

Minutes of the Meeting - HYFC Committee 30 November 2005

1. On behalf of the Committee, the Chair welcomed John Burgess to the group. John will not only be a new member to the Committee but will also manage the HYFC website. (GMcG/JB)
2. JB informed the Committee of several modifications and changes he has made to the Club website. These include, inter alia, an interactive dimension which will enable managers to post the news they choose regarding their teams' activities. The process for doing this will be explained at the upcoming meeting with all managers to be held 11 January 2006, Sports and Social. (All Committee Members).
3. PT gave the Treasurer's Report. Income/expenditure remains at approximately the same levels as last year.

The majority of Club expenditure is dedicated to recurring expenses such as light equipment, (kit, balls, jackets) and heavy equipment, such as goal posts, nets, the lock up, grounds fees, training. Fortunately, the amount of income spent on fines has considerably dropped since the "peak" in 2003-2004.

The majority of income derives from Club subscriptions and proceeds from the Fun Day.

It was noted that the Treasurer should try to ensure a minimum balance of approximately £4000. (PT)

4. The addition of a new age group, the U18s-17s was raised; the consensus was that this is a very positive development and thanks go to PT for his initiative and to Andy Smith and Ray Cooper for managing and coaching the group. (PT)
5. The Secretary reported on 2005-2006 registration.

As had been agreed last summer, we departed from previous practice this year in an effort to expedite the registration process and reduce paperwork for managers and parents. This was to be accomplished by sending blank forms directly to parents via post. Parents of returning children (the vast majority of Club membership) needed only to write their child's name, indicate age group and sign the form to comply with liability insurance requirements. A self-addressed, stamped envelope was enclosed with the form for ease of paying fees directly to the Club Secretary.

While some delays were caused by errors on the part of the Secretary, it must be acknowledged that in general the results of the new approach have been disappointing. Many parents have been extremely slow to respond, and as of 1 December about 75 players remain unpaid/ unregistered. Repeated reminders have not had much of an impact.

(Subsequent to the meeting, it was decided to revert to the old system with some simple modifications. Next year the managers will be given forms along with several self addressed stamped envelopes for their use. Managers will be responsible for ensuring that fees and forms are collected and forwarded to the Secretary within the time frame prescribed by the Club.) MMG.

6. PM discussed the ongoing preparations for obtaining Charter status for the Club. A Child Welfare Officer is needed to act voluntarily and ensure the well being of all members. There is also a considerable amount of mandatory training which may be required of all those who volunteer for the Club. (PM).

In this connexion, it has been observed that the Committee has not yet formalized the decision to pursue charter status, nor has a budget been prepared showing what kind of costs can be foreseen. (PM/PT/Committee).

7. The Chair is exploring possibilities for obtaining land for the Club which would belong to the Club. If this could be managed, it would end the need for the different age groups to train on four separate playing fields. Furthermore, it would allow for greater HYFC independence and movement. Our own playing fields should also fortify Club spirit internally while consolidating and elevating its profile within the larger community.

There are some possibilities but more property needs to be seen. Unfortunately, the hope that the Club might obtain some portion of land in the Health Centre move did not materialize in spite of encouraging signals from the Parish Council. (GM)

The new line of merchandising has finally been launched with very positive feedback thus far. The variety of products is of extremely good quality and will be listed on the website. Efforts will continue to make the products as widely available as possible.

Mary McGovern
Secretary
HYFC 14/12/05