**Banbury Hockey Club AGM 29TH April 2019**

**Present:** see list

**Apologies :** Terry Clark, Sammy Bates, Jill Instone, Immi Kirwen, Alice Heathcote, Natalie Warlow, Rhys Potter, David Clark, Phil Beesley, Neil Sollis, Grant Haldane, Rob Taylor.

Minutes of 2018 AGM agreed.

**Chairpersons Report**

The club remains steadfast in its objectives of;

1. Serving the community in which is sits
2. Providing a great place to play hockey
3. Producing good people as well as good players

This report provides an overview of the major achievements of the past season and alludes to some of the targets for next year. It has not been possible to list everything here, so my apologies in advance to those who feel I have left something out.

**Central Aims of 2018/19**

1. Improve our communication to members

Unfortunately, we have not made the gains in this area as we would have hoped for. In fact, many members have suggested we have gone the other way!

Confusion remains over our use of social media and the website has not been regularly updated. Plans to move to a more 21st century communication system did not get off the ground and in short this is largely due to the chairman being overly ambitious with not enough resource to make the necessary changes.

This will remain a target for the 19/20 season.

1. Increase our sponsorship revenue

The club did see a small increase in its income from sponsorship and this was gratefully received from both commercial and private sources. Building a profile within the community takes time and whilst we may not have seen the sort of sums we were hoping for, I am pleased to say they we already have a three-year deal in place for next year, as well as assurances from existing sponsors which will see us attract a minimum of £9k a year, until 2022.

What is clear though that the club needs a clearly articulated plan as to what this money will be spent on. In the past we have used much of our sponsorship to fund coaching and traveling expenses for returning players. We would also like to invest in more community outreach funds to continue to swell the numbers of juniors in the club.

Gary White, has made steady progress on this and we hope to be announcing some ambitious plans to fund an outreach/club development post for the club and wider community soon. This will take a leap of faith from the membership and committee. It is clear that as the club continues to grow, we need to become more professional in aspects of our approach, in order to best support many volunteers, without whom we would not exist.

1. Continue to develop our facilities and establish a plan for the next 5-10 years

The process of developing our facilities has been a long and quite frankly frustrating one. On the one hand, we have brought about the renewal of the playing surface and upgrade to the club room. On the other, we are still a long way from the ideal solution of a pitch next to the club house under our own control.

We have seen some progress from the town council, who are supportive of the club. They are keen to progress discussions about the site on Hanwell Fields, but this is subject to the recommendations made by Cherwell District Council, with regard to their pitch player strategy. Over the next few months, it is important that the clubs voice is heard by the town and district councillors and to that end, we would ask members to contact their respective representatives to outline our case.

The decision to refuse floodlights at Bloxham School, realistically means that our future lies in the hands of the Town and District Councils.

Following this meeting, we aim to establish a committee to have specific oversight of the strategic development of the clubs infrastructure, now that we are in a position to possibly secure the land needed to bring about a suitable solution. Any members wishing to be a part of this group, should let with myself or Gary White know.

1. Ensure the club is ready for GDPR changes and fully compliant on all safeguarding matters

Without wanting to trivialise something that caused a great deal of anxiety, we seem to have coped with GDPR reasonably well. We continue to look at other database options and it is likely that something will happen on this front over the next 12 months, due to recent changes with Fixtures Live. However, it seems that the best advice on this, is to stay just behind the curve and follow the lead of others.

1. Offer suitable support to both First XI, in order that they achieve promotion and take advantage of the EHB re-structure at the end of the 2018-19 season.

Unfortunately, we came up short on both fronts this year. The men gave it a good go but finished just off the promotion slots. They were in with a very real chance up until the final two weeks of the season and it was ultimately not to be.

The Ladies endured a difficult season and sadly saw their second relegation in two years. Towards the end of the season, changes were made to leadership of this side and improvements were seen. Plans are being laid for next season and the target is to achieve promotion back to the south leagues.

**Awards**

Instone Trophy – Rhys Potter

Young Player – Maddie Hunt

Coach of the Year – Steve Hicks

Umpire of the Year – Jim Chadbourne

Dedication Award – Adrian Simons

Club Person of the Year – Charlie King

**Central Aims of 2018/19**

1. Establish and infra-structure committee to oversee the clubs development over the next 5 years.
2. Aim for promotion of the Ladies First XI
3. Improve our communication to members

**Head of Junior Committee**

Please see attached report.

It was also proposed that we have an increase in Junior Membership Fees from £75 to £90 (county average).

**Rationale:**

Fees have not increased for a number of years and our costs have increased, e.g. Festival Entry fees previous £25-30 but now £35-40.

The additional fees will also enable the club to grow and improve the experience for its members:

* Enable coaches to be reimbursed for their time/effort
* Enable the club to subsidise coaches to attend coaching personal development course
* Upkeep / purchase of equipment, e.g. balls, cones etc and safety equipment for players, e.g. face masks as well as GK kit.

**Note:** Match fees will remain at £3.00 whilst most other clubs in the county pay £5 match fees.

At the 2018-2019 season membership volumes (225), this change would generate approx. £3k additional income for the club\* to fund the above (1k on festival fees and 2k on the other elements)

\*Assuming £75 per child and no sibling discount is applied.

See below for Proposal result.

**Ladies Club Captain:** Carol Hicks

Unfortunately,this season has not given the Ladies Section all the results they were hoping for. Despite a lot of hard work from a lot of individuals, often above and beyond the call of duty, both the 1's and 2's are relegated  and the 4's fate hangs in the balance depending on how Trysports sort their league tables.

There are several areas to be addressed  - continuing to bring new members into the club at all levels (and this is everyone 's responsibility), putting in place managers and /or coaches with match day availability  at the top end  (which has been sorely missed this year), continuing to improve player availability to ease selection problems,  and continuing to support and challenge the developing younger players to the best of our ability and theirs.

There have been some excellent and encouraging team play  at both senior and junior level, and congratulations go to both the u16 and u14 squads for winning their Oxfordshire Leagues. A lot of these young players are making great progress up the club and there are more following on their heels. We are encouraged too by the good results for the county sides where our girls are involved.

So there is a lot of hope for next season and though we will all have to dig deep, there is no good reason why we cannot bounce back - but we must pull together.

Our thanks go to all  our coaches , managers, supporters,  and at this time - especially our umpires.  All the Ladies's sides (and I hope the Men's) should be aware by now of the need for more umpires next season. Please do not leave it to everyone else - we need people at all levels to be involved so that umpiring does not become a chore for a few.

There will be Summer League, Rush and Back to Hockey starting shortly and I hope most of you will be involved at some level and will be raring to go again come August Pre Season training.
My thanks to you all for your support and my best wishes to my successor.

**Mens Club Captain:** see attached.

**Membership Report:** requested.

**Treasurers Report:** see attached

Please find attached the Income & Expenditure statement for the last financial year, which you will note looks quite healthy despite not receiving any additional sponsorship that we anticipated. A few explanatory notes are included.

Also attached is the Bank reconciliation spread sheet showing all transactions for the year.

The bar has also done ok this year making about £1800 of which £1112 was spent on the shed.

The proposal of raising Junior subs to £90 was proposed by Amanda Perkin and seconded by Jim Chadbourne.

**Facilities Report**

No report received but we wish to thank Terry Clark for looking after Facilities and his weekly emails to CDC.

**Welfare Report**

The majority of the Coaches and all the Umpires have completed their DBS.

We need to move to a safeguarding team, in an effort to generate a more forward thinking set up.

It is up to everyone to create a good environment for all of our members.

**Election of President:** Mike Tideswell

**Election of VP’s:** All current VP’s re elected. It was proposed and seconded to include Simon Adkins and Adrian Simons as VP’s. No new Life Members elected.

**Election of Officers:**

**Chair person:** Matt Bull

**Welfare:** Simon Adkins

**Kit Officer:** Cath Clarke

**Facilities :** Terry Clark

**Vice Chair:** Pip Jones

**Hon Secretary:** Joyce Washburn

**Hon Treasurer:** Terry Clark

**Head of Playing Committee:** vacant

**Ladies Club Captain:** Jo Atherton

**Mens Club Captain:** Richard Hobley

**Fixture Sec:** Joyce Washburn

**Head Of Junior Committee:** Michael Pinnell

**Junior Fixture Sec:** Frances Claydon

**Junior Lead Coach/Festival Manager/Social and Tour Sec/Junior Development Officer**—to be decided at committee

**Head of Sponsorship:** Gary White

**Head of Marketing etc:** tbc

**Membership Sec:** Karen Brooker

**Social Sec:** Alice Heathcote / Immi Kirwan

**Umpire Sec:** Lesley Potter

**Clubs First Officer :** Natalie Warlow

**Provisional date for AGM for 2019/2020 season:** 27th April 2020