



Burnham on Crouch Rugby Union Football Club Ltd

Club Address: Dengie Hundred Sports Centre, Millfields, Burnham on Crouch, Essex, CM0 8HS
Website: www.burnhamrugby.com



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the members of Burnham-on-Crouch Rugby Football Union Club held at the Club, on Friday 19th November at 7.15 pm

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence: Ian Baker, Barry Bennett, Julia Carrington, Andrew Courts, Rebecca Diss, Hazel Gillett, David Gillett, Debbie Murray, Debbie Smith, Paul Smith , Denise Robinson
- 2) Attendees: Angela Arnold, Harry Barclay, Sam Barr, Robert Blunden, Jake Braybrook, Robert Carrington, Tom Hart, Stephen Harvey, Joe Harwood, Niall Hornett, Sonya Hornett, Danny Howell, Amiel Montealegre, Neil Murray, Norman Murray, Jenny Nelson, Heath Puxley, Victoria Smith, Tom Stubbings, Jack Thompson, Steve Walters, Aaron Williams, Charlie Woods.
- 3) Consider & approve (with or without amendment) the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 11th September 2020 (these can be found on the club website www.burnhamrugby.com)

Minutes agreed and signed by the Chairman (Niall Hornett).

- 4) Receive the Chairman's report.

Good evening Club Members, and welcome to our 2020/2021 Annual General Meeting. Before we start the proceedings, I would like all of us to wish Jake a speedy recovery, and also to take a moment to remember Alex Knapton and Alistair Munro. Thank you...

As Chairman of the club, this report covers an extended period due to COVID, and I do anticipate that the regular AGM schedule will be in place for next year.

We have a lot to go through this evening, and now more than ever Club Members, Players, Volunteers and Parents all have an important part to play in our future.

It goes without saying that we have been through an unprecedented period that all of us have not experienced, and I sincerely hope we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel.



What has become clear is that sport has a very important part to play in our well-being at both a physical and mental level. The ability to engage in competitive team sport with a group of friends is something we may have taken for granted, but when it is not available we recognize how important it is.

Like many clubs, we have seen some challenges with players not returning, and this has been noticeable in our youth section. It is cause for concern, and we will need to react to that to ensure a healthy pipeline of future players.

I will add that this situation is not unique to our club, and many clubs up and down the country have been feeling the effects of this.

In many cases this has extended to senior rugby, and I know of one large club, which has been in existence for over 150 years, who are now no longer able to field a 1XV. Fortunately, our senior rugby has gone from strength to strength, and I sincerely hope that we achieve the promotion and recognition that this club and its players deserve. I am also delighted to see our ladies coming back, and a lot of credit must be given to Specks, Tom Hart and Yueli.

The club needs to look forward, and whilst there is work to be done in re-establishing aspects of our membership, we are well respected in the community, but there is more that we can collectively do to promote and grow the club.

Moving to club matters, we remain in a very solvent position, COVID had very little effect on the club finances due to our limited outgoings, and we were bolstered by a grant from the RFU for £14k, which has been put to good use. This has covered investment in the pitches, equipment and costs associated with our planning application.

I'd also like to thank those sponsors and members who have given their time and support to this.

Our planning application for the extension and take-on of the bar area was lodged in September, and at this stage there are no objections. With the local council and district council in support, I am anticipating that our planning will be approved, and we can then get down to the exciting phase of starting the build. You will see that we have had designs made-up of how the club could look after we complete the build.

However, today, we own nothing, lease/rent what we require, which means that our outgoings are incredibly low. It does mean that we cannot make any investment in the facilities (which I think we all agree are well overdue), and we cannot make use, or maximise our position with social events and the bar.



With all that in mind, I do want club members to recognize that this project is the biggest undertaking that the club will have performed in its 50+ years of existence. Our prudent financial management will allow the club to bear some of the costs, however attracting sponsorship, grants, donations and trade support will all be needed to achieve a build cost figure that could well top six figures.

We will also need to consider the on-going costs for the maintenance and running of the club. This will include rates, insurance, utility bills, cleaning and staff costs etc. We will need to plan and cost what this will look like as part of our future.

Therefore, my recommendation to club members is that we move forward with the investment, as without this our ability to attract families, players and members will be limited. It could also put the club in a precarious position further down the line.

I was hoping to report back to members that the lease on the pitches would have been concluded by now, but with COVID and a back-log of other priorities, this is still to be finalized. I have no reason to believe that Maldon District Council is holding anything back, and all my contacts are still confirming the intention for this to be signed, allowing us the certainty to plan for the future.

Terms have been agreed, which includes a 20-year lease, as well as taking on the public pitches on Millfields for the playing season.

Finally, as many of you are aware, every committee member is a volunteer. We give up our personal time because we care about the club, it's members but also that we want to give something back.

I want to thank all the committee members and volunteers past and present who have unstintingly given their time to help in running this club. You should be collectively proud of what you have achieved, and in my conversations with Essex RFU, they recognize that this club punches well above it's weight!

However, now more than ever we need more people to come forward with fresh ideas, different perspectives and a desire to move us on again. Age, experience and gender are no barrier, just a desire to make a difference, and before people think well, I haven't got time, even 1 hour a week can make a difference. So, think carefully, if we collectively want to enjoy future success then we need the help, support and time from volunteers to make this happen.

Thank you for all your support, and with that I will conclude the Chairman's speech for this AGM.



- 5) Receive the financials of the club for the preceding year.

Hard copies of the financials were provided – Niall Hornett thanked Debbie Murray for getting the accounts into an orderly manner. The club remains in a very solvent position.

- 6) Appoint the Accountant for the coming year.

Alan Cowperthwaite has kindly agreed to continue as our Accountant / Auditor for the forthcoming season 2021/2022.

- 7) To elect, where appropriate, the members of the **Board of Burnham on Crouch Rugby Union Football Club Limited.**

Position	Current	Term	Club Nomination	Proposer	Second
President	Dan Hull	2 year	Robert Blunden	N. Murray	H. Puxley
Chairman	Niall Hornett	2 year	Niall Hornett	T. Stubbings	T. Hart
Vice-Chair	NEW POSITION	2 year	Ian Spurling	N. Murray	H. Puxley
Secretary	Sonya Hornett	1 year	Sonya Hornett	S. Walters	V. Smith
Elected Director	Heath Puxley	1 year	Heath Puxley	N. Hornett	D. Howell
Elected Director	Neil Murray	1 year	Neil Murray	J. Braybrook	S. Barr
Elected Director	Tom Hart	1 year	Tom Hart	R. Carrington	J. Nelson

Note: The Chairman Role has been extended for a one-off period of four years to allow for the completion of the lease and extension arrangements for the club. As such, once this extended two years period has been completed, or it is mutually agreed for that to be a shorter period, the current Chairman will step-down allowing the club to re-elect a new Chairman. This cannot be the same individual.

This change is a variation to the constitution, and the members present agreed to that variation under the said conditions.

Note: Given that the current Chairman and Honorary Secretary are related, members were also asked to consider whether they were comfortable with that arrangement, given that it could lead to a “conflict of interest”. Members were asked to approve the arrangement, and this was agreed at the meeting.



8) To elect the members of the **Management Committee**.

Position	Current	Term	Club Nomination	Proposer	Seconder
Club Captain	Alan Gregory	1 year	Rebecca Diss	T. Hart	N. Hornett
Treasurer	Debbie Murray	1 year	Debbie Murray	J. Nelson	H. Puxley
Governance Chair	Robert Carrington	1 year	Robert Carrington	A. Arnold	S. Walters
Youth Chair	Andrew Courts	1 year	Andrew Courts	R. Carrington	T. Hart
Mini/Midi's Chair	Tom Hart	1 year	Tom Hart	N. Hornett	R. Carrington
Mini/Midi's Vice Chair	NEW POSITION	1 year	Darren Fitzsimons	T. Hart	A. Arnold
Disciplinary	Denise Robinson	1 year	Denise Robinson	R. Carrington	D. Howell
Welfare & Safeguarding	Angela Arnold	1 year	Angela Arnold	N.Hornett	S. Hornett
Events/Social Manager	Donna North	1 year	Tom Limpenny	D. Howell	S. Barr
GDPR & Membership	Jenny Nelson	1 year	Julia Carrington	T. Hart	N. Murray
1 st XV Team Manager	Barry Bennett	1 year	Barry Bennett	N. Hornett	N. Murray
Club Press Officer	Jake Braybrook	1 year	Jake Braybrook	S. Barr	D. Howell
Company Sponsorship & Liaison	Tom Stubbings	1 year	Tom Stubbings	H. Puxley	N. Murray



9) To elect the members of the **Playing/Youth Committee**.

Position	Current	Term	Club Nomination	Proposer	Second
1 st XV Team Manager	Barry Bennett	1 year	Barry Bennett	N. Hornett	N. Murray
Senior Men's Coach	Mason Holmes	1 year	Mason Holmes	D. Howell	S. Walters
1st XV Captain	Chris Kelly	1 year	Sam Barr	D. Howell	J. Braybrook
2 nd Team Manager	-	1 year	Steve Walters	N. Murray	H. Puxley
2 nd Team Captain	-	1 year	Steve Walters	N. Hornett	S. Hornett
Deputy Youth/Midi/Mini Chair	Nicola Hutcheon	1 year	Nicola Hutcheon	N. Murray	S. Walters
Club Coach Coordinator	Rob Carrington	1 year	Rob Carrington	H. Puxley	A. Arnold
Referee Coordinator	Neil Murray	1 year	Neil Murray	S. Walters	H. Puxley
RFU Club Contact	Ian Spurling	1 year	Ian Spurling	T. Stubbings	N. Hornett
Senior Fixtures	Ian Spurling	1 year	Ian Spurling	N. Murray	H. Puxley
Youth Fixture	Cara Jones	1 year	Cara Jones	R. Carrington	T. Hart
Ladies Co-ordinator/Manager	Rebecca Diss	1 year	Rebecca Diss	N. Murray	H. Puxley
Grounds & Maintenance	Andy Wade	1 year	Andy Wade	N. Hornett	N. Murray



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10) To elect the members of the **Admin and Governance Committee**.

Position	Current	Term	Club Nomination	Proposer	Second
Club Press Officer	Jake Braybrook	1 year	Jake Braybrook	S. Barr	D. Howell
Webmaster & Social Media	Niall & Sonya Hornett/Jake Braybrook	1 year	Jake Braybrook	A. Arnold	N. Murray
Club International Ticket Liaison	Bob Blunden	1 year	Bob Blunden	J. Nelson	S. Walters
Vice President and Past Players Liaison	Bob Blunden	1 year	Bob Blunden	V. Smith	N. Hornett
Club Shop Manager	Angela Arnold	1 year	Angela Arnold	S. Hornett	J. Nelson
Club/Senior School Liaison	Dan Hull	1 year	Dan Hull	N. Murray	H. Puxley
Club/Primary School Liaison	Open	1 Year	Joe Harwood	T. Hart	R. Carrington
Club Bar Management	Denise Robinson	1 year	Denise Robinson	R. Carrington	T. Hart
MDC, BTC and PFP Liaison	Niall Hornett	1 year	Niall Hornett	T. Stubbings	T. Hart
Company Sponsorship and Liaison	Tom Stubbings	1 year	Tom Stubbings	H. Puxley	N. Murray
Volunteer Co-ordination	OPEN	1 year	OPEN		



11) To announce subscription and match fees for the coming year. (All fees are annual subscriptions and include match fees where appropriate.)

Adult Player Membership	Annual Membership Subscription	Payable by Standing Order (12 Months)
Senior Mens Player	£108.00	Yes - £9 p.m.
Senior Concession Rate (Student, Part-Time or not working)	£60.00	Yes - £5 p.m.
Senior Men Family*	£120	Yes - £10 p.m.
Senior Pay as you Play	£5 – per game	No
Girls/Ladies Player (18 & over)	£40.00	No

Youth Membership	Annual Membership Subscription	Payable by Standing Order (12 Months)
Mini (Under 5 years old)	£20.00	No
Youth - Midi, Mini & Youth (Under 6 to Under 17)***	£40.00	No
Girls/Ladies Player (Under 18)	£10.00	No
Youth Family (Up to 6 Youth Players & 2 adult NPPS)**	£60	No
Parent NPPS (no voting rights)	£20/£0	

Other Membership	Annual Membership Subscription	Payable by Standing Order (12 Months)
Vice President (by invitation only)	£60.00	Yes - £5 p.m.
Non-playing membership	£60.00	Yes - £5 p.m.
Social membership (no voting rights)	£20.00/£0***	No

*Subscription rates are capped at £120 per family and includes all youth players and adult social members at the same address.

**Subscription rates for Youth include one Non Paying Social (NPPS) membership.

***One adult social membership is free when purchased with a Senior Men Player.



- 12) To consider any other business of which 21 days' notice has been given to members of the club.

No notification was received.

- 13) The meeting formally closed at 20.06 pm.

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Signed by the Chairman Niall Hornett	Date of signing
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A.O.B raised at the end of the formal session.

No further points were raised.