

IRVINE SPORTS CLUB BOARD MEETING on THURSDAY 16th JUNE 2022

Present: R. Kidd, A. Rennie, J. McGarry, A. Wilson, A. Keenan, M. Nish, G. Russell

Apologies: L. Williamson, S. McCallum, D. Neil, J. Kidd

Finance and Banking

The finance report for May had been prepared by Glen and issued in advance of the meeting. The report showed a loss for the month of approximately £5k which was partly due to double payments for both the Resilient loan repayment and the Aviva insurance premiums to catch up on payments not taken in April. The first monthly repayment of the Bounce Back loan was also taken and there has been a glitch in reimbursements from HMRC in respect of Kickstart salaries. It was agreed that the reduction in playing section subscriptions which had been in place to encourage post-covid membership will stop as from 30th June 2022.

Investing in Communities Fund

A Rennie and G. Russell had finalised the club application and it was submitted on 13th June. The main features of the application are: funding for an additional 7 staff to provide fitness/sports sessions and organise social activity, and with a request that any funding for these staff be paid in advance; funding for an automatic entrance door and a new coffee machine; the club would commit to operating a drop in café and also produce a club road map to net zero. All board members were provided with a copy of the application.

Upgrade to cricket changing and garage

Re-felting of the roof and replacement of internal wooden roof beams completed. Also upvc fascia fitted to roof at no extra cost. The internal works will commence on 14th July with a timescale of 3 weeks.

Development Manager's report

Glen had issued a comprehensive report to all board members in advance of the meeting. He highlighted that continuation of staff placements at the level we have been used to over the past few years could be an issue as National Government funding is being dispersed to local authorities and it seems likely they will not allocate funds in the same way as previously. The Local Employability Partnership which has been set up does not appear to meet our needs and it was agreed that Andy and Glen will liaise about how best to raise our concerns. Glen has also had to manage a number of instances of staff absence during the month. Two issues regarding CCTV were discussed: monitoring the cameras 'out of hours' using an ipad has not proved particularly successful due to inadequate wifi strength; Glen let the board know that a concern had been raised by a parent of one of the dance school children regarding the camera in the main entrance corridor being able to view inside the ladies toilet if the toilet door was open and it was agreed to reposition this camera. The zero-turn grass cutter is currently with JS Montgomery for essential maintenance. Glen issued a separate sheet summarising grant applications in progress.

AMCO – access to railway bridge for maintenance work

AMCO has now carried out preliminary inspection and repairs to the bridge with only limited pedestrian access over the playing field being required. Basically they took advantage of the restricted train timetable currently in place to access the bridge via the rail track. However they have reported that significant repair work is needed and it is likely that there will be future negotiation about access over the playing fields.

Establishing priorities for upgrades to the club facilities and equipment

The board members present made suggestions about the items which should be included on the list of priorities and it was agreed that A. Rennie would formalise this list and issue it to board members in advance of the next meeting.

Playing Sections and Gym

Football – The under 14's still top their league, the Ladies team are 6th in their league and a summer camp will be held from 1st to 5th August. One of the Ladies team sustained a head injury in a recent game and an ambulance was needed. The new 11 a side goals have been received and built up. A company has been brought in to deliver First Aid training this Sunday and a race night is planned for 24th June. It was highlighted that the bins on the pitches need emptied and a request was made for pitch cutting to be rotated so that football was not always cut last.

Hockey – The West District Hockey Association has now decided that in future all league games will require to be played on an artificial surface. The hockey section will continue to play friendly matches on grass at Marress and the development of the junior section will be based at Marress. The section has applied for funding for their juniors and they are delivering coaching sessions at Lawthorn Primary. More members are in the process of obtaining coaching certificates.

Rugby – Preseason for the men's team will start soon and the Ladies team has maintained activity throughout. There has been considerable activity with the juniors – coaching at Lawthorn Primary, Castlepark Primary at Marress for coaching on Thursdays and a kid's presentation on 26th June.

Running – The section open day on 28th May went well, junior coaching has now re-started and the coaches are now back doing sessions at local primary schools. The club had 20 runners at the recent Kilmarnock 10k and congratulations again to John McGarry who was 3rd and 4th in his events at the British Masters Track Championships at Derby.

AOB

A Rennie said that he had been contacted by Danny Kerr about submitting any Sports Club items for the Marymass programme. He had sent details of the 10k road race and requested any other section which had a Marymass event to let him know.

A Rennie said that he had now set up a meeting with representatives of Clark Drive Girls to discuss the development of the bowling green area.

A Wilson requested that the board again give consideration to an area in the bar to display 'shields' presented by visiting teams and it was agreed to attempt to progress this part of a redecoration of the wall above the bar servery.

The next meeting was arranged for Thursday 21st July.