

((HEREIN ATTACHMENT - NOTICE CALLING THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL & ATHLETIC GROUND CO., LTD.))

**GLOUCESTER**

*Football & Athletic Ground*

COMPANY, LIMITED.

92 NORTHGATE,

GLOUCESTER,

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1907.

*Notice is hereby given,* - That the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the New Inn Hotel, Northgate Street, Gloucester, on Friday October 11<sup>th</sup>, 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*

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THE

**Sixteenth 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 11<sup>th</sup>, 1907,**

**At 7.30 P.M. PRECISELY.**

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DIRECTORS:

A. W. VEARS, CHAIRMAN,

H. J. BERRY	C. H. DANCEY
F. H. BRETHERTON	F. W. LOVESY
C. E. BROWN	T. A. WASHBOURN
S. DAVIS	HARRY A. DANCEY

Representative of the  
Gloucester Football Club

SIDNEY S. STARR, SECRETARY.

*Directors' Report.*

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The Directors herewith beg to submit to the Shareholders of the Company a Balance Sheet for the past year, ending August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1907.

The Books of the Company have been audited by Mr. J. E. Dutton, and the Balance Sheet duly signed by him.

The Revenue Account shows a net profit of £170 2s. 4d. on the year, which with a balance of £50 brought forward makes a disposable balance of £220 2s. 4d. The Directors, therefore, beg to recommend the payment of a Dividend of 5 per cent. per annum, which will amount to £157 10s. on the 3,150 Shares, and to write off £62 12s. 4d. towards general depreciation.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, three of the Directors, Messrs. F. H. Bretherton, C. H. Dancey and S. Davis retire, and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. J. E. Dutton, Auditor, also retires and offers himself for re-election.

By order of the Board,

SIDNEY S. STARR,

*Secretary.*



((HEREIN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS HELD AT THE NEW INN HOTEL, ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>, 1907))

Annual General Meeting of Shareholders

held at the New Inn Hotel, Friday October 11<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Mr. A. W. Vears presided.

Notice of this Meeting

having been read, the

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of Shareholders

were read and confirmed.

Report and Balance Sheet

The Chairman moved the adoption of the Report and Balance [*sic*] which was seconded by Mr. W. J. Arnold. Carried.

Directors

On the proposition of Mr. P. Grant seconded by Mr. Watkins Messrs. F. H. Bretherton, C. H. Dancey and S. Davis were re-elected Directors.

Auditor

Mr. J. E. Dutton was re-elected Auditor. On the proposition of Mr. W. J. Robinson, seconded by Mr. W. Dancey.

Thanks to Directors

Mr. W. Dancey proposed a vote of thanks to the Directors which was seconded by Mr A. G. Winfield, and carried.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the vote referred to the fact that the Directors were seriously considering the advisability of selling some portion of the unused parts of the Field and although' no resolution was submitted to the meeting it was expressed by all present, that as far as possible it would be to the best interest of the Company and the Football Club if by sale of the unused portion of the Field the Mortgage might be reduced thereby reducing the liability of the Company.

[Signed] A. W. Vears.

((HEREIN ATTACHMENT - EXTRACT BELIEVED TAKEN FROM THE GLOUCESTER  
CITIZEN - DATE UNKNOWN))

## FOOTBALL

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### Gloucester Football and Athletic Ground Co., Ltd.

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#### FUTURE OF KINGSHOLM ENCLOSURE.

The annual general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the New Inn Hotel on Friday evening, when there were present: Messrs. A. W. Vears (chairman), C. H. Dancey, T. A. Washbourn, F. H. Bretherton, H. J. Berry, S. Davis, F. W. Lovesy (directors), S. S. Starr (secretary), H. W. Grimes (solicitor), J. E. Dutton (auditor), and W. J. Arnold, P. Grant, W. Dancey, W. C. Watkins, W. J. Robinson, and A. G. Winfield (shareholders).

The Chairman proposed the adoption of the directors' report (which has already been published) and balance sheet, which recommended the payment of a dividend of 5 per cent., and the writing off of £62 towards general depreciation account. Mr. Arnold seconded, and the motion was carried.

On the proposition of Mr. Grant, seconded by Mr. Watkins, the meeting unanimously agreed to the re-election of Messrs. Bretherton, Davis, and C. H. Dancey, the retiring directors. Mr. Vears remarked that Mr. Bretherton's firm had been invaluable to the Company, and Messrs. Dancey and Davis were the only two gentlemen left of the original directors.

Mr. J. E. Dutton was re-elected auditor on the motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Dancey, and on the proposition of Mr. W. Dancey, seconded by Mr. Winfield, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the directors for their services to the Company.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the vote, said the Company had a good secretary, and everything in the matter of finance was done as close as it possibly could be. They also had the best possible assistance from Mr. Grimes. Continuing, Mr. Vears said it had got abroad that it was contemplated to offer a portion of the Kingsholm Ground for sale. The matter certainly had been talked over, but he should like it to be known that as far as the Football Club was concerned no portion of the ground would be sold that would in any way disturb football. The Company had power, if they so desired, to sell, and the directors would like to test the feeling of the shareholders on the matter.

In response to a request from the Chairman, Mr. Grimes addressed the meeting. He said his own personal feeling as regards the proposal to sell was quite definite. The feeling of the members of the Football Club was that the rent they were paying at present was too high, and

it came especially hard in a bad season. He admitted the Ground Company could not let the ground for a less rent unless the capital of the Company was reduced. He would not suggest anything that was likely to be to the detriment of the Football Club, but if the rent was to be reduced they must sell a part of the ground. What part to be sold must remain with the directors, who would have expert assistance. He felt very strongly that the question should be seriously considered, both in the interests of the Company and the Football Club.

Mr. Bretherton supported the remarks of Mr. Grimes, and said if they sold a good part of the frontage they would be able to reduce the capital.

Mr. Grant agreed that some portion of the ground might be disposed of with advantage, but doubted the advisability of selling the whole of the frontage.

Mr. Arnold said the Football Club were paying rent for the whole of the ground, but only used a part. To take away the whole of the Worcester-street frontage, however, would necessitate a re-arrangement of the ground for football. They must look after the interests of the Football Club.

Mr. Dutton said if they sold the frontage for, say, £2,000, and reduced the capital by that amount, he could not see that the Company would be in any better position. They would lose £44 for the hoarding advertisements, and then there would be the cost of re-arranging the playing area for football, the erection of stands, etc.

The Chairman remarked that no scheme had been prepared, and the Company had not gone to a penny expense in the matter so far. What the directors wanted was to obtain the feeling of the shareholders. They could rest assured nothing would be done to interfere with the Football Club.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. H. A. Dancey (who was unable to attend the meeting), in which he said: "I do not know whether the question will arise as to the sale of any portion of the ground, but I am very decided in my opinion that it would be advantageous to sell the frontage towards Worcester-street, and turn the playing space the other way about, although before any part is sold I do think a carefully developed scheme should be prepared for the final disposal of the whole (should such an eventuality arise), and that no part should be sold which would in any way interfere with such scheme."

Mr. Lovesy, who remarked that he spoke as a shareholder and not as a director, said it had been mentioned over and over again that the one idea of the inauguration of the Ground was that some day it would become the property of the Football Club. Now he would take Mr. Dutton's figures that £2,000 could be obtained for the frontage. That would reduce the capital to £5,000. That money could be taken up at 5 per cent. for £250, which would be considerably less than the rental paid by the Football Club. What a grand opportunity, therefore, for the Club to step in and acquire the ground, providing, of course, the Company agreed to disband. The Club could erect their own pavilion, and he considered the ground could be made into one of the finest football enclosures in the West of England.



Mr. Arnold said he did not see how they could obtain the feeling of the shareholders unless by way of resolution: but the Chairman did not think the time was ripe, and thought it would be unwise to pass a resolution at that meeting. Mr. Vears said the matter could be left to the Directors, who would consult the shareholders before any drastic measures were taken.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

((ATTACHMENT - SIMILAR TO ABOVE - EXTRACT BELIEVED TAKEN FROM THE  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE ECHO - DATE UNKNOWN))

**GLOUCESTER CITY.**

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**GLOUCESTER ATHLETIC AND FOOTBALL GROUND CO.**

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**SUGGESTIONS TO SELL SUPERFLUOUS LAND.**

The annual general meeting of the shareholders in the above Company was held at the New Inn Hotel, Gloucester, on Friday night. Mr. A. W. Vears (chairman of the directors) presided, and amongst those present were Messrs. H. J. Berry, S. Davis, C. H. Dancey, F. W. Lovesy, T. A. Washbourn, and F. H. Bretherton, directors; W. Dancey, P. Grant, W. J. Robinson, W. J. Arnold, J. E. Dutton, W. C. Watkins, A. Winfield, H. W. Grimes (solicitor), and Sidney S. Starr (secretary).

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, which recommended a dividend of 5 per cent., remarked that there was very little to say, the figures being so straightforward. Mr. W. J. Arnold seconded, and said a dividend of 5 per cent. was always eminently satisfactory. He thought the directors had carried out their duties in a businesslike manner.

On the proposition of Mr. P. Grant, seconded by Mr. Watkins, Messrs. F. H. Bretherton, C. H. Dancey, and S. Davis were re-elected directors.

Mr. J. E. Dutton was re-elected auditor, on the proposition of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. W. Dancey. In acknowledging his re-election, Mr. Dutton expressed the opinion that the directors did quite right in carrying forward £54 16s. 2d. to the depreciation account, as he thought the buildings were valued at a higher figure than they would fetch. If the Football Club came to the ground, the company would be in a hole, and as last year's working of the club showed a great loss, some comment was made at the annual meeting about the high rent.

A vote of thanks was accorded the directors, and this was acknowledged by the Chairman, who paid a well-earned compliment to the secretary for the admirable manner in which he carried out his duties. Continuing, the Chairman said it had gone forth that possibly the company might some day sell a portion of the land at Kingsholm. It was true that something of the sort had been suggested, but the directors would never sell any portion which would disturb the playing of football.

Mr. Grimes said there was no doubt the directors had power to sell, and his own feelings with regard to the propriety of selling were quite definite. He agreed with the members of the Football Club that the rent paid for the ground was a very high one, and was a strain upon the resources of the club to have to pay it in a bad season. At the same time, he felt the company could not afford to let the ground for less. He did not think it was possible in the future to get 5 per cent. unless the capital was reduced, and the only way to do that was by the sale of some of the land which at the present time was valueless to the company and to the Football Club. He would not suggest anything likely to be detrimental to the club, and the only possible way of making any reduction in the rent paid by the Football Club was by selling some portion of the land which was not used. He thought the time had arrived when the matter should be considered, both in the interest of the Football Club and the Ground Company.

Mr. Bretherton said he had given the matter great consideration, and as far as his judgment went it would be to the interest of the company to get rid of certainly a part, if not the whole of the frontage.

Mr. Grant, while believing that some portion of the land might be disposed of to advantage, did not think they should do anything without the consent of the Football Club.

Mr. Arnold thought it was no good to the Football Club to be paying rent for land they did not use. Selling the frontage would mean a rearrangement of the playing ground, and if that could be done it would be of advantage to everyone. The Football Club were paying a good rental, but might not always be able to do so. Therefore it behoved the company to get a little nest egg by them. He knew the directors would jealously guard against anything being done detrimental to the interests of the Football Club.

Mr. J. E. Dutton was not sure the company would get any advantage by selling the land. Presuming they sold the frontage for about £2,000, they would lose £44 a year for the hoarding advertisements, and then they would have to erect a new pavilion at a great cost.

Mr. Grimes thought they would get considerably more than £2,000, and said that anything done would be by arrangement with the Football Club.

The Chairman said the subject had been mentioned simply to take the feeling of the shareholders on the point. Nothing had been done in the matter; not a penny had been spent. He wished it to be quite understood that nothing would be done to drive the Football Club away.

Mr. Lovesy, speaking as a shareholder, said the company was formed with a view to the Football Club becoming the owners of the ground, but they could not buy it at the present figure. Therefore if they sold land and reduced the capital by £2,000, it would be more within the reach of the Football Club.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. H. A. Dancey, who said he was quite decided it would be advantageous to sell the frontage towards Worcester-street and turn the playing space round.

Mr. Arnold said he would be prepared to move a resolution giving the directors powers to enquire what land should be sold and to draw up a scheme; but

The Chairman said he did not want a resolution moved, and the discussion ended, the matter being left to the directors, who will call a meeting of shareholders before selling any land.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.