

Minutes of the Eleventh Annual General Meeting of the Quins Supporters Association (Quinssa) held on Tuesday 8th July 2014 at the Twickenham Stoop

Present: Members of the Committee comprising

Steve Scott: Chairman
Warren Kennedy: Treasurer
Scott Cooke: Membership Secretary
Duncan Franklin: Member
Lou Hopkins: Member
Chris Munton: Member
Lyn Gadd: Member
Adrian Jobling: Member
68 other Quinssa members

Copies: Quinssa Committee, Quinssa members, Quinssa website

Apologies for Absence:

Sarah Gladstone (Committee member), Emma Stewart (Committee Member), Mike Benson, Hugh Edwards, Barbara Edwards, Martin Elliot, Jon Ellis, Diane Ellis, Udo Eppinger, John Hartley, Brian Haynes, Janet Haynes, Edward Henson, Daryl Lankshear, Sasha Lankshear, Jane Liddiard, Roger Patterson, Mike Smith, Brian Sullivan, Heather Sullivan, Paul Tweedale, Pauline Tweedale

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were approved by a show of hands without dissent.

Proposer: Jane Thornton
Seconder: Graham Johnson

2. Chair's Report

A warm welcome to everyone for this our 11th AGM
This time last year I read a rather long report and you'll be pleased to hear that this year it is much shorter.... Well, a bit shorter.

Membership

I reported a year ago that membership had risen steadily and stood at 1700 then. It has continued to rise and is now more than 2,100. A dozen years ago the average attendance at Quins home games was not much more than this. So in the 2 years that I have chaired the committee we have doubled membership and I'm happy to take ALL the credit.....

Committee

In truth it has been the activities of the committee members for many years that has driven up the membership and I'd like to thank the officers. Sarah Gladstone, our

Secretary who cannot be with us tonight, Warren Kennedy our Treasurer and Scott Cooke, Membership Secretary who has had to deal with this growth in numbers. The other committee members are actively involved too and thanks are due to Duncan Franklin for the excellent mailer we all get each week, Emma Stewart for her organising of the main summer event, (she did a fantastic job of the dinner we held here a few days ago), Louise Hopkins, Adrian Jobling, Chris Munton for his Match Day Support Squad, and of course Lyn Gadd who makes the wonderful jewellery we sell. Last year Chris Clements also joined us as a co-opted member of the committee and he produced some great artwork for us.

Sarah is not standing again so we have a vacancy for the secretary's position. Lyn has offered her services in this role and hopefully you'll all vote her in shortly. Chris Clements has also decided to step down. I thank both of them on your behalf for the work they have done.

I will be offering my services as Chair for one more year and I hope to receive your endorsement soon. If elected it will be my final year as I believe fresh ideas and leadership are essential to an organisation like ours. Under the rules of the Quinssa Constitution a Vice-Chair will be elected when the Chair is 12 months from leaving, with the intention that this person becomes Chair at the next AGM. Scott Cooke has agreed to stand for election as Vice-Chair and I hope you all agree with me that he will make an excellent leader. Given that my surname and his first name are the same we have witnessed some confusion amongst members and non-members alike as to who is who and it has been a bit of a running joke. At least that should be resolved in a year's time.

Activities

I thought at one stage last season that we were falling behind with organised events but we did catch up quite quickly towards the end and of course we continued to do all those things we are now known for.

Coaches were despatched as usual to all corners of the country and our first ever overseas venture got us to Paris and back. Please join me in thanking Warren and Lou for organising and running these coaches. Plans are afoot to run another overseas coach in the coming season.

The Quinssa mobile stand hit the road too with appearances at a few pubs in town. More such appearances are planned and sometimes it might appear at locations around the ground for those who can't find the King's Bar.

We have been asked a few times by members to arrange travel and tickets to games abroad but we have decided that, apart from any venues easily reached by coach, we will not arrange any combined travel and ticket packages as the financial risks are too high. We believe that members are happy to make their own travel plans to suit their time and budget whilst we arrange the ticketing so we can sit together at the games. Scott (aka Steve) has become known to many of you for his excellent work in sourcing and distributing these tickets.

Later than originally planned, we have recently run a member's survey and we are grateful to all who have completed it. This feedback is vital so we can learn when we get it wrong and make sure we offer a service of value.

For the second year running we have donated £7000 to the Quins Academy. This money is raised from raffles, overseas ticket sales and the sale of Lyn's jewellery and other merchandise. We also donated £2000 to Harlequins Ladies team and I learnt today that the shed they so desperately need to store their kit and equipment will soon be in place. I have an invitation to attend their opening ceremony next month and to "meet" the girls!

We secured a place for Ed Spokes to run the London Marathon back in April and next year both Ed and Conor will be running for Quinssa so we will be seeking your support when the time comes.

It would be a very long report if I mentioned everything we've done so you'll have to believe me when I say we did a lot.

With membership numbers continuing to grow we need to invest in some technology to reduce the paperwork and improve the communications with members. We are looking at this right now so hopefully we'll have something in place soon.

Sponsors

Once again Greene King have been very supportive of our efforts and have donated prizes for raffles every time we asked. The other club sponsors have been less involved although I was pleased that IG sent their photo booth to the dinner. It was a great success and we'd like to secure it for future events.

Club Liaison

The club continue to engage with us at all levels and we have met with them regularly to discuss issues of concern. We can't take up every grievance of individual members but when there is a groundswell of opinion we do take issue with management and we will continue to do so. Some members have demanded more active denouncement of the club by Quinssa but I'd prefer to engage in criticism that is helpful and productive. I hope you agree.

You may have noticed that the club have staged some events that bear a striking similarity to events previously run by us. We'll take that as flattery and we won't get too upset about it.

Conclusion

We have a strong and growing organisation that is well respected and one we can all be proud of. Thank you for supporting me and the committee over the last 12 months. We'd like another year to see if we can make it even better. £5 a year? Pretty good value I'd say.

Steve Scott
Chair – Quinssa

3. Treasurer's Report

Income: £65951.51

Expenditure: £57481.94

The expenditure was higher this year with the main expenditure items being coaches, away tickets, events and administration. The administration costs have increased with the increase in membership. In addition a mobile stand in the form of a pop up gazebo was purchased. It has been used in a number of local drinking establishments on home games and was used at the Quinssa dinner. It will be used next season in different parts of the ground on home games to hopefully reach people who do not visit the Kings Bar.

Current Account: £8469.63

Savings Account: £16,893.69

Whilst no firm plan in place, it is thought Quinssa would utilise some of the savings in the 150th celebrations in 2016.

Three young talented academy players were sponsored for £1306.15 to assist with their fares to Guildford and ensure that they could attend the required training sessions.

In addition £2000 was donated to the Quins Ladies team to purchase storage for their equipment

Warren Kennedy
Treasurer

4. Accounts

Proposed: Duncan Franklin

Seconded: Jane Thornton

5. Appointment of Auditor for the coming year

David Holland has agreed to act as auditor again for the coming year. This was accepted without contest.

6. Election of Officers

.Sarah Gladstone notified the committee that reluctantly she would not be standing for re-election due to pressure of work.

The Officer nominations were as follows:

Steve Scott proposed for Chair

Proposed: Lyn Gadd

Seconded: Lou Hopkins

Warren Kennedy proposed for Treasurer

Proposed: Sally Kefford

Seconded: Andrew Lawton

Lyn Gadd proposed for Secretary

Proposed: Gaynor Davies

Seconded: Ann Stevens

There being no other officer nominations the officers were elected.

Proposer: Ann Stevens

Seconder: Gaynor Davies

The Vice-Chair nominations were as follows:

Steve Scott notified the meeting that he will be standing down at the end of the next season and therefore in accordance with the Quinssa constitution a Vice-Chair will be elected

Scott Cooke proposed for Vice Chair

Proposed: Duncan Franklin

Seconded: Sarah Gladstone

There being no other Vice-Chair nominations Scott Cooke was elected

Proposed: Steve Roberts

Seconded: Adrian Jobling.

7. Election of Committee Members

The Committee Member nominations were as follows:

Chris Munton

Proposed: Ann Stevens

Seconded: Gaynor Davies

Lou Hopkins

Proposed: Steve Scott

Seconded: Scott Cooke

Duncan Franklin

Proposed: Terry Pierce

Seconded: Alex Franklin

Simon Bolton

Proposed: Scott Cooke

Seconded: Steve Scott

Emma Stewart

Proposed: Graham Davis

Seconded: David Janes

Adrian Jobling

Proposed: Sue Jobling

Seconded: David Piper

There being no other nominations the Committee Members were elected.

Proposer: Rhonda McDonald

Secunder: Andrew Lawton

8. Any Other Business

A question was raised by Ann Stevens as to whether a coach will be organised for the last game of the season at Newcastle. Warren Kennedy responded that this was likely to happen.

Jane Thornton thanked the Quinssa Committee for their work during the last year.

9. Close of Meeting

Steve Scott thanked everyone for attending.

Income and Expenditure Account as at		30th April 2014	
		Accounts Year 2013-2014	Accounts Year 2012-2013
Income			
Opening Current Balance		2027.53	12953.14
Membership subs received per financial year			
	2012/13		2581.25
	2013/14	5204.81	3714.00
	2014/15	1529.58	486.07
	2015/16	405.00	
	2016/17	5.00	
	2017/18	5.00	
Academy		4229.29	7344.48
Merchandise		1201.05	1405.22
Coaches		13699.31	7206.21
Sponsorship			1000.00
Events		6560	6829.00
Charity			797.00
Biarritz			8608.00
Zebre			3384.00
Connacht			1981.50
Bath			2205.00
AP Semi Final		4481.5	
ASM Clermont		6090	
Racing Metro		9878	
AMLIN QF		10635.5	
LV= Final travel			5380.50
Quinssa Accounts Income		65951.57	65875.37

Deposit			
Opening Balance		16885.25	6879.05
Transfer INTO Deposit			10000.00
Transfer FROM Deposit			
Interest		8.44	6.20
Deposit Account		16893.69	16885.25

	Accounts Year 2013-2014	Accounts Year 2012-2013
Expenditure		
Membership Admin Expenses	1648.94	2301.04
	490.18	
Academy	1306.15	10643.03
Merchandise	1759.94	1189.20
Coaches	12906.6	6110.00
Asset	1084.27	89.99
Events	4301.59	11409.58
Charity		350.00
Biarritz		8608.00
Zebre		3384.00
Connacht		1981.50
Bath		2275.00
AP Semi Final	4481.5	
ASM Clermont	6090	
Racing Metro	9878	
AMLIN QF	10440.96	
LV= Final travel		5380.50
Printing	1093.81	126.00
Transfer to Deposit Account		10000.00
Sponsorship	2000.00	
Quinssa Accounts Expenditure	57481.94	63847.84
Closing Current Balance	8469.63	2027.53