the deputation intimated that they would still recommend the Committee of the Benefit Society to sanction the sale.

[Unsigned]

Directors' Meeting at the Chairman's Office, 1 Barton Street, on Friday, August 4th, 1922, at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. A. Dancey (Chairman), A. F. Fielding, J. T. Brookes, A. C. Williams, W. G. Ayliffe, A. G. Winfield, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Messrs. Warner, Berry, and Bingle.

Fence for Land Sold to Rev. Powell.

Mr. Dancey explained that nothing definite had yet been received in writing from the Conservative Benefit Society but he had every reason to believe that the matter would go through alright and as the Rev. Powell was anxious to get on with his planned alterations he caused this meeting to be called to settle the type of fence the Directors would erect round the land. [*sic*]

He had two estimates; one from Romans & Co., and one from Mr. William Jones, for a fence 4ft. 6in. high open rails, or a closed fence 7 feet high. However as the price for the 7ft. high was about £57, the meeting considered this too much to spend out of the purchase money, and when the matter had been well debated, Mr. Fielding proposed and Mr. Williams seconded and it was resolved that a Cleft Chestnut and Wire fence be erected and that the matter be left with the Chairman to put the order in hand as soon as possible.

Mr. Dancey produced a drawing of the suggested fence.

[Unsigned]

Directors' Meeting at the Chairman's Office, 1 Barton Street, at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, August 28th, 1922.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey (Chairman), A. F. Fielding, A. C. Williams, A. G. Winfield, J. T. Brookes, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Messrs. Ayliffe and Warner.

Barton Fair, 1922.

The Chairman stated that on August 18th a deputation of the Showman's Guild called on the Secretary. The deputation consisted of Messrs. Jack Gage, Jacob Studt, Jnr., Mr. White, and two others. They said they had failed to come to terms with the Corporation for the Oxleaze to be used as Barton Fair, and they were open to take the Kingsholm Ground. As this was by no means the first time this sort of thing had occurred, but always ended in the Oxleaze being used, the Secretary pointed out that fact to the deputation, but they were very emphatic that they had finished negotiations with the Corporation.

The Secretary then informed them that before he could move in the matter, he must have a definite offer in writing to lay before the Directors; but on the distinct and clear understanding that all gates and doors should be closed at least one hour before and during all Football Matches

They promised that such an offer should be posted that night, August 18th, and it was not until the 22nd that the written offer was received, which was £200 for the use of the spare piece of land behind the New Grandstand, from September 23rd to October 10th.

Mr. Dancey said that as this was a matter which was of importance not only to the Company but also to the Corporation and the Ratepayers of the City, he as Chairman did not feel inclined to accept the responsibility of deciding the offer, as he foresaw more in the matter than appeared on the surface, so he ordered the Directors to be called together with a special request for attendance.

Mr. Dancey informed the meeting that he had seen the Mayor, Mr. J. O. Roberts, so as to learn how matters stood with the Corporation, and the Mayor expressed a wish to attend this meeting, and explain the reason of how the failure of the Corporation arose.

Some discussion followed, and reasons expressed of why the Company should try to work with the Corporation in the matter.

At 5:30 the Mayor arrived and first of all expressed his great appreciation of being allowed to attend so that the position might be clearly understood, and it amounted to this;

The Showman's Guild were anxious to shut out of the Fair Ground all Showmen and others who were not members of the Guild, and thus get the fair entirely under their control as it once was under the terms of agreement with Mr. Jacob Studt, and as the Fair Committee of the Corporation were unanimously against surrendering their right to control the Fair Ground the Guild were trying to obtain Kingsholm Ground, which, if let, would divide the Fair and neither portion could prove a success.

The whole points were thoroughly discussed, the Mayor giving every reason for the Corporation retaining their rights and each Director entered fully into position as regards the Company, and Messrs. Brookes and Fielding voiced the Football Club's views, seeing that both Club and Company would benefit to the amount of £100 each. Over one hour was spent in trying to find a way by which the Company and Corporation might arrange matters to the mutual advantage to both.

Finally, the Mayor retired for a few minutes, and on the proposition of Mr. Fielding seconded by Mr. Brookes it was resolved to offer to let the Ground to the Corporation from September 23rd to October 10th for the sum of £100 this year and that in 1923 and 1924 for the same periods for £50 each year.

The Mayor then re-entered the room and after considerable further discussion the Mayor accepted the offer on behalf of the Corporation.

The Mayor again expressed his sincere thanks to the Directors for the very fair consideration they had given the whole matter and retired from the meeting.

The Late Mr. H. J. Berry.

The Chairman alluded to the death of Mr. H. J. Berry on August 17th. Mr. Dancey pointed out he was the oldest member of the Board and had always attended regularly until his health gave way. He had always been a generous, kind-hearted friend to all who knew him, and his amiable manner and genial company was always much appreciated by the Board as well as his readiness to do all in his power for the welfare of the Company. All present concurred with the Chairman's remarks and the Secretary was instructed to convey to Mrs. Berry the Directors' sincerest sympathy.

Fence of Land sold to Rev. Powell.

Mr. Dancey stated he informed the Rev. Powell that the Directors had decided on the score of cost to erect a "Cleft Chestnut & Wire" fence round the land sold him. Mr. Powell objected and requested a closed fence, and suggested the Football Club might be appealed to and asked to assist in the cost.

The representatives of the Club however said they could not consent to this so the Chairman was ordered to proceed with the "Chestnut & Wire fence" and the Secretary to write Mr. Powell to this effect.

Drain and Two Water Pipes under Rev. Powell's Land.

Mr. Powell informed Mr. Madge that the two water pipes and drain under his land must be moved or he would take less land so that the drain and pipes might be outside his boundary line. However, Mr. Madge hoped to get Mr. Powell to consent to allow the drain and pipes to remain on condition that the Company paid one shilling rent for the right, and undertaking to remove same whenever proper notice was given.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

December 4th, 1922.

Directors' Meeting held on Monday, December 4th, 1922, at 4:30 p.m. at the Chairman's Office.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey (Chairman), F. H. Bretherton, A. F. Fielding, J. T. Brookes, W. G. Ayliffe, A. G. Winfield, Directors.
Walter H. Madge, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

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

The Chairman mentioned that the £100 had been paid by the Corporation and £50 had been handed to the Football Club, as agreed.

Rev. Powell and Drains and Water Pipes under his Land.

A letter was read from Messrs. Grimes, Madge & Lloyd to the effect that the Rev. Powell asked £1 a year for the right of allow these to remain. Every member of the Board considered this unreasonable and after considerable discussion and the legal position had been stated by Mr. Madge, it was resolved on Mr. Fielding's proposition seconded by Mr. Brookes that the matter be left for Mr. Madge to see Mr. Powell to endeavour to obtain from him more reasonable terms.

The Balance Sheet and Report.

The Chairman produced a draft copy of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet which showed a disposable Balance on the year of £231 17s. 8d. To pay a 5% dividend amounted to £157 10s. 0d., leaving £74 7s. 8d. to meet the cost of further repairs needed. On the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Brookes both the Report and Balance Sheet were adopted.

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

Mr. H. H. Berry elected Director.

Mr. Dancey proposed and Mr. Brookes seconded that Mr. H. Henry Berry be elected Director to take his late father's seat on the Board. Carried.

Mr. Brookes mentioned the fact that the Football Club had bought a considerable number more shares in the Company and were desirous of securing more and hinted that the fact might be mentioned in the Directors' report. The Board however thought it best to leave the Report as drafted.

Football Terms.

[Terms] for this season were referred to and the Meeting decided to go into the matter after the Annual General Meeting.

[Signed] Harry A. Dancey.

January 15th 1923.

1923

Directors' Meeting held at Mr. Harry A. Dancey's Office on 16th January, 1923.

Present: Messrs. Harry A. Dancey, J. T. Brookes, H. H. Berry, W. G. Ayliffe, A. F. Fielding, A. C. Williams, A. G. Winfield, W. T. Warner, Directors.
W. H. Madge, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

This being the first meeting since the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders, Mr. Harry A. Dancey was duly elected Chairman, on the proposition of Mr. Fielding seconded by Mr. Williams.

Mr. Dancey then asked Mr. Ayliffe to accept the Office of Deputy Chairman, but Mr. Ayliffe said he would rather Mr. Fielding filled the position. Mr. Dancey therefore nominated Mr. Fielding and the meeting confirmed the appointment.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported having made the usual Annual Return to Somerset House and had received acknowledgment that same had been filed.

Pipes lowered to Safe Position under Rev. Powell's Land.

The Secretary reported that the Rev. Powell, in levelling his land, had come on the Company's water supply pipes and that they would be in danger through frost. The Chairman gave instructions for the pipes to be lowered into the ground for safety, which had been done by Mr. Jones, Builder.

Drain and Water Pipes under Rev. Powell's Land.

Mr. Madge reported he had interviewed the Rev. Powell who had agreed to accept 10/- a year instead of £1 for the right of the Drain & Water Pipes remaining on his land.

Football Rent for 1922-1923.

The Secretary reported that in September, Mr. Arthur Hudson intimated that the Club had appointed a deputation to interview the Directors with regard to a reduction of Rent, and that the Chairman, Mr. Dancey, said the matter could not be considered until the Balance Sheet of the Company had been prepared, to see how the year had turned out.

As the Advertising Agent, Mr. William Dancey had considerable trouble in getting some amounts in, and it was not until November 16th that he was able to render his statement and cheque, but immediately on receipt of that the accounts were made up, Balance Sheet prepared, audited, and placed before the Directors on December 4th, so that as far as the Company's officials were concerned there had been no avoidable delay, and through the illness of the Chairman and Secretary on the evening of the Annual Meeting the matter was adjourned.

Now a letter had been received from the Club as follows, dated January 5th 1923:-

To the Secretary of the Company.

Dear Sir,

My Committee direct me to offer £200 as rent of the Kingsholm Ground for the present season. Other conditions as to sub-lettings as before.

I shall be glad to hear your Director's decision as early as possible.

Yours faithfully.

(Signed) A. Hudson.

Sec.

The Chairman asked those present who are members of the Football Committee to further explain, which Mr. Brookes and Mr. Fielding did to the effect that £200 was the total amount the Club offered for the season; nothing more towards repairs or other expenses.

Intense surprise was expressed by the Chairman and some other members of the Board, who pointed out that if such an amount was accepted the Company could not possibly pay ordinary expenses, to say nothing of a dividend.

Two hours were spent in discussion, the Representatives of the Club claiming that as the Club owned the major portion of the Share Capital, they, the Club, were anxious to secure all the remaining Shares and so become sole owners. Mr. Madge explained from a legal point of view the course which would have to be adopted, and every member of the Board took part in the discussion.

Mr. Fielding proposed that the offer should be accepted and Mr. Ayliffe seconded. However the discussion was continued and the proposition was withdrawn in favour [of] a proposition by Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Williams to ask the Club to put in writing their proposal for taking over the Ground from the Company. This was carried; Mr. Brookes and Mr. Fielding undertaking that the proposal should be forwarded to the Chairman, Mr. Harry A. Dancey, after the next Football Committee meeting.

Thanks to Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Bingle.

The Chairman mentioned that as Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Bingle had ceased to be members of the Board he thought they ought to record the Directors' thanks to both those gentlemen for the services they had rendered the Company for many years. The meeting heartily endorsed the Chairman's remarks and the Secretary was directed to convey the expressions to Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Bingle.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding

5 / 3 / 23

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel on Monday, 5th March, 1923.

Present: Messrs. A. F. Fielding, Deputy Chairman, who presided, W. G. Ayliffe, J. T. Brookes, H. H. Berry, A. C. Williams, Directors.

Walter H. Madge, Solicitor.

Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Mr. Dancey and Mr. Warner.

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

Resignation of Chairman.

A letter from Harry A. Dancey addressed to the Secretary was read in which Mr. Dancey resigned from the position as Chairman of the Directors (letter attached hereto). On the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Berry the resignation was accepted. At the same time the Secretary was instructed to convey to Mr. Dancey the Board's thanks and recognition of the able way he had conducted the business during his occupation of the Chairmanship.

Election of New Chairman.

On the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Berry, Mr. Arthur Fielding was unanimously elected Chairman.

Deputy Chairman.

Mr. Fielding nominated Mr. J. T. Brookes as Deputy Chairman and the Meeting confirmed the nomination.

Sale of Land to Rev. Powell - Conveyance to be Signed and Sealed.

On the proposition of Mr. Fielding seconded by Mr. Brookes it was resolved that the Conveyance of the piece of land sold to the Rev. Powell should be signed and sealed by two Directors and the Secretary (the amount of purchase £218).

Also on the proposition of Mr. Fielding seconded by Mr. Ayliffe it was resolved that the Agreement to pay Rev. Powell 10/- a year for the right of the Company drain and water supply pipes to remain in his land should be signed and sealed with the Company's seal.

New Director.

On the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Ayliffe, Mr. Arthur Hudson, Sports Outfitter, of Kingsholm, Gloucester, was unanimously elected a Director.

Football Club Willing to Purchase all Shares.

With respect to the Football Club being now prepared and willing to purchase all Shares held by others than the Clubs, a letter was now read addressed to Mr. Harry A. Dancey as Chairman, which was as follows;

[Herein a verbatim transcript of the letter; penned by the Secretary]

Gloucester Rugby Football Club

February 2nd, 1923.

Dear Sir,

My Committee have given long and careful consideration with regard to the Kingsholm Football Ground.

It is clear that the original intention was that it should be the permanent home of the Gloucester Rugby Football Club and at some future date to become their sole property. The Club are now in a position to acquire the whole of the shares, and we think the time is opportune to do so and take over the control of the Ground.

We are prepared to offer the remaining shareholders the price paid by them for their holdings, and we hope this will be acceptable and that no difficulties will arise to prevent the completion of the transaction as early as possible.

Thanks to the response to our individual applications for the Shares, the Club now hold 65 per cent. The Committee appreciate the consideration of the Directors and trust this further appeal will meet with their support and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) A. Hudson.

Secretary to the Club.

To:

*H. A. Dancey, Esq.,
Barton Street,
Gloucester.*

A discussion followed as to whether the Board could, or should assist the Club to obtain the remaining shares. Finally it was decided that the Directors could and should as far as they legally can assist the Club to acquire the shares and it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Brookes, that the Shareholders be recommended to accept the offer made by the Gloucester Football Club to purchase their holdings for the amounts paid for them respectively, and that Messrs. Grimes, Madge & Lloyd, the Company solicitors, be instructed to approach the shareholders with full explanation of the circumstances so that any misunderstanding might as far as possible be avoided.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding

21 / 3 / '23

[Below are transcripts of three documents attached to this page. (i) is a letter of resignation from Harry A. Dancey to Sidney S. Starr dated 1st March 1923; (ii) is a Post Card from and to the same individuals, dated 21 November 1923, and (iii) is a manuscript note containing figures relating to said Post Card (ii).]

(i)

HARRY A. DANCEY,
M.S.A. London
Architect,
Gloucester.

Telephone No. 931.

1 BARTON STREET,

"WOODLANDS,"
MIDLAND ROAD,
GLoucester.

March 1st, 1923.

S. S. Starr Esq.
Secretary
Athletic Ground Co.

Dear Starr,

After very careful consideration I have definitely made up my mind to resign the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Kingsholm Football & Athletic Ground Co., Ltd. This I regret after so many years of hard work freely given in the cause of sport, but it seems to me that it is an impossible position to hold under existing circumstances.

Whilst deprecating very strongly the method of procedure adopted by the Football Club to obtain the power I am bound to admit that they now have it, and I have been told that, "we intend to use it" the result of this is that practically any resolution brought forward is bound to be carried, and my position as Chairman is therefore nothing more than a figure head.

The object that the ground "should be the permanent home of the Gloucester Rugby Football Club" has been the ambition of every Director who has served upon the Board, but this could have been obtained I venture to think in a far better way if the Club had taken the Directors into their confidence, as I am certain they would have done all that they possibly could to bring it about, in the same friendly way they have always dealt with the Club. I feel that I cannot be a party to what is now being done and that is my reason for resigning.

I send with this the Deeds re. Powell which have to be stamped and signed at the next meeting of the Board, so that you may deal with them, and I shall be pleased to deliver up my Chairman's key of the Official Stamp to my Successor in exchange for a receipt for the same.

Yours faithfully,

Harry A. Dancey

(ii)

WILLIAM DANCEY, F.A.I.

Auctioneer, Valuer, Estate, House, Business Transfer and Insurance Agent, Auditor, etc.

CITY CHAMBERS, 1 & 3, CLARENCE STREET

TELEGRAMS : DANCEY, AUCTIONEER

GLOUCESTER

TELEPHONE No. 177

OFFICE HOURS: 9 TILL 6.

THURSDAYS: 9 TILL 1

21 / 11 / 23

Dear Sir

Kingsholm.

Answer to Enquiry : 672 sq. yards at £218.

Yours faithfully

William Dancey

(iii)

Say at 6/6	672 yards
	<u>6½</u>
	4032
	<u>336</u>
	20) 4368
	£ 218 = 8 = 0

Directors' Meeting held on Wednesday March 21st, 1923, at the New Inn Hotel at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), A. G. Winfield, H. H. Berry, J. T. Brookes, A. Hudson, W. G. Ayliffe, Walter T. Warner, Directors.
Walter H. Madge, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology were received from Mr. Harry A. Dancey.

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

Mr. Hudson and Summer Letting.

Mr. Arthur Hudson wrote offering £35 as usual for May, June, July, and August 1923, for Tennis and Grazing as previous years and share with the Company any other lettings, which was accepted on the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Winfield.

School Sports.

A letter was read from Capt. F. Blackwell asking for terms for the Field for Elementary School Sports on Whit Monday, but as Mr. Hudson was accepted as Lessee for the Summer Months the Secretary was directed to inform Capt. Blackwell he must now communicate with Mr. Hudson.

Shareholders and Football Club.

Mr. Madge reported the result of his interview with Mr. T. A. Washbourn and Mr. Norman respecting their Shares and the Football Club representatives undertook to report same to the Football Club.

Football Rent for 1922-1923.

With reference to the Football Club's offer of £200 as Rent for Season 1922-1923. After some discussion, it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Berry that the Directors could not accept such a small amount and that the Football Club be asked to kindly reconsider the matter.

As applications were being made for Income and other Taxes the Chairman instructed the Secretary to apply to the Football Club for some part of the rent on account, for this season.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

25 / 5 / 23.

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel on Friday, 25th May, 1923, at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), W. G. Ayliffe, A. Hudson, H. H. Berry, Directors.
Walter H. Madge, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Messrs. J. T. Brookes and W. T. Warner.

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

Mr. Winfield ceases to be a Director.

The Secretary reported Mr. Albert Winfield having disposed of his Shares to the Football Club he had ceased to be a Director.

Football Club Paid £150 on account of Rent.

The Secretary reported that the Football Club had paid £150 on account of the rent for season 1922-1923, which had been duly banked and which allowed the payment of Income Tax Schedule 'A' - £39 1s. 3d., plus Schedule 'D' - £24 10s. 0d.

Football Rent.

With reference to the request from the last Director's meeting to the Football Club to reconsider the rent for last season, a reply was read from the Secretary of the Football Club making an amended offer of £250, as compared with the previous offer of £200.

A lengthy discussion followed. Many references were made to the various amounts paid during the past years, as well as dividends and other circumstances on which were based the rents received. After an exhaustive debate in which Mr. Madge pointed out the responsible position of the Directors with regard to meeting the expenses of the current year if the Board accepted the £250.

Finally, it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Hudson, that Mr. Madge should draft a letter to the Club accepting the £250 under protest, and with the distinct understanding the Club will make good any deficit on the Company's years' working.

The letter to be submitted to the Chairman of the Company (Mr. Arthur Fielding) for his approval before being sent to the Club. [*sic*].

[Signed] A. F. Fielding

15 / 6 / 23.

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel on Friday, June 15th, 1923, at 5:15 p.m.

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

Apology was received from Mr. Walter T. Warner.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Football Club.

The letter to the Football Club as drafted by Mr. Madge and approved by Mr. Fielding was read. In reply to which Mr. Hudson now stated the Club Committee had resolved to make good any deficit incurred by the Company during the present years' working.

Football Club to be owners of any New Stand they may erect.

A letter was read from the Football Club to the effect that the Committee were considering the provision of a New Grand Stand and they wished to know whether the Directors were prepared to give guarantees that all Buildings or other improvements made on the Ground at the expense of the Club shall remain at all times their property. On the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Berry it was resolved - 'That after this date any Buildings or Improvements erected by the Football Club on the Kingsholm Ground shall be recognized as Tenants' fixtures and therefore the property of the Gloucester Rugby Football Club.'

Make Up Accounts to April 30th, and Company's Year to end each April 30th.

Mr. Brookes introduced the subject of altering the dates of the Company's Financial Year, so that it might coincide with the Football Club's season, viz. to close April 30th, and Mr. Brookes proposed, Mr. Berry seconding that, subject to the Company's Articles of Association permitting it, the accounts should be made up to April 30th, 1923. Carried.

The Secretary promised to carefully read through the Articles and also consult Mr. Madge on the matter.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

20 / 8 / 23.

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel on Monday, August 20th, 1923.

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

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Arising out of the Minutes of the last meeting a letter was read from Messrs. Grimes, Madge & Lloyd with reference to the suggestion that the Company's accounts and Balance Sheet should be made up to April 30, in which they as Solicitors to the Company recommended that no change should be made until after a resolution to that effect had been passed by the Shareholders.

Sale of Land to Rev. Powell.

The Chairman mentioned that the Conveyance of the land to the Rev. Powell had now been completed and all costs connecting therewith had been paid.

Football Rent for Season 1923-24.

An estimated Balance was presented by the Chairman up to August 31st, 1923, which showed an estimated deficit of £28 9s. 4d. on the years' working. A discussion took place on the matter and a deputation from the Football Club consisting of Messrs. George Fox and W. P. R. Kerr attended at 7:30 p.m.

The position of Company and Club was fully discussed. One suggestion was made that the Club should pay Rates for Eight Months (the length of their tenancy each year) instead of for only six months as at present. Also, that as the Company's income must be increased the Club should either pay an increased rent or by some arrangements a Rent of £250 with a percentage of the profits for the season.

Mr. Hudson and the deputation undertook to report to the Football Club and send to the Company the Club's offer.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

24 / 9 / 23.

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel on Monday, September 24th, 1923, at the New Inn Hotel.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), H. H. Berry, W. G. Ayliffe, A. Hudson, W. T. Warner, Directors.
Walter H. Madge, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was received from Mr. J. T. Brookes who was away from home.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Football Club Rent for Season 1923-1924.

A letter was read from the Football Club as follows:

Kingsholm, Gloucester.

September 11th, 1923.

Dear Sir,

Referring to the interview with your Directors respecting the terms for the Kingsholm Ground for the present season, the matter was dealt with by my Committee and they are prepared to offer you the following terms;

- 1st. To pay eight months local rates instead of six as formerly.*
- 2nd. To pay a rental of £250 and 5 per cent of nett profit made during the season (nett profit is meant after Income Tax has been provided for).*

I am requested to draw your attention to the fact that no other Amateur Club in the Country pay anything approaching such a high rental for their ground and that originally the Football Club did not pay any part of the Rates.

The Club is of the opinion that the offer now made is a generous one and trust it will be acceptable to your Directors.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) A. Hudson.

Secretary

*To: S. S. Starr
Gloucester.*

A lengthy discussion and consideration followed, many questions being addressed to, and answered by Mr. Hudson, and the Chairman elicited from Mr. Hudson that the Football

Committee had spent much time over the matter and from what took place Mr. Hudson thought it was the utmost the Club could be induced to offer. One particular point they wished to be clear and definite was that the nett profit should mean after Income Tax had been provided for.

Finally, on the proposition of Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Ayliffe it was unanimously resolved to accept the offer for this season.

The question of Boodle's Advertisement on the roof of the Gymnasium was mentioned; now that Boodles' tenancy had expired the wording should be painted out. The Board however decided not to go to any expense over the matter but that every endeavour should be made to re-let the space.

Payments were ordered to be made

Rates	£105	9s.	3d.	
Mortgage Interest	£23	16s.	6d.	to August 31st, 1923.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

Chairman

19 / 11 / 23.

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel on November 19th, 1923.

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

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Arising out of the Minutes, the Chairman mentioned that Boodles advertisement had now been painted out and the space taken by Messrs. Moreland at the same rate, viz. £5 a year.

Report and Balance Sheet.

The Chairman produced a draft Report and Balance Sheet showing a disposable Balance of £106 2s. 11d.

After carefully considering both, Mr. Brookes proposed and Mr. Berry seconded that both be adopted and to recommend a Dividend of 2½% less tax, amounting to £60 1s. 0d. Carried.

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

Resolved that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders should be held at the New Inn Hotel on Monday, December 3rd, at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Jones, Builder; and pitch for Concrete.

The Chairman mentioned that Mr. William Jones, the Builder, had applied for permission to store concrete on the Field close to Mr. Jones' fence, and that he (the Chairman) had sanctioned his doing so provided he kept it close up to the fence and agreed to pay 2/- a week for the right so long as any concrete was there, and Mr. Jones had agreed to this.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

Chairman.

3 / 12 / 23.

Directors' Meeting held on Monday, 3rd December, 1923, at 5:15 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Arthur F. Fielding (Chairman), W. G. Ayliffe, H. H. Berry, A. Hudson,
Directors.
W. H. Madge, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and then all present attended the
Annual General Meeting of Shareholders at 5:30 p.m.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

1 / 5 / 24.

Directors Meeting held on Thursday, May 1st, 1924, at 12:30 p.m., at the New Inn Hotel.

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

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Norman and last Report and Balance Sheet - not received.

A letter was read from Mr. H. G. Norman addressed to the Secretary stating he did not receive a copy of the Report and Balance Sheet up to August 31st, 1923. However the Secretary had replied that with all the others one was posted at 9:15 a.m. by the Secretary himself on Saturday, 25th, at the Head Post Office. The Board was satisfied that the Secretary would exercise every care that each Shareholder should receive a Balance Sheet and Report, and they had no doubt that one was posted to Mr. Norman.

1924 Summer Lettings to A. Hudson.

A letter was read from Mr. Arthur Hudson offering to take the Ground on the same terms as in 1923, viz. from May 1st (today) to August 31st for the sum of £35 for the right of Tennis and Grazing and to share with the Company any other lettings.

But Mr. Hudson agreed to transfer his tenancy to the Football Club should they so desire, as the Club was very anxious to give attention to the turf on the playing part during the summer.

A discussion followed in which it was pointed out that an advantage would be gained by the Club having the Summer Tenancy because they would be continually improving the ground and thereby adding to the value of the property.

On the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Berry it was unanimously resolved to accept Mr. Hudson's offer.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

24 / 11 / 24.

Directors Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel, on November 24th, 1924.

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

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported there had been a serious block in the inspection pit of the drain from the Gymnasium which was discovered just at the beginning of September and as it interfered with the use of the baths it had to be attended to at once. Mr. Jones, the Builder, had carried out the work and by dropping the stone covering the pit (which was now covered over) it was hoped to avoid any such block in the future.

Damage to Fence by Mr. Warner's Car.

Also it was stated the Worcester Street fencing had been damaged by an accident on August 23rd when Mr. Walter Warner's car skidded. The fence had been repaired and the Secretary had informed Mr. Warner that the account would be forwarded to him directly he received it.

Summer Letting to the Football Club.

The Chairman remarked the result of letting the Ground to the Football Club for the Summer months had proved very satisfactory. So much so, that on all hands, Players, Spectators, and Press agreed that the attention paid to the Ground during the summer months made it in a far better condition than ever before.

Balance Sheet to August 31st, 1924.

The Chairman read the audited Balance Sheet to August 31st, 1924, which showed an income (including a balance brought forward of £46 1s. 11d.) of £470 10s. 3d., with expenses £365 1s. 0d. leaving a disposable Balance of £105 9s. 3d.

On the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Berry the Balance Sheet was adopted.

Also that a dividend of 2½% be paid, less Tax.

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Hudson that the Chairman and Mr. Berry sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Directors.

Annual Meeting.

Mr. Brookes proposed and Mr. Berry seconded that the Annual General Meeting be held at the New Inn Hotel on Monday, December 8th, 1924, at 5:30 p.m. Carried.

Football Rent for Season 1924-1925.

A discussion took place with regard to the Football Rent for Season 1924-25. Mr. Brookes and Mr. Hudson informed the Board that the Club had already gone thoroughly into the matter and were prepared to accept the same terms as last season. On the proposition of Mr. Fielding seconded by Mr. Berry it was resolved to offer the Ground to the Club on the same terms as 1923-1924.

Mr. H. A. Dancey and Directorship.

As Mr. Dancey was not present the Board instructed the Secretary to write him and ascertain if he was desirous of being re-elected as a Director at the Annual General Meeting, as his term would have expired then, and to get his reply before having the Report printed.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

8 / 12 / 24.

Directors Meeting held on Monday, December 8th, 1924 at 5:00 p.m..

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

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

Football Rent 1924-1925.

A reply from the Football Club accepting the terms for season 1924-1925; same as 1923-1924.

Reply from Mr. H. A. Dancey.

A reply was read from Mr. Harry A. Dancey, leaving the question of his re-election for the Board to decide (letter attached hereto).

The Directors present all attended the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders at 5:30 p.m.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

29 / 4 / 25.

[Below are transcripts of the two letters that are attached to this page. The first (i) is from the Secretary (Sidney S. Starr) to Mr. Harry A. Dancey dated 24th November enquiring as to Mr. Dancey's intentions regarding future Directorship (see above). The second (ii) is Mr. Dancey's reply].

(i)

Copy

November 24th, 1924.

Dear Sir,

At the meeting this evening the Board drafted the Report for the Annual General Meeting (Dec. 8th). inserting "Mr. H. A. Dancey retires automatically and being eligible offers himself for re-election" but the Directors instructed me, before having the Reports printed, to enquire if that met with your approval.

As the reports have to be printed and posted this week, I shall be glad to receive your consent tomorrow, Tuesday, as early as possible.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

Sidney S. Starr.

*Mr. Harry A. Dancey
1 Barton Street
Gloucester.*

(ii)

HARRY A. DANCEY,
M.S.A. London
Architect,
Gloucester.

Telephone No. 931.

1 BARTON STREET,

"WOODLANDS,"
MIDLAND ROAD,
GLoucester.

November 25th, 1924.

S. S. Starr, Esq.
Secretary,
Kingsholm Ground Co.

Dear Sir,

In reply to yours to hand this morning, it seems to me that the question you ask is one for the other Directors to decide themselves.

I am bound to admit that I felt very acutely the treatment I received some time ago, and I considered it most unkind, after devoting a great part of my life in trying to help the good old Club, and struggling hard to carry on and bring about what men like Hubert Boughton, Harry Grimes and others always had in their mind from the very first, viz. to see the Club in a position to purchase the ground and get it entirely in their own hands.

You personally know, that I told you long ago what was secretly going on, but you rather ridiculed my views. I was personally delighted to find the Club in a position to buy up so many shares, but for all this to be done in the manner it was done, purchasing the shares of some of the Directors so as to disqualify them as such, and then after others had been elected to fill their places, to be told, as I was at a meeting in my Office, "we have the power now and intend to use it" was, in my opinion, to say the least unjustified and unkind, and I am certain that all who were originally connected with the Ground Co, but who have now passed away would have resented such action as strongly as I did, and that is the reason I have not attended a Meeting of the Directors since.

Whatever happens, I do not intend to sell my shares, and if not a Director, shall have the opportunity, if necessity arises, of expressing my views at the Annual meetings of the Company.

Yours faithfully,

Harry A. Dancey

1925

Directors Meeting held on Wednesday April 29th, 1925.

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

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

Damage to Fence.

The Secretary reported the damage done to the Worcester Street fence by Mr. Walter Warner's car on August 23rd last had been repaired and the account for same had been settled by the Insurance Company with whom Mr. Warner was insured. The cheque [for] £5 1s. 6d. being paid direct to Mr. W. Jones who did the work.

Increased Assessment.

The Chairman reported that in consequence of the new Grand Stands erected by the Football Club the Income Tax people had raised the Assessment (for Property Tax) from £309 to £371 15s. 0d.

Mr. Fielding stated he had conferred with the Officials of the Football Club and they with him considered it would be best not to appeal against the new assessment, and the Club had consented to pay the difference between the amount to be paid this year as compared with last. On the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Ayliffe the action of the Chairman was confirmed.

Football Club and Summer Months.

A letter was read from the Football Club offering to take the Ground for the Summer Months, viz. May 1st., to August 31st., on the same conditions as last year; £35 for Tennis, Cricket, and Grazing, and ½ receipts from any other lettings. Resolved on the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Berry to accept same.

Damage to Double Doors - Worcester Street.

The Secretary reported considerable damage was done to the Worcester Street centre double doors during the building of [the] New Stand, and as the work was carried out by the Club it was thought the Club should do the necessary repairs to the doors. Mr. Brookes (as Chairman of the Football Club) undertook that they (the Club) do so.

Sangers' Circus.

It was reported that Messrs. Sangers had applied for the Ground in April for their Circus, but Mr. Hudson considered, first of all, the part available now, was not large enough; besides the nuisance which would be sure to take place under the new Stands would be likely to cause complaint by the Sanitary Authorities.

Mr. Starr said when applied to by Messrs. Sangers he held the same opinion. The Board upheld the contention of the Secretary to the Club and Company.

Spare Land behind New Grand Stand.

An informal discussion took place as to selling for Motor Garage the spare land between the New Grand Stand and Mr. Jones' builders' yard and the Secretary was directed to sound Messrs. Hardacre of the Kingsholm Garage on the matter.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

23 / 10 / 25.

Directors Meeting held on Friday October 23rd, 1925.

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

Apologies were received from Mr. Walter H. Madge, Solicitor, and Mr. Walter T. Warner.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Arising out of the Minutes.

The Secretary reported the double doors had not yet been repaired but that the Football Club had given instructions for same to Mr. Jones who had promised to carry out the work directly he had sufficient strength at home to handle the heavy doors [*sic*].

The Secretary also reported Messrs. Hardacre had informed him they had no intention of extending their premises and were not requiring more land. Also Mr. William Jones ceased to use the bit of land (on which he stored concrete) on June 7th and had paid rent up to that date; 40 weeks @ 2/- = £4 and half that amount had been duly handed to the Football Club, as agreed.

Football Rent for Season 1925-1926.

A letter was read from the Football Club offering the same terms as for the past two seasons, viz.

Rent £250, eight months local Rates and 5% of Profits.

The particulars of the last two seasons were read;

1923-24	Rent £250 + £25 profits
1924-25	" " £15 " + Summer Letting £35

It was pointed out that there would be no £25 for Barton Fair this year and a suggestion was made that as the Club were now tenants for the whole year they should pay the local Rates for the twelve months. After some discussion the meeting decided to ask the Club to consider the matter and Mr. Brookes as Chairman of the Football Committee promised this should be done.

Sale of Land.

The question of selling the land between the back of the new Stand and the River Twyver was again discussed and the Board considered it an opportunity for the Corporation to purchase the land and cut [a] new road from Deans Walk and Kingsholm Road. Mr. Brookes stated the Football Committee unanimously favour selling the spare land.

A letter was read from Mr. Madge stating he had seen the City Surveyor and the Chairman of the Streets Committee who stated they had a scheme for better connection between Westgate Street and Kingsholm Road but any proposal for a road through the Football Ground would receive proper consideration, particularly in view that the Ministry of Transport makes a Grant towards the cost of a scheme for new roads favourably considered.

Finally it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Berry seconded by Mr. Ayliffe that a notice board should be placed on the Ground offering the spare land for sale.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

December 2nd, 1925.

Directors Meeting held on Monday, December 2nd, 1925.

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 were received from Mr. Walter H. Madge, Solicitor.

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

Football Rent 1925-1926.

A further letter was received from the Football Club offering to take the Ground for the whole year ending August 31st 1926 and to pay a rent of £275, the whole of the Rates, and for any reasonable repairs, and Mr. Brookes as Chairman of the Football Club said the Club would also pay Harris the Groundsman the 4/- per week which had been paid by the Company as from September 1st, 1925.

These terms were accepted on the proposition of Mr. Ayliffe seconded by Mr. Berry.

Balance Sheet at August 31st, 1925.

The Chairman submitted the Balance Sheet to August 31st, 1925;

showing an income (which included	
a balance of £44 8s. 9d. from 1924) of	£460 14s. 0d.
and Expenses	<u>£354 13s. 2d.</u>
Leaving a disposable Balance of	£105 0s. 10d.

The Chairman also submitted the suggested Report. Both were adopted on the proposition of Mr. Hudson seconded by Mr. Berry.

2½% Dividend.

Mr. Fielding proposed payment of 2½% dividend, less Tax. This was seconded by Mr. Brookes and carried.

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

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. Brookes seconded by Mr. Hudson that the Annual General Meeting be held at the New Inn Hotel on Monday, December 14th, at 5:15 p.m.

[Signed] Arthur F. Fielding.

14 / 12 / 25.

Directors Meeting held on Monday, December 14th, 1925.

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

The Minutes of the last Directors' meeting were read and confirmed, and all present then
attended the Annual General Meeting of the Company.

[Signed] A. F. Fielding.

25 / 11 / 26.