**Annual General Meeting 26th May 2023**

**Agenda**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Previous minutes
3. Welcome and Chairman’s Address
4. Treasurer’s financial report
5. Director of Rugby’s address
6. Election of officials
7. AOB
- Changing membership fees
- Gift-Aid status
8. Chairman’s closing remarks

**Annual General Meeting 26th May 2023, 8:00pm**

**Minutes**

**Members Present (35):**
A. Gidman, A. Ormrod, A. Coxhill, C. Bowater, C. Bardsley-Hodgkiess, D. Hardy (Honorary Secretary), D. Robinson, D. Bradley, G. Grimley (Honorary Treasurer), I. Wilson (Trustee), J. Stafford, J. Bonser, J. Bonser, J. Woodhead, K. Davies (Trustee), K. Turner-Hague (Honorary Chairman), K. Andrews, L. Garlick, L. Bradley (President, Trustee), M. Norton, M. Davies, M. Heywood, M. Singleton, M. Marrow (M&J Chairman), N. Webb, P. Lyons, P. Hughes, R. Hyde, R. Mooney (Director of Rugby), R. Palmer (Trustee), R. Woodhead, R. Jennings (Director of M&J), S. Marrow, S. Warner, S. Marrow (Trustee).

**Guests (non-members):**
G. Marrow

1. **Apologies for absence**Apologies were received from C. Rushworth, D. Nolan, M. Murphy, S. Crutchley, V. Rushworth, Y. McGuire
2. **Previous Minutes**The minutes of the last AGM were sent out by email with the notice of the AGM. I. Wilson proposed they be accepted as a true record, seconded by R. Palmer. The meeting unanimously agreed.
3. **Welcome and Chairman’s Address, K Turner-Hague**KTH welcomed members to the meeting and gave thanks for having him as Chairman for the last 3, or so, years. KTH stated that although he is stepping down, he will be staying on as a Trustee, and that it is normal and good to change leadership every few years so that there will be new ideas and new leadership. KTH sincerely feels that the club is in good hands with Gus [Grimley] as the new chairman.
KTH gave thanks to a couple of trustees stepping down; Paul Lyons and Dan Hardy, stating that the amount of work they have done is immense. Paul Lyons, with the work he did to help C Rushworth [previous treasurer] along with the work that he does for the mixed ability, and presentations that last for hours! Dan Hardy’s work has been immense, and in recognition of this, and the work done previously by Gina Hardy, the committee presented Dan with certificates of Life Membership for both Dan and Gina. Dan Hardy accepted the award and thanked the members for welcoming him into the club. KTH stated that he had been on the committee for 15 years and that it was now younger, and more dynamic with fresh ideas.
It has been a really successful year; the 1st team were in a final and a semi-final (where they were beaten by the eventual winners). 3s were trophy winners; more from coaches and managers later. The club is going from strength to strength, bucking the trend of other local clubs who are struggling. We need more coaches, admins, etc, as for the club to be great it needs help. KTH gave thanks to R. Palmer and L. Bradley for setting up the direct-debit system, as without it we wouldn’t have survived Covid.
After the rugby side, the icing on the cake is the Trading Company and the bar which has allowed us to keep the membership on one side and develop the club. The function room is an amazing space now and the first 3 months of the year have been the busiest ever. We have just had the roof done, thanks to R Jennings for securing £20k of funding for this. The bar is being refurbished at a cost of £24k, which is all coming from profits. Gone are the days where we’re living on our overdraft. The chairs have been replaced, we have an effective CCTV system, and a new bar on the way. Almost easy to forget what it used to look like.
KTH apologised for pointing out a negative note but stated that clubs are primarily measured on the performance of their 1st team, yet they are supported by the coaches and managers in every age group right down to the mini-Winnies. That’s our future. We’re a club of over 600 people and we need volunteers. Getting a team out is the easy part but we need people to step up to the other parts. There are lots of little jobs that need volunteers; for example, international ticket sales or Health and Safety Officer that are not full time jobs but just need a little bit of time per year.
Finally, in signing of KTH once again thanked the members for allowing him to have been their Chairman.
4. **Treasurer’s Financial Report, G Grimley**GG first gave thanks to KTH as Chairman.
In GG’s first year as Treasurer in the first few months hundreds of pounds were being spent and GG was panicking, but we’ve actually had a good year. GG wanted to send thanks to C Rushworth and P Lyons who supported GG for 6 months (the time it took to get access to the bank). Further thanks to D Hardy for not allowing GG to make changes that are against the constitution. Thanks to those that have been using the purchase orders, parts being spent on jugs etc come out of the Trading Company (TC) and the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) [the rugby club] needs to pay that back (it’s not free!). We need to keep a tight hold on budgets.
Accounts are being audited at the minute and will be published from the finance@aldwinians.co.uk email, which will send out the profit and loss figures to members.
The CIO made a profit of £6k, so no panic as this money did not come from bar sales, but came from membership, donations, grants, firework event (thanks to Y McGuire). The TC made a £31k profit, of which £1.5k was declared so that a £28.5k donation could be made to the CIO, leading to the CIO showing a £34k profit, which is unbelievable. We are the envy of lots of clubs in the area. We are using this to undertake a massive bar refurbishment as well as upgrading the TV/audio/Wi-Fi, hopefully in time for the World Cup.
As GG looks at the bank accounts, we have £50k but we are spending £30k on upgrades. We are ok carrying on as we are. GG gave thanks to everyone for their efforts. If anyone wants any further information, they are welcome to email him.
GG added that he nearly forgot to thank M Norton. He does an incredible amount to help GG and as financial director of the TC what he does is fantastic.
5. **Director of Rugby’s Address, R Mooney**As RM reflects on his second year as DoR, evaluating everything he sees we’re in a really good place. We’re getting rugby right first (ahead of drinking culture). Aldwinians is now a great place to play rugby, a great place to have a drink. The 3rd team won a trophy. The 1st team were really close. The scores show have far we’ve come. Looking at the younger players, there a few starting to come through. It’s going to be like a conveyer belt of talent coming through despite the colts this year not being vintage. We have lots of young players in the DPP.
1sts-2nd-3rds shifted across from the ADM, giving us better competition, better league with no rubbish.
For the younger teams, the mini-Winnies is excellent with many now moving up to tag and transitions are better than before. We have got to do more on coach development, with some age-groups having some very specific needs. It has been excellent to see the kids coming down on Saturday mornings and wanting to play 1st team.
The women’s team has come on from 20 months ago when RM first saw them.
People are not leaving the club, in fact, it’s quite the opposite. We’re in a really good place, but we need to keep improving. RM has an essentials and a desirables list, and with the team he has around him, taking some pressure off, RM feels this allows us to drive forward better.
6. **Election of Officials**In line with the constitution several trustee positions were due for retirement. There was the same number of nominations as vacant positions, so all changes were elected unopposed. In summary.
K Turner-Hague retired as Chairman. Gus (Mark) Grimley elected; end of office 2025.
D Hardy retired as Secretary. I Wilson elected; end of office 2025.
L Bradley elected as Treasurer; end of office 2026.
P Lyons retired as Trustee. K Davies re-elected as Trustee. K Turner-Hague, Ste Warner, and Pete Hughes elected as Trustees. End of office 2026.

The currently held positions as of 26/5/23, are as follows:
Position Name End of office
Chairman Mark (Gus) Grimley 2025
Secretary Ian Wilson 2025
Treasurer Lee Bradley 2026
Elected Trustee Stephen Marrow 2024
 Ste Warner 2026
 Katy Davies 2026
 Robert Palmer 2025
 Kevin Turner-Hague 2026
 Pete Hughes 2026

R Jennings led a round of applause from the floor for P Lyons and D Hardy.
7. **Any Other Business

i. Changing Membership fees, D Hardy**DH explained the rationale for the need to increase membership fees despite the profits the club has made in the last year. Mainly that we cannot rely on donations and grants, and with all costs increasing, we need to ensure the club remains solvent. The Trustees have agonised over the increases and have pushed to make all increases below current inflation levels. DH outlined the increases in prices to the meeting. There were no comments from the floor.

**ii. Gift-Aid Status**
D Nolan had sent a question about this prior to the meeting. GG stated that he has been through the whole process with HMRC who came back, after many months, with an incorrect response. At the moment this is ongoing and GG is trying to get to the bottom of it.

**Questions from the floor**- N Webb asked about the position of the Bounce-Back Loan. GG responded that there is still about £36k outstanding. We are not planning on paying it off inlump sums as we are never going to get another loan on these terms. Currently 1.5% interest, which equates to about £900 pm repayments. These payments come out of the TC and the bottom line is going down well.

- R palmer asked about what grants had been obtained this year. GG responded that there had been lots of little ones, plus the £20k for the roof that R Jennings had secured. The meeting applauded R Jennings for his contribution.

- Jim Bonser asked if L Bradley was staying on as President. This was confirmed that he would be staying on for one more year, as per his tenure as President, and that he would be replaced by K Davies, who is currently the Vice-President.

- M Marrow ask what the plans for kit supplier were. There followed a long explanation and discussion about what progress had been made in looking for a new supplier. R Jennings, R Mooney, R Palmer, and S Marrow have all been involved in trying to find a suitable replacement supplier. Several aspects of each supplier were being examined, such as lead-times, quality of kit and availability, along with ability to get new kit when sponsors approach teams. For the time-being we can still use O’Neills despite not being contractually tied to them any longer.
8. **Chairman’s Closing Remarks, K Turner-Hague**KTH stated that rugby is going very well, and we are attracting players. Financially we’re doing better than any time in the past, and that we are not turning a profit but investing back into the club for the member’s benefit. We do need more volunteers, which if we need to look externally for, we have a problem.
Overall it’s been a very good year, with a good committee, and KTH is very happy to hand over to G Grimley.

Meeting closed 8:50pm.