

## **Minutes of OxVox AGM/6 held in The Landmark Suite of the Quadrangle Conference Centre on Saturday 12 April 2008**

Attendees: Simon Bradbury, Martin Brodetsky, Mark Camilletti, Peter Camilletti, Andy Cantwell, Neil Carter, Jonathan Crellin, Graham Cripps, Chris Davis, Fern Davis, Martin Day, Matthew Derbyshire, John Evans, Ian Faulkner, Rosetta Green, Leslie Gregory, Jon Hall, Graham Hilsdon, Jeremy Hockley, Graham Knight-Whiddett, Karen Knight-Whiddett, Sally Lambert, Trevor Lambert, Ian Lodge, Kevin Lyon, Ashley Mason, Mark Merritt, Reg Miles, Robert Newton, Tim Rosser, Bob Scholes, Gavin Stewart, Georgina Stewart, Terry Taylor, Robert Wakefield, Andrew Wayne, Chris Weller, Ray Whittaker.

This was a total of 38 members including 2 junior members; 1 new member joined at the meeting.

### **1. Welcome**

Trevor Lambert opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Trust's 6<sup>th</sup> AGM.

He announced apologies for absence from Brian Axe, Charlie Bond, who had sent a letter from his home in Western Australia, and our Patron the Rt. Hon. Andrew Smith, M.P.

Andrew had updated the Trust on the state of play in relation to housing and other development South of Grenoble Road. He had also written to say that, although the Club had considerable community involvement, he felt there was potential for stronger links with boys and girls football in the area, and he would like to discuss ways in which the Trust and Club could work together to associate themselves more with local junior football. In addition, he reported he had progressed his working relationship with the City Council and would shortly be meeting its new CE; he was also planning to meet Nick Merry and would welcome the opportunity to attend a Trust committee meeting in the near future.

### **2. Performance report**

The Performance Review for the year ending 30 September 2007 was circulated (this also touched on activities between October 2007 and April 2008 to bring members up to date). (The Review will be distributed to non-attending members separately).

Trevor said the big questions still related to the Club's or its owners' acquisition of the stadium, the Club's security of tenure pending the acquisition, results on the field and the apparent poor performance of the Club's marketing and sales department. The hole in the Club's finances had deepened and the Trust was not at this point a major fundraiser. In view of the large losses being made, it was doubtful whether funds raised by the Trust and hence supporters would have any real impact.

After a difficult period of relations between Trust and club, recent weeks had seen an improved level of contact, which the Trust would aim to ensure developed constructively.

Trevor recommended that the report was read and digested outside the meeting and emphasised that in future years the Trust will aim to hold its AGMs more promptly following the end of its reporting (and financial) year.

The main question from the floor related to the resumption of good relations and regular meetings with the Club. Members of the Trust committee confirmed that the relationship had been more businesslike of late. A meeting with Chairman Nick Merry in mid-January has been followed by a meeting in mid-March with Nick Merry, Simon Lenagan and Mick Brown. During the last few weeks there has also been an ad-hoc meeting and telephone calls on the subject of next season's ticket prices, and the Club has been giving serious consideration to the Trust's proposals and bouncing its own ideas off the Trust. This was a welcome development.

A member asked whether the Trust was aware of Jim Smith's formal position within the Club hierarchy. Beyond noting his position as a Club Director, the Trust had no additional information.

Discussion moved on to comments about the Club's approach to its sponsors. One member and sponsor said the service they had received over the past year had been poor but there were signs that the Club's outlook and leadership may be changing for the better. In his view it needed to improve, because the Club's marketing business had been allowed to drift, which was dangerous when combined with a lack of success for the team.

### **3. Treasurer's report**

The report was distributed. (The report will be distributed to non-attending members separately).

The Trust had a credit balance of £6691 (an increase of £1672) and, although in a healthy position, had an operating loss of £852 for the year ending 30 September 2007. This was due to a large increase in accruals and deferred income to £3645, and a testament to the success of the 3 year membership for the price of 2 scheme.

The Under 9s sponsorship had been largely paid for by an excess in the Flag Fund, most of the merchandise and book sales over the past 2 accounting periods and donations/commissions.

The previous year's audit fee of £235 was replaced by an Independent Examination (IE) fee for the same amount. The Accountant had changed and the benefit of a reduced price for an IE was not expected until year ending 30 September 2008.

Neil Carter highlighted the on-line shop at [www.buy.at/oxvox](http://www.buy.at/oxvox) which earns the Trust commission on each sale and could be a bonus if it was more widely known and used.

**The resolution to accept the accounts was proposed by John Crellin and seconded by Ray Whittaker. The members voted to accept the motion with no votes against and with 2 abstentions.**

### **4. Resolution for Independent Examination of accounts**

The resolution to continue with an Independent Examination of the accounts was sent to members with their invitation to the AGM letter and copies were available in the meeting.

**John Crellin again proposed the resolution, which was seconded by Tim Rosser. The members voted to accept the motion with no votes against and with no abstentions.**

### **5. Election of Board members**

The literature sent to members announced that four places were available for elected members on the Board. A total of five completed nomination slips had been received from, in alphabetical order of surnames, Simon Bradbury, Graham Cripps, Matthew Derbyshire, Tim Rosser and Ray Whittaker. The first three named were prospective new committee members whilst the last two named were those seeking re-election.

All five gave short speeches about themselves, what they hoped to add to the committee and how they would aim to promote the Trust.

36 adults present were entitled to vote; in addition there were 13 proxies and the 49 voting members therefore had a total of 196 votes at their disposal.

A total of 186 votes were cast and the result was as follows:

Simon Bradbury 46 votes

Graham Cripps 44 votes

Tim Rosser 43 votes

Matthew Derbyshire 31 votes

Ray Whittaker 22 votes

**Simon Bradbury, Graham Cripps, Matthew Derbyshire and Tim Rosser were therefore declared duly elected.**

Thanks must go to John Crellin and Terry Taylor plus a non-member guest for volunteering to help with the count.

The meeting wished to record its appreciation for committee service given by Ray Whittaker and Martin Brodetsky, the latter having decided not to stand for re-election.

#### **6. Any other business**

- a) The committee was encouraged to make more use of the forum pages on its own web-site.
- b) The committee was also encouraged to publicise both the newly elected members and existing elected members, and in particular to include photographs on its website.

#### **7. Closure**

After further discussion not related to the official business of the AGM, Trevor Lambert closed the meeting at 2.25pm following an expression of thanks to the committee for their work throughout the year from Sally Lambert on behalf of those present.

Chris Davis  
Secretary  
13 April 2008