

((HEREIN ATTACHMENT - NOTICE CALLING THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL & ATHLETIC GROUND COMPANY LIMITED))

GLOUCESTER

Football & Athletic Ground

COMPANY, LIMITED.

92 NORTHGATE,

GLOUCESTER,

Sept. 26th, 1902.

Notice is hereby given, - That the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the New Inn Hotel, Northgate Street, Gloucester, on October 10th, at 7.30 p.m., for the purpose of considering the Accounts of the Company, Electing Directors, and Appointing Auditor.

By Order of the Board,

SIDNEY S. STARR,

Secretary.

THE GLOUCESTER

Football & Athletic Ground

Company Limited

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

TO BE PRESENTED TO THE

GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TO BE HELD AT THE

NEW INN HOTEL, NORTHGATE STREET

GLOUCESTER,

On FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 1902,

At 7.30 P.M. PRECISELY

DIRECTORS:

A. W. VEARS, CHAIRMAN,

H. J. BERRY	C. H. DANCEY
C. E. BROWN	T. B. POWELL
G. CUMMINGS	D. REARDON
S. DAVIS	H. G. BROWN (Representative of the Gloucester Football Club)

SIDNEY S. STARR, SECRETARY.

Directors' Report.

The Directors herewith beg to submit to the Shareholders of the Company a Balance Sheet for the past year, ending August 31st, 1902.

The Books of the Company have been audited by Mr. B. J. H. Coombs, and the Balance Sheet duly signed by him.

The Revenue Account shows a net profit of £150 13s. 3d. on the year. The Directors, therefore, beg to recommend the payment of a Dividend of 5 per cent., which will amount to £150, and to write off the balance, 13s. 3d., towards general depreciation.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, three of the Directors, Messrs. H. J. Berry, C. E. Brown, and Trevor B. Powell, retire, and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. B. J. H. Coombs, Auditor, also retires and offers himself for re-election.

By order of the Board,

SIDNEY S. STARR,

Secretary.

((HEREIN THE MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS - HELD AT THE
NEW INN HOTEL ON 10TH OCTOBER 1902))

Annual General Meeting

New Inn Hotel, October 10th, 1902.

Chairman Mr. A. W. Vears.

Notice of Meeting

having been read, the

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

were read and confirmed.

The Late Mr. Hubert J. Boughton

The Chairman, Mr. C. H. Dancey, Mr. Grant and Mr. Grimes alluded to sad loss the Company had sustained by the lamented death of our much esteemed friend and Solicitor Mr. Hubert. J. Boughton. The Chairman said although the matter had been many times mentioned in public in Gloucester yet he thought that as this was the first annual general meeting since the sad event he considered it his painful duty to move that the follow[ing] resolution be entered on the minutes. This was seconded by Mr. C. H. Dancey and carried.

“That this meeting places on record in its Minutes the profound and sincere regret the loss this Company and not only this Company but many of the athletic bodies in the City and County have sustained, by the lamented death of Hubert James Boughton. His kindly genial manner and his thorough knowledge of sports generally, his ever ready assistance, made it a source of pleasure to all those with whom he came in contact.”

Changes in Directorate

The Chairman mentioned that since the last general meeting, Mr. Grimes had been appointed Solicitor (to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Boughton's death) and Mr H. G. Brown had been elected by the Football Club Committee to take Mr. Grimes' place as the Club's representative on the Board of Directors. Mr. Gurney had retired and Mr. Trevor B. Powell had been elected to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Powell was nominated by the Athletic Club who were now the proprietors of seventy eight shares and the Directors felt great pleasure in accepting the nomination and electing Mr. Trevor B. Powell.

Report and Balance Sheet

The Chairman moved the adoption of the report and balance sheet. Mr. H. G. Brown seconded and it was carried.

Election of Directors

Mr. William Dancey proposed the re-election of Messrs. H. J. Berry, C. E. Brown, and Trevor B. Powell as Directors. Mr. A. G. Winfield seconded. Carried. Mr. C. E. Brown acknowledged on behalf of himself and Mr. Berry and Mr. Powell the re-election, stating the continued confidence the shareholders had in them would prompt them to do their utmost for the welfare of the Company.

The Auditor

Mr. Reardon proposed and Mr. Grant seconded the re-election of Mr. Coombs as Auditor at the remuneration of One Guinea. Carried.

Thanks to Directors and Secretary

Mr. Grimes proposed a vote of thanks to the Directors and Secretary. Mr. Grant seconded. Carried. Mr. Vears, Mr. C. H. Dancey and the secretary acknowledged.

Thanks to the Press

The Chairman thanked the Press for their attendance.

[Signed] A. W. Vears

((IN HERE - ATTACHMENT - UNDATED EXTRACT FROM PERIODICAL UNKNOWN))

FOOTBALL AND ATHLETIC GROUND COMPANY, LTD.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the above company was held at the New Inn Hotel on Friday night. Mr. A. W. Vears (chairman of directors) presided over an attendance which included Messrs. C. E. Brown, S. Davis, C. H. Dancey, D. Reardon, H. G. Brown (directors), W. Dancey, H. A. Dancey, P. Grant, C. H. Loveridge, A. G. Winfield, H. W. Grimes (solicitor), and Sidney S. Starr (secretary).

The Chairman made a sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. H. J. Boughton, who had acted as the company's legal adviser for many years and in other respects had taken a deep interest in it, and moved that an entry be made on the minutes expressive of the loss the company had sustained in his death. Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. H. W. Grimes and Mr. P. Grant, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman mentioned that the company had been fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr. Grimes as legal adviser, and that Mr. H. G. Brown had been appointed representative of the Gloucester Football Club on the directorate, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Grimes's acceptance of the new office. Mr. T. B. Powell had been nominated on the board, vice Mr. T. Gurney, resigned. Mr. H. W. Grimes acknowledged his appointment, which he regarded as a mark of honour.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, which recommended a dividend of 5 per cent., said he had nothing new to tell the shareholders. The directors ran the concern as economically as they could, never spending money where they could save it. He would like to mention that no less than one-fourth of the 3,000 shares of the company belonged to the various athletic clubs of the city. Mr. H. G. Brown seconded.

Mr. W. Dancey remarked that, owing to the energy of their secretary, the revenue from the hoardings would from this year be increased by £7. The motion was carried.

Messrs. H. J. Berry, C. E. Brown, and T. B. Powell were re-elected on the board of directors, and Mr. B. J. H. Coombs re-elected auditor.

Mr. Grimes, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, the directors, and the secretary, said they possessed the most disinterested board any company could have. During the many years the company had been in existence the directors had received absolutely nothing for their services. He once heard something about a guinea, but no director had ever receive one (laughter). They had a considerable amount of capital invested in the company, and were satisfied with the dividend they received. They looked forward to the time when the object for which the company was started would be achieved, viz., the ground to become the property of the athletic clubs in the city (hear, hear). Mr. Grant seconded, and the vote was unanimously agreed to. The Chairman acknowledged the same, remarking on the good

secretary they possessed and the willingness of the directors to do all they could for the benefit of the shareholders. Mr. C. H. Dancey and Mr. Sidney S. Starr also acknowledged the vote, the latter remarking that, owing to the efforts of the Football Club, the number of shareholders had been reduced from 276 to 121. Of the latter number, excluding the directors, only half a dozen attended the annual meetings, which proved that they were satisfied with the way the affairs of the company were conducted.

The Chairman thanked the Press representatives for attending, and the meeting terminated.

((IN HERE - ATTACHMENT - UNDATED EXTRACT FROM PERIODICAL UNKNOWN - SIMILAR TO ABOVE))

GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL AND ATHLETIC GROUND COMPANY, LTD.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of this Company was held at the New Inn Hotel on Friday evening. Mr. A. W. Vears (chairman of the Directors) presided, and there were also present Messrs. C. E. Brown, S. Davis, C. H. Dancey, D. Reardon, and H. G. Brown (directors), W. Dancey, H. A. Dancey, P. Grant, A. G. Winfield and C. H. Loveridge (shareholders), H. W. Grimes (solicitor), and Sidney S. Starr (secretary).

The Chairman said that before commencing the real business of the meeting there was one painful reference they had to make - and in their hearts they sincerely wished they had not to make it. That was the first general meeting they had had since the lamented death of Mr. Hubert Boughton - that good little man who had rendered such good services to that Company and to all branches of sport in the city. Mr. Boughton took a great part in the inception of the Company, and from that time till his death was their legal adviser, and on all occasions had given them the benefit of his valuable advice. They regretted that he was not with them that night, but an all-wise Providence had willed it otherwise. He suggested that they should record in their minutes how much they missed him, and how much they regretted that he had passed from them. It had been mentioned to him outside, and the directors had also considered it at a preliminary meeting, and had thought that they had better not send a letter of condolence to Mrs. Boughton, as some months had now passed since the decease of their old comrade, and the letter might serve to bring up memories of the past, so he moved that they record their painful regret on their minutes.

Mr. C. H. Dancey seconded the proposition, and remarked that Mr. Boughton had not only given his services, but he had done so in such a free and open manner, and for his genial and general worth they could not do too much to honour his memory.

Mr. Grimes endorsed everything that had been said, and expressed his deep regret, which became stronger as time wore on, at the loss which not only the Company but the whole city had sustained. It had been quite truly said that it was absolutely impossible to fill his place. There was something about Mr. Boughton, not altogether his knowledge of things, but something in the way in which he put things, which always seemed to make them arrive at a satisfactory settlement of any little difficulties which would naturally crop up in all sorts of business. He was sure no other body in Gloucester more deeply regretted the loss, for it might truly be said that had it not been for Mr. Boughton's efforts in the early days of the Company, it would certainly not be what it now was.

Mr. Grant thought it would be the best way to adopt the Chairman's proposition, and not to send a letter of condolence, which would awaken old memories.

The resolution was then put and carried in silence.

The Chairman said it was necessary, after Mr Boughton's death, to look round for someone to instruct them legally. Mr. Grimes was the representative of the Football Club, but his knowledge of all athletic matters led them to ask him if he would become their legal adviser. He readily resigned his directorship and took up the duties of solicitor. They were very happy in getting Mr. Grimes, much as they would have liked to have seen the "other little man" still with them. The Football Club had appointed Mr. Hubert Brown in his place, and he (the Chairman) did not know that they could have made a better selection. It was necessary to elect another Director in the place of Mr. T. Gurney, and Mr. T. Powell was elected, not only for his personality, but because he was prominently connected with the Athletic Club, who held a large number of shares, and as the Football Club were represented, under the articles of association, they thought that it would be nice to have a Director connected with the Athletic Club.

Mr. Grimes expressed his thanks to the Directors for the confidence in him shown by electing him to the office of solicitor to the Company. He felt that he was a very poor substitute for Mr. Boughton, but whatever he could do they could rely on his doing. He felt it a great honour to be solicitor to the Company, for it was without exception the best-managed concern that had ever come under his notice. The accounts were always a model of correctness, and the items on the debit side of the revenue account were always put at such moderate sums that one wondered how the Board could carry on the Company with such small outlay. With regard to his resignation of the office of Director on behalf of the Football Club, he agreed with the Chairman that they had in Mr. Brown the very best man they could find for the post. His judgment was always sound, and his financial knowledge and abilities made him particularly suitable for a position of that sort. In electing Mr. Powell, he thought the Directors were wise in paying a compliment to the Athletic Club.

The Chairman then moved the adoption of the report and accounts, particulars of which we have already published. In doing so, he said there was very little to say, excepting that they had legitimately earned £150 13s. 3d., and were going to spend £150 of it. That sum was really earned out of revenue. It had been discussed by the Directors as to whether, seeing that several sums had been spent this year on things, those sums should not be charged to capital account, but they thought they would not, as, as they all knew, some new things were wanted every year, and therefore they decided to put nothing to capital account. Rates and taxes had considerably increased, they always did, somehow or other, every year, but the two Councillors on the Board said they ought to be thankful they were not higher. (Laughter). They tried to economise in every way, and there was not a penny spent in any way that could possibly be avoided. The old horse had died, and another had been bought for £4. It was worth £6, and one gentleman in the room had said it was worth £10.

Mr. H. G. Brown seconded, and said the report and accounts were in every way satisfactory.

The motion was then put to the meeting and adopted unanimously.

The Chairman mentioned that it might not be generally known that one-quarter of the 3,000 shares belonged to the various athletic clubs of the city, and their original idea that the ground should become the centre of all sports was thus gradually coming about.

Mr. W. Dancey, in proposing the re-election of Messrs. H. J. Berry, C. E. Brown, and Trevor B. Powell as Directors, referred to the satisfactory balance-sheet, and noted that only 9s. had been received for transfer fees, which pointed to the contentedness of the shareholders. Since the last private meeting of Directors, Mr. Starr had seen him several times as agent for the hoardings, and he was able to state that the revenue of those hoardings had been increased by £7 or a 5 per cent. dividend on 140 shares, and he complimented the secretary and congratulated the Company on an improved position in that respect.

Mr. Winfield seconded the re-election of the retiring Directors, and the motion was carried.

Mr. C. E. Brown returned thanks, and said they had a very good investment, and if by any chance they had to wind up the company, he thought they would be in a very good position.

Mr. Reardon proposed the re-election of Mr. Coombs as auditor, which was seconded by Mr. Grant and carried.

Mr. Grimes proposed a vote of thanks to the Directors and Secretary. They had the most disinterested Board which ever represented any Company. Ever since its inception, the object of the Directors had always been one and the same, namely that the shares should belong absolutely to the athletic clubs of the city. They all knew that during all the years since the formation of the Company the Directors had received absolutely nothing for their services. They had between them a very considerable amount of capital in the Company, and ran the risk of obtaining their 5 per cent. dividend. That had never been exceeded, and sometimes had been less, and they all knew that 5 per cent. was not considered by many business men a sufficient return for capital. Notwithstanding that, the Directors had stuck to the Company all those years, and it was most unusual for Directors to show such entire disinterestedness.

Mr. Grant seconded, and said that a more energetic body of gentlemen on the Board they could not possibly wish for. He hoped the new blood would only do as well as the older hands, and they could not wish for more.

The resolution was carried, and the Chairman, in acknowledging the compliment, said that so long as they trusted the Directors they would do their level best in their interests as they had always endeavoured to do.

Mr. C. H. Dancey also returned thanks, and referred to the aim of the Company to make the ground the centre of sport.

The Secretary, in returning thanks, said that when the Company started there were 276 shareholders, but by the efforts of the Football Club in particular that number was gradually reduced to 121, at which number the shareholders now stood. Of that number 116 were quite satisfied to stay away from the meeting, as they [*sic*] were only five shareholders outside the

Directors present at the meeting, and they had all expressed their satisfaction. He hoped to live to see the Kingsholm ground the property of the athletic clubs, and then he would be happy to turn over the management to the trustees who he presumed would be appointed by the respective clubs.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the members of the Press for their attendance.