

AGM Minutes of the NWFC Management Committee

7:40pm Monday 20 December 2021

Waiora Hub, Alex Moore Park, Johnsonville

1. Opening of Meeting

David Rayner welcomed our Club Patron Peter Dunne, Life members , Greg O'Connor and club members .

David mentioned that we are sitting here tonight because there have been some changes in the Club in the past year. Over the last few years, we have expressed interest to move to this site, the Waiora Clubrooms. It hasn't been a straightforward or quick process. We will touch base tonight on the previous sales of the old clubrooms and the move to the new clubrooms, which has significantly changed from what it used to be. Waiora Hub will be our home for a few years to come.

A report from the President and Chairman, and Treasurer was circulated.

There was a minute silence in memory of **Dulcie Stone**, a life member of the Club, who passed away in July 2021 at the age of 89.

We want to acknowledge Tom Meet, a former member who was involved with the Club for many years and has been diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer; he is in good spirits. Warwick will keep us posted on his progress.

Present

Peter Dunne – Club Patron, Greg O'Connor, David Rayner (Chairperson), Grant Stephen, Dave Wright, Gareth Elmey, Michael Hinds, Grant Shields, Karl Grove, Rachel Grove, Gareth Winder, Andrea Jetly, Lloyd O'Keefe, Fraser Kirby, Jordan McDermott, Warwick Smith (left meeting), Rachel Woodhall, David Woodhall, Donald Dingwall, Gareth Elmey, Andre Cantin-Buckley, Rob Winfield.

2. Apologies

No apologies to record

3. Confirmation of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting.

The minutes of the AGM held on 15 December 2020 were previously circulated and taken as read.

No matters were arising from the previous AGM minutes.

Motion: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15 December 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Dave Wright

Seconded: Grant Shields

Motion carried unanimously

4. Annual Report Presented by Grant Stephen and David Rayner

Tabled - circulated to members prior to AGM

- Football has had a challenging but positive year. It's pleasing we got through the season; we know several teams didn't get a full crack at it.
- We played as one Club, under one logo and one set of colours. The North Wellington Maroon hoodies proved to be really popular, and we hope the new sky-blue hoodies will be just as popular. The new brand was a long time in the making, and we had a lot of support.
- Many great memories and wonderful efforts to create the Phillip St clubrooms. It's positive to move on too and have a state of the art building on the park
- The new owner of Philip Street is a residential property developer. The sale was unconditional, settling on 10 December. The purchase price was \$3.1M.
- A trust was set up many years ago to safeguard funds from the sale process; **the NWAFC Trust**, Grant Shields is one of the Trustees. We will work with Grant going forward. There is money in the bank, debts are paid off, and we are in a flash new building.
- It was a positive outcome on the field. Partnership with Onslow has gone exceptionally well; results were great, we have some top coaches. Juniors have great opportunities with a lot of development, thanks to Karl for organising extra programmes, e.g. street football which has been great for the little kids. Karl's efforts have not gone unnoticed with setting up the girls only Programme and setting up the field every Saturday.
- U19's went well for the Club with the boys winning the National Napier tournament.
- The boys got out of the Satellite last year; boys won it this year; thank you to Coach Andre, who must be extremely happy.
- Both women's teams got promoted to the W League and Women's Premier League, which is fantastic
- It was a tough season for our Men's Premier League being relegated. It was a tough competition
- Matt Calcott (Outgoing Director of Football) was acknowledged for his time at the Club. Within his four years with us, he achieved a lot. He took the Club to the next level.
- Davor Tavich will be our new Director of Football in January. He is coming up from Nelson, and we wish him every success as our new Director of Football.
- We managed to get nominations for our Management Committee, and thank you to those who nominated and volunteered. We are impressed with the calibre of people who will lead us going forward.
- We want to welcome Michael Hinds, who will try and lift our Commercial game. It isn't easy getting sponsorship and funding these days. We must "sell" our Club, and we have to promote ourselves. We need to have the right kind of person and people to help that person. We want to acknowledge Michael for bringing along the right type of energy in this short time.

No questions from the floor

Motion: That the Annual Report (containing both the President and Chairman's reports) be adopted.

Moved: Gareth Winder

Seconded: Michael Hinds

Motion carried unanimously

5. Treasurer's Report - Presented by David Rayner

We can report a surplus of \$450K for the year but incurred an operating loss of \$155k. The \$450K had come about through the selling of Phillip Street, which happened post balance date but was confirmed before these accounts were finalised. The Auditors were happy to include that. In one way, it looks great, but the underlining result is not acceptable; there are several reasons why.

- the legal fees that we incurred were related to the disputes with Johnsonville Softball. It was about a total spend of \$40,000, but about \$25,000 for this financial period.
- the Covid wage subsidy. There were disruptions in our Club last year and this year, but there were no Wage subsidies this year.
- Sponsorship revenue has been harder to find. We have had existing sponsors pull out due to businesses falling on hard times and having no resources to look for sponsors at all times. \$20,000 came in from Sponsors, but it's at least \$30,000 less than what we wanted.
- An unexpected result was NZ Football creating a National League, increasing some costs. Introducing the new league simultaneously as Covid and border closures ended our responses in the market. Several players were not available due to not being able to come back into the country. The National League was set up; it raised the bar in terms of competition, which was actually the complete opposite of what NZ football wanted. The rewards were greater because it meant that clubs that qualified in the Central League, the top two clubs play in the National League and compete on the National stage. Which hasn't been available before, so it looked attractive, but in reality, for us, it became a bidding war. It made it harder for us to attract and retain players. We had to play the game, and that comes at a cost. The alternative by not playing the game, we stare down the barrel of relegation from Central League.

The combination of those factors is why we face the result as we did. David mentioned if there was a year to do that, this year was the year. We were fortunate with selling the clubrooms, and we need to make sure that the 2022 budget will break even by increasing revenue and reducing our cost areas.

A question from the floor

What is the breakdown of the \$40,000 spent on legal fees?

Litigation against Johnsonville Softball case was discontinued due to the successful sale of Phillip Street. We filed for a court hearing. It got extended a couple of times by Johnsonville Softball. Softball ultimately came to us through their lawyer to reach an agreement to withdraw the case.

What are the expenses for 2022?

We have a draft budget. We have a break-even budget forecast for 2022. There is work that needs to be done, and there has been a good level of input, but this has not been put forward to the Committee. The revenue numbers we are looking at is about \$700k. The same level of costs and expenses this year. But we are looking at Sponsorship and kids Programme to increase the revenue.

Motion: That the 2020 financial accounts be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Michael Hinds

Seconded: James Malden

6. Appointment of Reviewer

Our tradition is that this meeting should confirm the appointment of the Reviewer. David would like to propose instead to reserve the right to consider an alternative Reviewer for next year. Let's give the Management Committee sometime next year to work out who that should be. The reason for that, although we did get our accounts finalised at 5.05 pm today, we think there are better alternatives that is more suited to this Club. We have changed our Accounting firm to Affinity Accounting, Dylan Guitry, which has worked out well, and we want to do the same thing around the Financial Reviewer.

Motion: That the appointment of Reviewer is considered next year by the Management Committee.

Moved: Grant Shields

Seconded: Gareth Elmey

7. Election of Club Officers and Management Committee Club Patron, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Manager, Assistant Club Manager, 8 Committee Members.

The Chair advised that the following members had confirmed their wish to continue with/be elected to the Management Committee for the coming season within the deadline period. The following was proposed en masse:

President: Grant Stephen

Chairman: David Rayner

Treasurer: Dylan Guitry (Affinity Accounting)

Secretary: Andrea Jetly

Club Manager: Rachel Woodhall

Assistant Club Manager: Karl Grove

Management Committee Members:

Gareth Winder, Dave Wright, Rachel Grove, David Woodhall, Lloyd O'Keefe, Michael Hinds, Fraser Kirby, Ross McMillan and James Malden.

Motion: The above-mentioned members be elected to the North Wellington Management committee for the 2022/2023 year.

Moved: Grant Shields

Seconded: Michael Hinds

Motion carried unanimously

The NWAFC Management Committee members for 2022 were congratulated on their positions.

8. Notice of Motions – None received

9. General Business

Michael Hinds thanked David and the Committee for all the work they have been doing on a volunteer basis, and he looks forward to joining the Committee.

Warwick J Smith would like to mention that the Club has its 50th anniversary in 2022. We will be looking at setting up an anniversary committee. We will find out from Warwick what the actual date is.

Warwick has given us the heads up that we will need to change our constitution. An Incorporated Societies bill has gone through its second reading in Parliament. It's got to become an Act, and then there will be an effective date, and we have four years from the date to adopt a new constitution.

The restaurant – 3 Little Birds at Waiora operates Thursday & Friday night's 5-9 pm and all-day Saturday. We opened Thursday & Friday nights so members could come down and have a beverage and a meal with their families. Members are not doing that. It was mentioned that this is not communicated to the members, but it is advertised on Facebook. Our Club members have club prices, but the kitchen relies heavily on the public. We need to make this our Club in the next 12 months. Our focus is to communicate this to our members through email and social media, get the word out.

Peter Dunne mentioned the image of this Club was around Phillip Street, which was not great. We now have this new facility. Our Club is so well-positioned not just for Members but for the public. This is a golden opportunity. Let's build on it.

It was mentioned if we could have a top level field right outside the clubrooms. What are the chances of this happening? Unfortunately, there is next to no chance. The pitch is too small, and it's a premier cricket ground. A lot of money will need to be spent to make this happen, which is not our focus now.

More artificial turfs are being looked at at our end by the Wellington City Council. Grenada was getting looked at as a possibility by the Council; Grant made a point, nobody lives in Grenada, there are no schools or colleges.

Michael Hinds mentioned this is an "our" Club; it's the "Us" and "We", not a "Me" or "I" Club. Michael has a very tough job coming on Committee to get some sponsorship. Covid is out there, and Businesses are struggling to make money. Rachel and Michael are meeting to look at every single member of our Club, but he needs the Members to help, needs support and needs your contacts, and we will go out there and do it together as a Club. Michael can't do this on his own, Club effort all the way.

David mentioned that this year has been very challenging. There is a massive effort from the Committee that goes in to keep this Club running. Every year seems to get more significant and more complex. Having volunteers is essential, and we are pleased that we have a full committee for the new year coming up. Thank you, and we appreciate all your support.

Thank you to everyone who turned up tonight; your support is appreciated. The Club is in a good position. We look forward to building for next year.

10. Closing of AGM

Thank you all for attending; there being no further business, the 2021 AGM closed at 8.37 pm.

Signed:

Andrea Jetly
Secretary
NWFC Management Committee