

**MINUTES OF THE 99<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF HILLHEAD HIGH SCHOOL WAR MEMORIAL TRUST HELD AS A VIRTUAL MEETING ON ZOOM AT 1900 HOURS ON WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for absence were received in respect of D Byrne, H Lockhart, J Mackie, D Maddern, S McAllister, L Melville, V Melville and C Newson.

**NOTICE OF MEETING:**

The Notice of the Meeting, having been duly circulated to the members, was taken as read, on the proposal of Mr Kitchener, seconded by Mr Scott.

**OBITUARIES:**

Mr Bond referred with regret to the passing of Tom Lawrie, who has been sadly missed around the club.

**MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the previous AGM held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020, having been previously circulated to the members on the website, were adopted on the proposal of Ms Miller, seconded by Ms Blair.

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

**DIRECTORS' REPORT:**

The Directors' Report had been circulated in advance. Mr Mohammed said that the Strategic Planning Group had developed out of the original Virus Impact Group so that we could plan the immediate reopening of the club and link this towards longer term development. They had made an application under the Adapt and Thrive Scheme which was not ultimately successful, but the work involved had identified areas for attention, both immediate to allow us to get back to operating as a sports club and more long term to let us improve our facilities and operating practices. Problems had been identified with the ventilation in the building, and work had been done on this to allow us to reopen to the level of use from before the pandemic – we hope to see the results of this as we gradually restart activities. The subscription structure had been considered, and work is on going here with the aim of a reassessment perhaps in the spring. Mr Bond thanked Ms Lawton for all her work in keeping the club afloat over the past eighteen months, and indeed for her magnificent contribution to running the club over the past eight years; there will be a handover period in the next two months as we welcome Mr Mann to this role. He also thanked Mr Kirkpatrick for his work for the Board over many years in maintaining the fabric of the building. Ms Miller is also stepping down after sterling service in maintaining and updating our membership records; we welcome Mr Gallagher as her replacement.

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS:**

Mr Bond said that the financial reports and accounts had been circulated and handed over to Ms Lawton to give more detail.

Ms Lawton said that the Financial Report referred to most aspects of the work over the past eighteen months, and assured the members that work had been done to trim all unnecessary outgoings and that the club was on as secure a footing as was possible through the various grants and loan income and now the prospect of gradually returning to operating income. Mr

Mitchell asked about how the bounce back loan worked and was told that the first year was interest free, and that repayments would be starting in autumn 2021. The money is being used for projects to improve our operation such as the ventilation work. Projects for the next few months are aimed at delivering as good a service as possible so that we can return to full operation.

There being no further questions about them, the accounts for 2020 were adopted on the proposal of Mr Fowler, seconded by Mr Mitchell.

### **SECTION REPORTS:**

Reports were given in respect of Cricket, Rugby, Shinty, Tennis, the Gym and the Community Hub. Mr Bond thanked them all for their efforts to maintain some sort of activity while the club was completely closed and for their efforts to return their various activities to as near to normal as current regulations allow. Mr Mitchell asked about the increase in tennis members and was told that this reflected an increase in participation in tennis across the whole of Scotland. Mr Fowler said they were trying to deliver as high a standard of coaching and play as possible, and were in the process of upgrading the lighting system.

### **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS:**

There being one nomination for eight places, Miss MacDonald was declared duly elected.

### **A.O.C.B.:**

a) Various members asked about the detail of operating hours for the Café and the sporting activities. Mr Mohammed said that this was changing as regulations changed but the Board would pass on the comments to the Café, and would suggest better information about opening hours both on the website and by posters. The Cricket and Rugby sections asked about post-match hospitality; Mr Bond said that a procedure would be established where the team or section concerned would give in their requirements and weekly details would be set. Mr Scott said that the members were keen to get back to a sports club style service and asked if the need for a bar style menu could be passed on. Mr Bond agreed to pass on all the comments. Mr Mitchell said that he was working to get the television coverage in the bar restarted.

b) Mr Fowler asked about the use of the showers for gym and tennis members. Mr Mohammed said that he would check the exact regulations but thought that a risk assessment from each section might be required before this could be reintroduced. It would also impact on the overall clubhouse cleaning, and this is something else which the Board is reviewing.

c) The Rugby section asked about the use of weights for their members since the free weights room is now used for other purposes. Mr Mohammed and Mr Kitchener said that various suggestions for rugby members using the gym at certain times were being considered; Ms Ross noted that this could also be considered for cricket and tennis members. The Board will look at this question.

d) Mr Ferguson asked about work on the cricket square. Mr Mohammed said that they had hoped to do this before the season started but it had proved impossible; plans for this autumn were now being made

e) Mr Mitchell said he had been looking at use of the outdoor facilities and thought that there might be opportunities for some development there. Mr Kitchener felt that the grass areas would be working pretty well to capacity once we return to full sporting operations, but that the Board was always willing to consider suggestions and was in fact looking at repurposing

any areas of the grounds if a project seemed viable. Mr David Mitchell asked if there were any plans for the blaes area at the west of the clubhouse; he suggested an outdoor gym or training area. He said that he knew of a company who might be interested and said he would pass all the ideas to the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2018 hours with a vote of thanks from Mr Mitchell to the Board for their work over the past difficult year.