

Gloucester Football & Athletic Ground Company

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

(Part II - 1906-1910)

1906

Directors' Meeting at Mr. Grimes' Office, January 1st, 1906.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), T. A. Washbourn, S. Davis, F. H. Bretherton, C. H. Dancey, F. W. Lovesey, H. A. Dancey, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Grimes produced the Engrossment of the Deed of Further Charge to the Gloucester Conservative Benefit Society for £1,000, and having read and explained the same it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Bretherton seconded by Mr. C. H. Dancey that the Common Seal of the Company be affixed to the Deed.

It was resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. F.H. Bretherton that in accordance with the resolution passed at the last Board meeting the Secretary be instructed to write forthwith to the Football and Athletic Clubs asking them if they were prepared to take up the fresh shares about to be issued in the respective proportions stated in such resolution.

The Secretary was further instructed that in the event of either Club not taking up the whole number of shares offered to it, the balance was to be offered to the other Club.

The Secretary reported that he had received an enquiry whether the rooms in the Gymnasium could be hired for the purpose of a public meeting in support of the candidature of Mr. Terrell. He was authorized to let the rooms for this purpose and also if he had an opportunity to the other party for a fee of Two Guineas, subject to the hirers undertaking to repair any damage that might be committed.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Directors' Meeting held at the New Inn Hotel on Wednesday, January 31st, 1906.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, H. J. Berry, H. A. Dancey, C. E. Brown, T. A. Washbourn, F. H. Bretherton, S. Davis, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last three meetings were read and confirmed.

Account for Repairs to Turnstile.

After some further discussion as to whether the Company or the Football Club should pay for the repairs to the Turnstile, it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Washbourn seconded by Mr. Davis that the Company should settle it without prejudice.

Football Club willing to take the whole of the £150 worth of Shares.

A letter was read from Mr. Bingle, Secretary to the Football Club, stating the Club was prepared to take the whole of the £150 worth of Shares about to be issued; the Athletic Club agreeing to let the Football Club take the lot.

Removal of Record Boards to New Building.

Application was made by the Football Club for permission to remove their Record Boards from the old Pavilion to inside the Gymnasium. The Secretary was instructed to write the Club's Secretary giving the Director's permission.

Mr. Max Bellows' Letter.

A letter was read from Mr. Max Bellows enquiring if the New Buildings were available to both political parties, and the Secretary read the reply he had sent, which was to the effect that either party could have the use of the room on exactly the same conditions.

Mr. Terrell's Meeting.

The Secretary reported that at Mr. Terrell's meeting some of the iron gratings over the hot water pipes were broken, but according to the terms of taking the room the damage had been paid for by Mr. Terrell's agent.

Worcester Street Fence Repairs.

Mr. Dolman having prepared the cost of repairing the Worcester Street fence, the same was read to the meeting, and after careful consideration it was decided on the proposition of Mr. Bretherton seconded by Mr. T. A. Washbourn that Red Deal should be used and a stay put to every other post and that the Chairman and Mr. Harry Dancey be empowered to give such instructions to Mr. Dolman after further discussing certain points with him.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Meeting of the Directors held at Mr. Grimes' Office, Bell Lane, February 2nd, 1906.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), H. J. Berry, C. H. Dancey, F. H. Bretherton, S. Davis, H. A. Dancey, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last three meetings were read and confirmed.

Issue of £150 worth of Shares.

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. Berry that the Certificate for 150 Shares be issued to the nominee of the Gloucester Football Club and handed [over] in exchange for £150.

Total Cost of New Buildings.

The Architect produced a statement of the total expenditure in connection with the New Buildings, including Architect Fees and Clerk of Works, the whole amounting to

£1,102 15s. 5d.

The Solicitor produced account of Law Costs and Charges: Himself and the Solicitor to the Benefit Society, £5 10s. 0d. and £9 18s. 0d. respectively;

£ 15 8s. 0d.

£1,118 3s. 5d.

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. Berry; That in consideration of the additional work which had fallen on the Secretary he voted the sum of

£ 6 16s. 7d.

Total Cost:

£1125 0s 0d.

Leaving a balance of Capital for future emergencies of

£ 25 0s. 0d.

£1,150 0s. 0d.

Meeting of the Directors, March 21st, 1906.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), H. A. Dancey, H. J. Berry, S. Davis, C. E. Brown, C. H. Dancey, T. A. Washbourn, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Evening Athletic Meeting, and Easter Tuesday.

The Secretary reported receiving enquiries from Mr. F. C. Ridler, Hon. Treasurer to the Gloucester Amateur Walking and Athletic Society, asking for terms on which the ground could be had for an afternoon meeting for Athletic Sports on Easter Tuesday; also for an evening meeting on some other day. The Secretary stated he had conferred with the Chairman of the Company and the Secretary of the Football Club and had offered the Field on the following terms;

For Easter Tuesday afternoon	£5 5s. 0d.
Use of Gymnasium	<u>£1 1s. 0d.</u>
Total:	<u>£6 6s. 0d.</u>

For an evening meeting from 5 o' clock or later	£2 2s. 0d.
Use of Gymnasium	<u>£1 1s. 0d.</u>
Total:	<u>£3 3s. 0d.</u>

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Ridler to the effect that they had given up the idea of holding Sports on Easter Tuesday but still entertained holding an evening meeting later in the season.

Training Tickets as before.

After considerable discussion on the matter, it was (for the present) resolved that Training tickets be issued as in previous years and that the new Gymnasium be kept locked up and not used by Athletes during the summer months.

Guarantee at Bank for Overdraft.

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. Davis seconded by Mr. H. J. Berry that the Secretary be instructed to obtain from the Bank the Guarantee signed by the Directors re. the Overdraft in connection with the New Buildings, seeing that the whole matter was now complete.

Damage to New Buildings.

Many complaints having been made by the Groundsman regarding the wilful damage done to the New Building, and the water supply pipes etc., by members of the Football Club. The Secretary was instructed to write the Secretary of the Football Club calling attention to the matter, and to ask that the Club Committee would take steps to stop the same.

Cricket to be allowed ? GWR Cricket Club.

The Secretary reported that from time to time he was getting applications to rent the Ground for Cricket, which in accordance with resolutions passed some years ago, he had informed the applicants that the Directors could not let the Field for cricket as it materially interfered with the Company's other tenants. However, he had now received a written

application from the Great Western Railway Cricket Club who were very anxious to secure the ground if terms could be arranged. The letter was read and the objections most fully discussed and considered, viz. it interfered with Bicycling, Running, Tennis, Volunteer drilling, etc., as the cricket ball had on more than one occasion struck persons taking part in the above named. Again it was argued the damage to the Field would be very considerable in consequence of the continuance of playing in the same place, and also that Dykes' (the Groundsman) time would be almost wholly occupied in attending to the Cricket Club.

It was therefore resolved on the proposition of Mr. H. J. Berry seconded by Mr. S. Davis that the Field be not let for Cricket, and that the Secretary write the Officials of the GWR Cricket Club informing them that the Directors regretted they could not see their way clear to offer them the Field on any terms.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Wednesday, September 26th, 1906.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), T. A. Washbourn, C. E. Brown, S. Davis, H. J. Berry, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Harness and New Cart.

The Secretary reported that the Company were frequently requiring the use of a Cart and up to the present time had been able to borrow, but that the owners of the Cart used up to now had fetched it from the field. He (the Secretary) having seen a suitable one advertised at a sale, had purchased same for £8 15s. 0d. and a set of harness for £1 14. 0d. Resolved that the Secretary's purchase be approved on the proposition of Mr. C. E. Brown seconded by Mr. S. Davis.

Balance Sheet and Report.

The Chairman read the Balance Sheet to August 31st, showing Receipts, including a balance of £50 from 1905;

	£528	8s.	9d.
Expenses	<u>£269</u>	<u>5s.</u>	<u>1d.</u>
Leaving a balance of	£259	3s.	8d.

Resolved to recommend a Dividend of 5% per annum

which would amount to	£150	0s.	0d.	
on the 3,000 shares;				
and on the 150 shares	<u>£ 4</u>	<u>7s.</u>	<u>6d.</u>	<u>£154 7s. 6d.</u>
				£104 16s. 2d.

To carry off to depreciation	£54	16s.	2d.	
and to carry forward	£50	0s.	0d.	
				<u>£104 16s. 2d.</u>

The Report as drafted by the Chairman and Secretary was also approved of.

Resolved that the Annual General Meeting be held at the New Inn Hotel on Friday October 12th, at 7:30 p.m.

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. E. Brown seconded by Mr. Berry that the Valuation of the Ground and Effects as stated in the Balance Sheet by the Secretary is hereby confirmed by this Board of Directors.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Friday, October 12th, 1906.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, F. H. Bretherton, F. W. Lovesy, T. A. Washbourn, H. A. Dancey, H. J. Berry, C. E. Brown, S. Davis, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Directors' Meetings in future to be on Fridays.

Mr. C. H. Dancey proposed and Mr. Bretherton seconded that all future Directors' meetings be held on Fridays and that one weeks' notice be given. Carried.

Extra Grandstand, between Old and New Pavilions.

The Chairman explained that there was an idea that at the South African match additional Grandstand could be erected between the old and new Pavilion at a cost of not more than £20, and if it was made a permanent structure, doubtless some portion of the cost would be borne by the County Football Club as expenses in connection with the South African match to be played on Saturday Nov. 3rd.

A rough sketch of the Stand was produced and discussed and on the proposition of Mr. Lovesy seconded by Mr. Washbourn it was resolved that if the suggested Stand could be erected by the Company subscribing £5 towards the cost the work be at once proceeded with. It being understood that the County Football Club would subscribe £10 and the City Club the other £5. A sub-committee was appointed to deal with the matter consisting of the Chairman, Messrs. C. E. Brown, and H. A. Dancey.

Mr. Grimes and Hire of Gymnasium for Winter Months.

Mr. Grimes stated the Wotton Tennis Club were looking out for a room for use during the winter months during the afternoons, and on the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Mr. S. Davis it was resolved to offer the Room for the winter months for £25. Mr. Grimes undertook to convey the terms to the Tennis Club and see if terms could be arranged.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Friday, December 7th, 1906.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, Harry A. Dancey, C. E. Brown, S. Davis, F. W. Lovesy, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Washbourn sent apologies.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman reported that the Football Club had complained that the protection of the windows in the Gymnasium was not strong enough to prevent the ball breaking the glass. After a lengthy discussion it was resolved that the Company place stronger protection and Messrs. A. W. Vears, F. W. Lovesy, and H. A. Dancey were appointed a sub-committee to see the work successfully carried out.

Football Sports on Whit Monday.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Football Club to the effect that the Club was doing very badly financially this season and there was a movement on foot to hold some Athletic Sports on Whit Monday and the Club wished to know on what terms the Company would allow the use of the Ground. A long debate took place on the matter and on the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. Davis the following resolution was carried unanimously;

"That the Football Club be allowed the use of the Ground on Whit Monday next free of cost for the purpose of hold[ing] Athletic Sports, providing it does not interfere with the Company letting the Vinegar Works Corner to Mr. Symonds or some other Roundabout proprietor, as heretofore. Conditions to be made that the Roundabouts do not interfere with the holding of the Sports."

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

1907

Director's Meeting, February 18th, 1907.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), H. J. Berry, T. A. Washbourn, C. H. Dancey, F. W. Lovesy, S. Davis, F. H. Bretherton, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Cricket by Gloucester Football Club ?

A letter was read stating that some members of the Football Club had formed a Cricket Club with the hope of keeping the Football players together during the summer months, and they, through their Secretary (Mr. P. G. Harris) applied for the use of the Kingsholm Field for cricket.

A very long discussion followed, everyone present being desirous of granting it, if possible. However, the same arguments against allowing cricket which have been so many times advanced at many past meetings, were used, and added to these is the fact that a contract to let Mr. Boulton have the same part for theatrical performances next summer, prevented the Directors admitting cricket, and it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Washbourn seconded by Mr. C. H. Dancey not to sanction cricket being played on the Ground this summer.

Training Tickets.

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. Lovesey seconded by Mr. C. H. Dancey that Training Tickets be issued at 2/6d. each for Running and Cycling if the Gloucester Athletic Club will subscribe £2, as a fee for all athletes to have the use of the new Gymnasium.

Tennis Players.

Also resolved that Tennis Tickets be issued to anyone wishing to use the Field for Tennis at 4/- each ticket, for the months of May, June, July, and August.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, May 6th, 1907.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, H. J. Berry, F. W. Lovesy, S. Davis, T. A. Washbourn, F. H. Bretherton, C. E. Brown, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Letters were read from Mr. W. Symonds offering only £3 for the use of the Vinegar Works Corner on Whit Monday. The Secretary gave a full account of his endeavours to obtain a better offer. Resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. E. Brown seconded by Mr. C. H. Dancey that the Company accept the sum of £5 and unless that amount is paid no roundabouts to be allowed.

Boulton and Symonds.

A letter was read from Mr. W. Symonds wanting to take the Field from June 29th to July 6th. The Secretary reported he had replied that Mr. Boulton had taken the Field for a period which included those dates. If, however, the two could run together, the Company would be willing to let Mr. Symonds in. Messrs. Vears, Lovesy, and the Secretary were appointed to arrange the letting if workable.

Band of Hope Festival; June 15th, 1907.

The Secretary reported he had let the Field for a Band of Hope Festival for Saturday, June 15th, as before.

Football Club Agreement.

Mr. Brown raised the question of the Agreement between the Company and the Football Club, asking if the Agreement had yet been signed and delivered. The Chairman replied it had not, but was still in the hands of the Solicitor, Mr. Grimes. The Board instructed the Secretary to write Mr. Grimes asking that the Agreement might be completed at the earliest possible date.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Friday, August 23rd, 1907.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), F. W. Lovesy, H. J. Berry, Harry A. Dancey, C. H. Dancey, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology was read from Mr. T. A. Washbourn who was away from home.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dyke, the Groundsman, Insured.

The Secretary reported that he had insured the Company in respect of liability under the Workmen's Compensation Act etc., with regard to Dyke. The insurance being effected with the London Guarantee & Accident Company.

Allowing Boulton £1 off his Rent.

The Secretary stated Mr. F. Boulton had given up possession of the portion of the ground he had, about 10 days before his time was up, and had asked that seeing the very bad season he had experienced through the wet weather, the Directors could allow him something off his rent. Resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. F. W. Lovesy that he be allowed £1 off; Mr. Boulton to pay £19 instead of £20 as agreed.

Conservative Benefit Society and Increased Interest on Mortgage.

A letter was read from Mr. W. Madge, Secretary to the Conservative Benefit Society to the effect that his Committee gave notice that they could not allow the £3,000 Mortgage to remain at 3% per annum, but must ask the Company to pay 4% interest or accept Notice to pay off the amount after six months dating from June 24th. The matter was thoroughly considered, and it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. Berry that the Directors offer to pay 3½% on the whole Mortgage (£4,000) increasing the annual payment of interest from £130 to £140, and the Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Madge informing him of the Board's decision.

The New Lease to the Football Club.

A discussion followed respecting the New Lease of the Ground to the Football Club. Mr. Grimes said he had prepared a new draft agreement, and the Secretary was directed to summon a meeting of the Directors to be held at Mr. Grimes' office on Tuesday, August 27th, at 3:30 p.m. to go through it.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Meeting at Mr. Grimes' Office, Tuesday, August 27th, 1907.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, H. J. Berry, T. A. Washbourn,
H. A. Dancey, F. H. Bretherton, Directors.

H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.

Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Mr. Grimes read the draft of the New Lease with the Football Club, each condition being carefully considered and it was agreed that the draft be submitted to the Committee of the Football Club for their consideration.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Thursday, September 26th, 1907.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), T. A. Washbourn, H. J. Berry, S. Davis, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Messrs. F. H. Bretherton, C. H. Dancey, and F. W. Lovesy.

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

Boulton's Rent.

A further long letter was received from Mr. F. Boulton to the effect that he was not in a position to pay the remaining £3 and begged that he might be allowed to settle the amount for £1, pointing out that by being at Kingsholm he had lost £165, and was in a very sad financial position. After fully reconsidering the matter the Board resolved to accept £1 in full settlement.

Hockey.

A letter was read from Miss Yeatman, 9 Heathville Road, Gloucester, enquiring if they could have part of the Football field for Hockey. Resolved to offer the part nearest the Brook for Five Pounds, it to be distinctly understood that was a net amount for the hire of the field only, and that should a Circus want the Vinegar Works Corner during the time (from now 'til next April 30) the Company would be at liberty to let it.

Report and Balance Sheet.

The Chairman submitted a draft report and also Balance Sheet showing a Balance of £220 2s. 4d.

Resolved on the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Berry that the Board

recommend payment of a dividend of 5%	=	£157 10s. 0d.
and to write off for depreciation		<u>£ 62 12s. 4d.</u>
		£220 2s. 4d.

Resolved that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders be held at the New Inn Hotel on Friday, October 11th, at 7:30 p.m.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, October 11th, 1907.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, F. W. Lovesy, T. A. Washbourn, H. J. Berry, S. Davis, F. H. Bretherton, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
J. E. Dutton, Auditor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Boulton's Rent.

The Secretary reported Mr. Boulton had paid the £1 outstanding rent, and now this matter was all cleared up.

Hockey.

The Secretary reported receiving a letter from Miss. Yeatman to the effect that they had secured another field for Hockey.

Re. Selling Unused Portion of Field.

A letter was read from Mr. Harry A. Dancey (who was away from home) stating if the matter of selling some of the unused portion of the Field was discussed that evening, he was very decided in the opinion that it would be advantageous to sell the Worcester Street frontage - but not until a carefully developed Scheme had been prepared.

The Directors then discussed the advisability of allowing the matter to be discussed by the General Meeting which followed this, and it was resolved that the Chairman should give the Shareholders an opportunity of expressing themselves, and the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders then took place.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

1908

[Director's Meeting] March 6th, 1908.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), F. W. Lovesy, Charles H. Dancey, H. J. Berry, F. H. Bretherton, C. E. Brown, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were read from Mr. T. A. Washbourn and Mr. H. A. Dancey.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Sangers' Circus - April 1st.

The Secretary reported he had let the Field for Lord John Sangers' Circus for April 1st, for £10 as usual.

Miss Huntley's Schoolboys and the 'Thursday Ground.'

A letter was read from Miss Huntley (who had succeed to Miss Fox's School) [*sic*] offering £4 for the use of what is known as the "Thursday" part of the Field for the little boys to play on. After a lengthy discussion it was resolved to accept same.

Football Club and Sale of Unused Parts of Field.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Football Club asking what was being done re. sale of the unused parts of the Field. As the matter had not been considered the Secretary was instructed to call a Directors' Meeting for Friday March 13th, for that sole purpose.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Friday, March 13th, 1908.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), H. A. Dancey, T. A. Washbourn, S. Davis, F. W. Lovesy, C. E. Brown, H. J. Berry, F. H. Bretherton, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Miss Huntley's Boys.

The Secretary informed the Board that the boys would be using the Field on Wednesday afternoons and Tuesday and Friday evenings, after tea.

Sale of Unused Part of Field.

As this meeting was called to consider what part of the Field might be sold without interfering with the playing part of the Football Club, Mr. H. A. Dancey had prepared various plans and schemes showing what might be done without spoiling the ultimate complete development of the whole field as a building site.

The matter was most thoroughly thought out and discussed from every point of view, and at length it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Washbourn seconded by the Mayor (Mr. F. H. Bretherton);

"That the part known as the White Hart Corner be offered for sale and that Mr. H. A. Dancey be asked to prepare a plan showing how much can be sold off without interfering with the present field of play and that Mr. Grimes prepare draft of sale particulars and conditions."

Both to be submitted to a Directors' Meeting to be called for Monday, March 23rd.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Monday, March 23rd, 1908.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), H. A. Dancey, C. H. Dancey, F. W. Lovesy, H. J. Berry, F. H. Bretherton, C. E. Brown, S. Davis, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

An apology for absence was received from Mr. T. A. Washbourn, who was in Manchester.

Tennis, etc.

A letter was read from Mr. Wm. Dancey asking if part of the Field could be let for Tennis etc., to about 20 players, mostly school girls of 13 years. A discussion followed and it was decided to adhere to the resolution of Feb. 18th 1907, viz. each person must take a 4/- Tennis ticket direct from the Groundsman so that he might know each ticket holder.

Sale of Unused Portion.

Mr. H. A. Dancey submitted the plans showing what parts could be sold as per instructions of the Directors Meeting of March 13th, as did Mr. Grimes the suggested conditions and particulars of sale. On the proposition of Mr. C. E. Brown seconded by Mr. C. H. Dancey it was resolved to offer the "White Hart" Corner for £450 in one lot or at the rate of 8/- per yard. All applications for particulars to be made to and obtained from Mr. H. W. Grimes.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Friday, July 24th, 1908.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), H. J. Berry, C. E. Brown, C. H. Dancey, S. Davis, Directors.

H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.

Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Mr. T. A. Washbourn and Mr. Harry A. Dancey.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter was read from the Football Club asking for another gate or entrance to be made on the Deans Walk side, and the Secretary was instructed to ascertain the probable cost and report to the next meeting of Directors.

Royal Agricultural Show Week, 1909.

Mr. Marshall Hill wrote asking what the rent would be for the week the Royal Agricultural Show was being held in Gloucester in 1909 - the ground to be used as at Barton Fair. Resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. S. Davis that £50 be asked for the time the Show was on.

Conservative Benefit Society - £7 10s. 0d. Interest in Dispute.

The Secretary reported that the Conservative Benefit Society had requested the payment of £7 10s. 0d. being the amount of increased interest on the £3,000 Mortgage during the last quarter of 1907. The Secretary claimed that the arrangement made with the late Mr. Madge was that the increase from 3% to 4% should commence the first quarter of 1908. However, after consideration the Directors instructed the Secretary to attend a meeting of the Committee of the Conservative Benefit Society and state the understanding arrived at between him, Mr. Starr, and the late Mr. Walter Madge.

Sale of Land.

Letters were read from Mr. Grimes to the effect that the efforts to sell the land as planned and for shops had failed and the matter was left over to be considered at a future meeting.

Football Club and Reduction in Rent.

A deputation consisting of Messrs. Nigel Haines, E. T. Huggins, and Brooke attended the meeting to place before the Directors a request and reason why a reduction in the rent charged to the Football Club should be made. A very lengthy statement by the deputation and by the Directors, Secretary, and Solicitor to the Company from the different points of view were made and the matter thoroughly thrashed out. However the Chairman stated as the Board of Directors were not fully represented that further consideration would take place at the next meeting of the Board, but promised the deputation that the matter should have the fullest attention.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Friday, September 11th, 1908.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, H. J. Berry, Harry A. Dancey, Directors.

William Dancey, Agent.

Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. F. H. Bretherton, C. E. Brown, and F. W. Lovesy.

Mr. William Dancey attended to consult the Directors with regard to allowing Messrs. Poole to paint an advertisement on the roof of the Old Pavilion for which they agreed to pay the sum of £5 for 52 weeks. The Directors unanimously agreed to sanction same, and Mr. Wm. Dancey withdrew from the meeting.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Extra Door at Deans Walk.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. H. S. Crump stating the cost of the hut as pay box and new door on the Deans Walk entrance would be, say, £3 0s. 0d. On the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. H. J. Berry it was resolved that Mr. Crump do the work.

Sale of Land.

The Secretary reported he had written to Mr. Barrett Cooke, Secretary of the Gloucester Education Authority, stating the Directors were prepared to sell a portion of the Kingsholm ground for a site for the Elementary School to be built in the Kingsholm district. Mr. Cooke had acknowledged the letter and promised to place the matter before his Committee.

Conservative Benefit Society - £7 10s. 0d.

The Secretary reported having seen Mr. Pimble, the Secretary to the Conservative Benefit Society, and he, Mr. Pimble, stated his Committee intended to leave the matter entirely with the Directors, as in face of the letter of Mr. Madge dated September 2nd 1907 they could not do otherwise.

After hearing a full report from the Company's Secretary the Directors unanimously resolved that they should not pay the £7 10s. 0d. as it was most clearly understood that no increase would take place until the first quarter of 1908. Mr. Starr was instructed to inform Mr. Pimble of the Board's decision.

Football Rent.

The Chairman stated as the Company were endeavouring to sell some of the ground he thought this matter should remain over until something definite had been decided.

Mr. Washbourn Resigns his Directorship.

A letter was read from Mr. T. A. Washbourn to the Chairman tendering his resignation as a Director owing to ill health.

The Board most reluctantly accepted same and the Secretary was directed to convey to Mr. Washbourn the Directors' sincere sympathy, and deep regret at the cause of his resignation. It was decided to fill the vacancy at the next Directors meeting.

Congratulations to Mr. E. T. Huggins.

Mr. E. T. Huggins, Chairman of the Gloucester Football Club Committee, and a very ardent supporter of all sports having received an important appointment in the Reading Postal department; it was resolved that the Directors most heartily congratulate[d] him on his promotion, though they much regretted losing such a good sportsman with whom it has always been a pleasure to work with.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Friday, September 25th, 1908.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, S. Davis, C. E. Brown, F. W. Lovesy, H. A. Dancey, S. W. Bingle, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Messrs. F. H. Bretherton, and H. J. Berry.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

New Director.

Mr Sidney W. Bingle was unanimously elected a member of the Board of Directors (to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Washbourn's resignation) on the proposition of Mr. H. A. Dancey seconded by Mr. S. Davis.

The Balance Sheet to August 31st.

The Chairman submitted the Balance Sheet to August 31st, 1908, showing a Balance on the year of £206 4s. 8d.

It was therefore resolved on the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Lovesy to recommend payment of 5% dividend and to carry off £48 14s. 8d. to depreciation account.

The General Annual Meeting [*sic*] was ordered to be summoned for Monday, October 12th, at 7:30 p.m. at the New Inn Hotel.

£100 to be placed on Deposit at Bank.

Mr. F. W. Lovesy proposed and Mr. C. E. Brown seconded that £100 of the amount at Bank should be placed on deposit.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Director's Meeting, Monday, October 12th, 1908.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, S. W. Bingle, F. W. Lovesy, H. A. Dancey, H. J. Berry C. E. Brown, S. Davis, F. H. Bretherton, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

New Door - Deans Walk.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Crump had hung the new door Deans Walk side to open outwards, and that the Football Club had complained about it. On the proposition of Mr. H. A. Dancey seconded by Mr. Lovesy it was resolved to instruct Mr. Crump to alter it to open inwards.

The Directors then attended the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

1909

Directors Meeting, Friday January 29th, 1909.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), S. W. Bingle, C. H. Dancey, H. A. Dancey, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Messrs. F. W. Lovesy, H. J. Berry, and S. Davis.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported Messrs. Sangers had enquired if they could have the Field on March 31st, and that he (the Secretary) had replied they could on the usual terms.

Mr. J. P. Moore and Mortgage Interest.

A letter was read from Mr. J. P. Moore to the effect that he thought the Company ought to try and get the Mortgage money at less than 4%. The meeting were of opinion that all had been done that could be in the matter.

Marshall Hill and Royal Agricultural Show Week.

The Secretary read the correspondence from Mr. Marshall Hill re. taking the Field for the Royal Show week. It was to the effect that the Company want £50 and Mr. Hill offered £35. After carefully considering the matter, Mr. C. H. Dancey proposed and Mr. Bingle seconded and it was resolved that the Secretary should endeavour to see Mr. Hill and make the best terms he could, being not less than £35.

Athletic Cricket Club.

Another application was received from the Gloucester Athletic Cricket Club for the use of the Field during the coming summer. The matter was discussed at some length, but as the attendance of Directors was small the Chairman decided to adjourn the further consideration until the next Director's meeting.

Footboards for Football Club.

The Football Club having complained that there were but a few Footboards round the Field, the Secretary reported that the Chairman had purchased some.

Football Rent.

The Chairman said that as there was a possible chance of selling a portion of the Field, the further consideration of the Football rent had better remain over until something definite had been arrived at with regard to the sale of any part of the ground.

Site for a School at Kingsholm.

The Secretary reported having held conversations with several members of the Education Authority in an unofficial way, and had gathered that a site for an Elementary School was bound to be obtained in the Northern portion of the City. He had been asked for a rough sketch of the Field and Mr. Harry Dancey had kindly supplied it. All Directors present were similarly informed and though in no way whatever was the Company committed by the

various conversations of Directors with members of the Education Authority yet it was deemed advisable to get the Education Authority to open negotiations officially with a view to purchasing the Southern part of the Field for the proposed new school.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Directors Meeting, Friday February 5th, 1909.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, S. W. Bingle, F. W. Lovesy, S. Davis, H. J. Berry, F. H. Bretherton, C. E. Brown, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

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

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Marshall Hill £50 for Royal Show Week.

The Secretary reported having gone to Bedminster and seen Mr. Marshall Hill and had let him the usual portion of the Field for the Royal Show Week for £50. The Chairman and Directors expressed themselves well satisfied. Mr. Hill had paid a cheque for Five Pounds on account which the Secretary had duly banked.

Athletic Cricket Club.

The question of letting the Field to the Athletic Cricket Club was again most fully considered, and it was estimated that if Cricket was allowed the Company would lose about twenty pounds from other sources, to say nothing of the danger of athletes, bicyclists, Volunteers, tennis players being struck with the cricket ball which has been so many times referred to.

On the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. Berry it was resolved that no Cricket Club be accepted as tenants of the Field. The Secretary was instructed to write the Athletic Cricket Club and state the Directors' sincerely regretted being unable to let them the Ground but under the circumstances so many times before stated they were unable to do so.

Football Club Rent.

Another letter was read from the Football Club asking what reduction the Directors had decided to make in their rent. A long discussion followed and the position between the Company and Club was generally reviewed. In the end the Secretary was instructed to write the Secretary of the Football Club and explain that as the Directors had hopes of shortly selling a portion of the Field the matter for the present must remain open.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

March 12th, 1909.

Directors Meeting, Friday March 12th, 1909.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. E. Brown, C. H. Dancey, S. Davis, F. W. Lovesy, H. J. Berry, S. W. Bingle.

Mr. F. W. Lovesy kindly acted as Secretary.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Harry A. Dancey and Sidney S. Starr, Secretary (through ill health).

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

It was reported that the Field was let for Sangers' Circus for Wednesday March 31st, for £10 as usual.

Marshall Hill and Whitsuntide.

Mr. Marshall Hill wrote to the effect that he thought the Company ought not to let the Ground for Whitsuntide to anyone else, as it would somewhat interfere with him and seeing he was paying £50 for the Royal Show week, he therefore offered £10 to secure the Field to him during Whitsuntide. Resolved on the proposition of Mr. C. E. Brown seconded by Mr. S. Davis that his offer be accepted.

Football Club Rent.

Another letter was read from the Football Club asking for a definite amount to be stated with regard to the Football Club's rent. A discussion followed and seeing the great importance of the matter and taking into consideration the far reaching effect a material reduction in rent would mean to the Company, it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. F. W. Lovesey seconded by Mr. H. J. Berry that the question of reduction of the rent be postponed until the end of the present financial year of the Football Club, when the Company will call a Special General Meeting of the Shareholders to decide the question of rent for the future.

Packer & Co., and Deans Walk.

A letter was read from Messrs. Packer & Co. to the effect that a client of theirs was about to make an overture to the Corporation of sufficient land off the old City Gardens to widen and make a 36ft. road in place off the Old Deans Walk, and asked if the Directors would give their support and in the event of the Corporation not bearing the whole cost of making such road would the Directors be disposed to bear any part. Resolved that for the present the Directors could not give any promise in the matter.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Directors Meeting, Friday, June 4th, 1909.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, C. E. Brown, F. W. Lovesy, S. W. Bingle, H. A. Dancey, H. J. Berry, F. H. Bretherton, S. Davis, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Football Club Rent.

Another letter was read from the Football Club asking for a definite reduction in their rent and also some other revisions with regard to their tenancy, owing they stated to having again made a loss on the last seasons' (1908-1909) working of £45-odd. The Club's requests were as follows:-

- 1st. That the Company should contribute £45 towards the season's loss.
- 2nd. That the Rent should be reduced [by] £75 per annum for the coming season.
- 3rd. That during the period in which the Club are Tenants they shall be at liberty to sub-let without paying half profits to the Company.
- 4th. That in the event of the Company selling part of the Ground the rent to be further reduced to the extent of £4 per annum for every £100 obtained for selling the land.

Two hours were spent in most thoroughly reviewing the whole circumstances. The draft Balance Sheet of the Football Club for the past season was presented to the meeting, and from every point the matter was again discussed. Finally it was proposed by Mr. F. H. Bretherton seconded by Mr. F. W. Lovesy subject to the approval of the Shareholders,

That the Company meet the request of the Club to the following extent, viz.

- (a) To allow the Club £40 out of the £60 to be received for the Ground during the Royal Show Week.
- (b) To reduce the Rent payable by the Club by £50 a year in future.
- (c) To allow the Club to receive all amounts obtained by sub-lettings of the Ground during their actual Tenancy, less all expenses whatever in connection with such lettings and on condition that all the lettings be arranged through and all expenses controlled by the Company's Secretary.
- (d) The Directors cannot see their way to comply with the fourth request contained in the letter received from the Club.

The resolution having been put to the Meeting and declared carried, the Board ordered a Special General Meeting of the Shareholders to be called for Tuesday June 15th, 1909, at 8:00 p.m. at the New Inn Hotel, Gloucester, so that [the] matter should receive the confirmation of the Shareholders.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Directors Meeting, Tuesday, June 15th, 1909.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, S. W. Bingle, F. W. Lovesy, H. J. Berry, H. A. Dancey, C. E. Brown, S. Davis, F. H. Bretherton, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
J. E. Dutton, Auditor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman then outlined the way he should open the Special General Meeting of Shareholders which was to follow.

Sale of Part of Ground.

A conversation took place respecting a sale of a portion of the Field, but as no definite offer was before the meeting no resolution was proposed.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Directors Meeting, September 17th, 1909.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), H. J. Berry, C. H. Dancey, C. E. Brown, Harry A. Dancey, S. Davis, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Damage to Mr. J. T. Smith's Property.

A letter was read from Mr. J. T. Smith who lives in the house in Worcester Street adjoining the ground complaining of damage done to his property through boys climbing into the field. The Secretary reported he had had placed a mesh of Barbed Wire at the corner mentioned which had effectively stopped the nuisance.

Balance Sheet.

The Chairman presented the Balance Sheet for the year ending August 31st, 1909, showing a net gain on the years' working of £181 1s. 10d.

Mr. C. H. Dancey proposed to recommend the payment of a 5% dividend. Mr. S. Davis seconded.

Mr. H. J. Berry proposed and Mr. C. E. Brown seconded to recommend 2½% only.

On being put to the Vote, 3 voted for 5% and 2 for 2½ [%].

The Chairman therefore declared Mr. C. H. Dancey's proposition carried.

It was also resolved to carry forward to next years' account the balance £23 11s. 10d. left after paying the 5%.

Annual General Meeting.

It was resolved to hold the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, October 12th, 1909.

Directors to sign Balance Sheet.

Resolved on the proposition of Mr. S. Davis seconded by Mr. C. E. Brown that Messrs. A. W. Vears and H. A. Dancey sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Board.

Thanks to Secretary.

The whole of the Board present expressed satisfaction at the years' working and acknowledged the amount of work and tact put into the Company's affairs by the Secretary, and on the proposition of Mr. H. A. Dancey seconded by Mr. S. Davis the same was ordered to be recorded in the Minutes.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Directors Meeting, Tuesday, October 12th, 1909.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), S. W. Bingle, F. W. Lovesy, Harry A. Dancey, S. Davis, Directors.

H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.

Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Mr. Berry and Mr C. E. Brown.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Amounts received from Football Club to pass through Company's Accounts and Books.

The Secretary explained that up to the present all monies he had received which had to be handed over to the Football Club had not been shown through the Company's Balance Sheet, but as the altered terms with the Football Club would mean deducting the expenses from the lettings during the Club's tenancy it was resolved on the proposition of Mr. Bingle seconded by Mr. Lovesy that in future all such amounts should be shown in the Company's Books and Balance Sheets.

The Directors then attended the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders which followed.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

1910

Directors Meeting, Friday, September 16th, 1910.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), C. H. Dancey, F. W. Lovesy, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. S. W. Bingle, C. E. Brown, H. J. Berry, F. H. Bretherton, and Harry A. Dancey.

The Late Mr. Sam Davis.

The Chairman said the first business was to report to the Board the loss the Company had sustained by the death in April of one of the Directors, in the person of Mr. Sam Davis, who was one of the original Directors having been elected on the formation of the Company. Mr. Davis had always taken the keenest interest in the Company which was evident by his regular attendance at all meetings.

Mr. Harry A. Dancey elected Director.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. F. W. Lovesy seconded that Mr. Harry A. Dancey be elected a Director in place of the late Mr. Sam Davis. Carried.

Balance Sheet.

The Chairman introduced the Balance Sheet and draft report to August 31st, 1910.

The receipts for the year, with the Balance brought forward amounted to	£429 5s. 7d.
and the Expenses to	<u>£343 8s. 0d.</u>
Leaving a Balance of	£ 85 17s. 7d.

On the proposition of Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded by Mr. F. W. Lovesy it was resolved to recommend the payment of a dividend of 2½% which will amount to

and to carry forward the balance

£ 78 15s. 0d
<u>£ 7 2s. 7d.</u>
£ 85 17s. 7d.

Annual Meeting.

It was resolved that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders be held at the New Inn Hotel, Gloucester, on Tuesday, October 11th, at 7:30 p.m.

Directors to sign Balance Sheet.

It was resolved that Messrs. A. W. Vears and C. H. Dancey sign the Balance Sheet on behalf of the Board.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Directors Meeting, Tuesday, October 11th, 1910.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), S. W. Bingle, A. C. Williams, H. J. Berry, C. E. Brown, F. H. Bretherton, Harry A. Dancey, C. H. Dancey, Directors.
H. W. Grimes, Solicitor.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. A. C. Williams - Football Club Representative.

The Secretary informed the Meeting that he had received a letter from the Secretary of the Football Club to the effect that Mr. A. C. Williams had been duly appointed the Football Club's representative on the Board.

The Chairman on behalf of the Board welcomed Mr. Williams, feeling sure he would be a useful member being so thoroughly acquainted with Football and all athletic matters.

Symonds' Outstand Account.

The Secretary reported having collected £2 from Mr. W. Symonds being part of the old outstanding account for hire of the Vinegar Works Corner in 1908, thus reducing the amount owing to £2 6s. 0d.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

Directors Meeting, Friday, December 16th, 1910.

Present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (Chairman), A. C. Williams, S. W. Bingle, F. W. Lovesy, H. J. Berry, Harry A. Dancey, Directors.
Sidney S. Starr, Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Let Bagwell - Football Trainer - have Key ?

The Secretary reported that Bagwell the Football Trainer had applied to him for a key of the Field so as to be able to get into the Field without having each time to go to Dyke's house. Dyke the groundsman had however pointed out he would lose control of the Ground if others had a key. After carefully considering the matter the Directors instructed the Secretary not to allow Bagwell a key.

Guarantee Forms for letting Gymnasium.

The Secretary submitted a Draft Form drawn up to be signed by any one taking the Gymnasium for any purpose, as a guarantee for any damage that may be done in connection with the letting. The Directors passed the same and ordered some to be printed after Mr. Grimes had passed the forms as being in legal form.

Athletic Cricket Club.

A letter was read from Mr. Percy G. Harris as Secretary of the Gloucester Athletic Cricket Club again making application for the use of the Field for cricket, making an offer that all the members of the Athletic Cricket Club should pay 2/6d. direct to the Company. The Directors again reviewed the many difficulties and on the proposition of Mr. H.A. Dancey seconded by Mr. Bingle the following resolution was passed;

"That the Directors could not entertain the offer, it being quite inadequate but they would be prepared to consider an offer of £20 rent."

Football Club and Letting of the Gymnasium for Meetings, etc.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Football Club to the effect that the Committee wished to have particulars of the expenses in connection with the letting of the Gymnasium for Meetings and as a Polling Station, etc., and asked that all monies received as rent for same should be paid over to the Club's Treasurer each time any letting took place.

It was explained that the custom had been during the last seventeen years, that all rents so received were paid over at the end of each Football season, less the estimated expenses. It was further explained that 7/6d. was deducted as the groundsman's time for preparing the room, erecting any platform that may be required, and cleaning the rooms afterwards, each time. It was also pointed out that as these meetings etc., were during mid-winter the time required for cleaning was far more than would be [at] any other time of the year. The Board went very carefully into the matter and were unanimous in deciding the new arrangements were very fair and the Directors were not inclined to suggest any alteration.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

September 1st, 1911.