

IRVINE SPORTS CLUB BOARD MEETING on THUR. 23rd FEB 2023

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

Apologies: L. Williamson, S. McCallum

Finance and Banking.

The finance report for January 2023 had been prepared by Glen and issued in advance of the meeting. The report shows an overall profit for the month of approx. £29k but the club also received grant income during the month in excess of £36k meaning that the club actually traded at a loss. A. Rennie cautioned the board that if the monies which the club currently held for grant funded purposes were discounted then the club bank balance was less than £10k. A. Rennie also updated the board on potential further outlays which the club might need to make in respect of: 1. Underpaid PAYE payments 2. Back payment of VAT linked to a dispute about the amount of VAT which the club should pay on its energy bills 3. A disputed invoice from Hamilton Bros for work done on the Kubota tractor in the summer of 2021. A. Rennie said that Glen and himself had carried out an analysis of the total amounts paid in subscriptions by the playing sections during the financial year from 1st April 2022 till 31st March 2023. These figures showed a significant disparity in the amounts being paid by each of the sections and he proposed that he submit a discussion document on this matter for consideration by the board at the March meeting. Glen reported that the club had been unsuccessful in its funding bid to the Investing in Communities Fund. Bids for the funding had been massively oversubscribed but all agreed that this was a disappointing outcome given the amount of time and effort expended on preparation of the bid.

Staffing for reception duties, cleaning and locking up – update

The club received the following grants in January and these are relevant to this situation: Digital Lifelines (£10k) – to deliver support to members of the community at risk of overdose NA Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund (£20k) – to set up a warm room project. Glen had successfully bid for these grants and one of the benefits to the club is that both grants include an allowance for staffing and utility costs. This has enabled the club to continue to employ staff both for reception/cleaning duties and also to assist with the delivery of the projects. In addition Glen has managed to get an extra 6,500 sim cards from Vodaphone, which can be issued via the club office with virtually no restrictions. Glen is making arrangements with local supermarkets for a supply of fruit, cakes, etc for the warm room project. Time to Talk is fully operational again and he will make arrangements with the local press to publicise the new services which we are offering.

Co-opted Directors (two spaces available)

It was agreed to bring Glen Russell onto the board as a co-opted director and the secretary will check if having an employee as a co-opted director is consistent with The Articles of Association of the Club.

Development Manager's report

Glen had issued a comprehensive report to all board members in advance of the meeting. Issues which he highlighted are: new digital equipment which has been purchased with grants from the Community Learning and Development Fund and the Digital Lifelines Fund; details of the warm room project which will be based in the bar area; surplus equipment which may be available from Prestwick Air Traffic Control including board room furniture; advance details of the implications for the club of the Scottish Deposit Return Scheme. Glen is currently progressing a bid to the Cost of Living Support Fund for approx. £35k. If successful this funding will build on the warm room project and provide us with a further source of funds to help with staffing and utility costs. All functions for Mar/Apr are being offered 50% off the normal rate to try to boost income.

Playing Sections and Gym

Archery – A. Rennie has sent an email to Archery asking them to clarify their intentions about the storage container but has not received a reply. He will send a further email.

Cricket – training is currently at winter nets in Kilmarnock. There is good interest and potential for 12+ new members. The junior section continues to grow.

Football – matches and training are going well and, following an agreement with hockey and running, one 11-a-side match has been played on the hockey pitch. From next season the ladies' season will operate from August to May. The fun fours at the circuit is now finished and the Coerver training will now take place on 7th May and on three further dates still to be decided.

Hockey – training has been poorly attended recently due to injuries. The junior section is ticking over and plans are being made for school visits. The hockey goals are being fixed.

Rugby – the 1st XV narrowly lost on Saturday. The Ladies were beaten in their cup game but additional ladies have joined this week. The juniors drew their recent game with Clydebank.

Running – The club regularly helps to organise the Eglinton Park Run and at one recent event they combined this with a charity fundraiser with £165 being donated to a local foodbank. The next major event for the club is the National cross-country championships.

AOB

A Keenan raised the issue of some door entry cards not working. This has become a fairly regular problem which may be linked to members keeping their card alongside their mobile phone. All staff have been trained in how to reactivate cards and if the reactivation is unsuccessful a new card is issued.

There is an issue with the ignition system for the gas cooker in the main kitchen. This only affects the oven and it seems that the relevant part is no longer available. In the meantime Glen will ensure that 'long length' manual igniters are available.

It was agreed that Glen will try to arrange further CPR and defibrillator training.

The next meeting was arranged for Thursday 23rd March.