

Minutes of the Tuffley Rovers AFC 2023 Annual General Meeting

Held at Glevum Park on Saturday, 15 July 2023 at 12noon

Dan Boon (DBo) opened the meeting and welcomed all members in attendance.

In Attendance:

Dan Boon, Neil Spiller, Dean Brooks, Will Cronshaw, Sonia Spiller, Terry Young, Keith Wallington, Joe Cole, Sean Roberts, Adrian Viner, Jon Corbett, Tracy Samuels, Gemma Paine, Roy Craddock, Chris Giddy, Robin Hoffland

Apologies:

Apologies had been received from Leah Whiffen, Kevin Schmitz, Darren Ellis, Ken Blackburn and Dave Cornock.

Minutes of 2022 Annual General Meeting:

Neil Spiller (NS) confirmed the minutes from the 2022 AGM had been published to the club website and printed copies were available at the meeting.

They were accepted as a true record. It was proposed that they were signed as an accurate record and all present agreed.

Officers' report:

Executive Chairman's report:

NS confirmed that Graham Moody (GM) stood down from his role as Executive Chair six weeks ago and Dan Boon (DBo) and NS had covered the responsibilities in the interim period. NS had offered to cover the Executive Chair update.

NS felt that the club had a good year on and off the pitch, despite some struggles, during what was a very challenging period for the club as a whole.

Football Chair report:

DBo pointed to the pitch problems experienced over the last year, which had impacted significantly on home fixtures. It was hoped those issues were now behind us and the first home pre-season fixtures for 2023/24 were scheduled for the next Saturday.

Overall, the last 12 months had been solid in terms of finance, with the club completing a second full season of operation of the bar at the ground. DBo offered his thanks to Sonia Spiller, Luke O'Ryan, Pat Spiller and NS for their efforts. He also offered thanks to all staff and volunteers for their contribution in 2022/23.

DBo then reflected on a “brilliant” tournament weekend and the Scooter Rally that had been held at the ground recently, with both successful for the club.

The club were currently exploring opportunities for replacement floodlights, although DBo confirmed the costs were likely to be prohibitive in the short-term.

DBo then offered thanks to all managers and coaches. He thanked Vaughan Howell and Jon Corbett for their contributions with the Ladies’ team, then acknowledged the contribution Will Cronshaw and Sean Roberts had made to Stroud League football, as they were stepping down from managing the Fourths. DBo then acknowledged it was getting “harder and harder” to get volunteers to help with running the club and encouraged others to come forward.

Football Secretary report

NS gave a very short verbal report to the meeting. He thanked all committee members and volunteers for their efforts during the 2022/23 season. He reiterated DBo’s view that more volunteers were needed to support the future of the club, with sustainability of the entire operation a real challenge as the club approached its 100 years’ anniversary.

Treasurer’s report

In the absence of a formally elected Treasurer, DBo and NS would give an update in relation to the club finances.

DBo commented on the last year’s finances and the problems that had been experienced with financial reporting. Accounts were now available and he gave a brief overview to the meeting. The club had now moved to monthly VAT returns, which would be particularly beneficial in managing the costs of the social club development.

NS and DBo then briefly ran through the accounts. An external accountant had been appointed to manage the accounts, and they were presented unaudited, as there was no formal requirement for audited accounts. The club had recorded a £60k surplus for the year, although that was inflated by £37,500 Levelling Up funding received. There had been positive bar sales at both sites. Wages were at £108k, down from £133k in previous year - Covid had been cause of additional staff costs in previous year.

NS pointed to the energy price increases that were impacting on cashflow, although the accounts showed that generally costs were decreasing. There had been some significant savings on football costs, which was welcome.

DBo asked that the meeting approved the accounts. Terry Young (TY) proposed acceptance and Roy Craddock (RC) seconded. The vote to accept the accounts was unanimously in favour, with no objections.

Head of Football Development report

There was no report in Ken Blackburn’s (KB) absence.

Election of life members:

DBo confirmed that there were no nominations for life members.

Election of officers and football committee:

NS set out that as there were no roles against which there was more than one nominee (save for where there was more than one role) and recommended that all candidates were elected en block for both the Football Committee and Executive Committee roles.

TY proposed that NS' suggestion was supported; Keith Wallington seconded the proposal. Officers were elected, as follows:

Executive Chairman	:	(remains vacant)
Football Chairman	:	Dan Boon
Football Vice-Chair	:	Dean Brooks
Treasurer	:	(becomes vacant)
Assistant Treasurer	:	Sonia Spiller
Head of Football Development	:	Ken Blackburn
Football Secretary	:	Neil Spiller
Assistant Football Secretary	:	Will Cronshaw
Football Welfare Officer	:	Leah Whiffen
Commercial Manager	:	(remains vacant)
Committee volunteers	:	Keith Wallington

There were no nominations for the roles of General Secretary, Treasurer, Commercial Manager or Players' Representative, so vacancies would be carried. NS confirmed that the Executive Committee would have the power to appoint to the roles if a suitable candidate came forward after the AGM.

Amendment to Club Constitution:

NS ran through a series of proposed amendments to the club constitution, all of which had been published to the club's website in advance of the AGM, as required and with notice, and briefly ran through a printed schedule having made copies available to the meeting.

He invited amendments to the proposed changes. No amendments were presented.

DBo invited someone to propose and second the changes to the constitution en block. Adrian Viner proposed acceptance and Sean Roberts seconded the proposal. The meeting was invited to vote on the amendments, which were unanimously approved.

Membership Fees 2023/24:

DBo set out a proposal that had been presented to the meeting by the Football Committee. It was their recommendation that the following proposals were accepted:

- New player registrations would be £60, including membership of the social club.
- Renewals of player registrations would be £50, including membership of the social club.
- £7 match-day subs; and £4 for U18s playing Saturday football; £4 for substitutes.
- Development Squad and U18s Floodlit fixtures exempt from match-day subs, but arrangements would be made to charge admission on the turnstiles.

Will Cronshaw queried whether we would only sign players on if payment was made before they played. This is unanimously supported. DBo then proposed acceptance of the fees and RC seconded that proposal, which was unanimously supported by the members present.

Any other business:

RC then offered his personal thanks to DBo for his work on the social club redevelopment.

WC then addressed the meeting and offered to organise a full club tour for the end of the 2023/24 season, which he would take up with representatives of each team.

There being no further business, the meeting closed 1248hrs.