

Minutes of the Fifteenth Annual General Meeting of the Quins Supporters Association (Quinssa) held on Wednesday 10th October 2018 at the Twickenham Stoop

Present: Members of the Committee comprising

Scott Cooke	Chair
Warren Kennedy:	Treasurer
Lyn Gadd:	Secretary
Steve Scott	Vice Chair
Pat Scott	Member
Kay Capon	Member
John Heigham	Member
Lou Hopkins	Member
Chris Munton:	Member
Geoff Sykes	Member

42 other Quinssa members

Copies: Quinssa Committee, Quinssa members, Quinssa website

Apologies for Absence:

Duncan Franklin, Emma Stewart (Committee Members)

Gary Bates, Mike Benson, Richard Crowe, Grahan Davis, Philip Gibson, John Hartley, Robert Jones, Paul Tweedale, Pauline Tweedale, Martin Wooden

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

Proposed: Rhona McDonald
Seconded Andrew Lawton

2. Chair's Report

Good evening everyone and a warm welcome to this, our 15th AGM, thank you for joining us this evening.

I'd like to open with club related matters rather than Quinssa. It's fair to say that, last season was a bit of a disaster. This resulted in a number of key and experienced club personnel leaving and a restructuring of the coaching & managerial set up.

We are looking forward to hearing more about the latter from General Manager, Billy Millard once formalities conclude.

Whilst we look forward to the future with our new coaches and managers, I'd like to say a huge thank you, on behalf of the Quinssa membership to Nick Easter, Collin Osborne and especially John Kingston for their immense contribution to the club and to our

enjoyment as supporters over the years. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Membership

I'm pleased to report that our membership has grown again for the second year running; our current membership is currently 13% higher than at this point last year at over 1600 members. We are very pleased with this as our membership usually fluctuates in line with the team's performance, so we're obviously doing something right!

Committee

The committee have worked hard to deliver the benefits you all see. We have a number of events planned for the coming season, so please keep an eye on the mailer and our social media for details.

Please join me in thanking my fellow committee members for all their hard work over the season:

Many thanks to Duncan Franklin, Lyn Gadd, Lou Hopkins, Warren Kennedy, Chris Munton, Emma Stewart, Steve Scott, Pat Scott, Geoff Sykes, John Heigham and Kay Capon.

Everyone has offered to continue in their current roles, and I hope you will endorse them shortly.

In addition to the committee, I'd like to express a huge thank you to all those at Quins who provide a huge amount of support to us on a regular basis.

Activities

We started the season with a bang in September with our Eddie Jones event which was the biggest event we've organised with 350 members and guests in attendance.

Nick Easter entertained us as our post AGM speaker in October and spoke honestly and openly as he always does.

In November we held a Citing and Disciplinary event hosted by Graeme Bowerbank and David Barnes from the RFU. Unbeknown to us and the attendees until we arrived, this was a very interactive evening and the format worked really well with all attendees getting really involved. David gave a great insight into the disciplinary process as well as sharing a number of amusing stories.

In December we held a pre match event in Belfast for 70 travelling members and guests.

This was followed by our annual trip to Surrey Sports Park to see the players train ahead of Big Game. It was another great opportunity for our members to see the facilities, see the players train and meet them afterwards.

January saw us travel to La Rochelle and we organised tickets for over 240 members and guests plus a pre match meet up.

In May, due to unrest amongst members and supporters due to results and uncertainty about changes being made at the club, David Ellis hosted an event for us to discuss the club's position, and how they intended to move forward. This was hosted by Nick Mullins who wasn't afraid to ask difficult questions and David was very honest in his answers.

We rounded off our season of events with our Annual Dinner which was another huge success. Here, we presented the Academy with a cheque for £3000 to support the players of the future. This was money raised by us throughout the year through our raffles, overseas ticket sales and merchandise. Thank you all for your generosity.

Warren & Lou yet again worked hard throughout the season organising coaches to away games wherever possible. With Zeelo now taking charge of transporting members and supporters around, hopefully they can enjoy the matchday experience with just a little bit less stress. Thanks to you both for all your work over many years providing a great service to many of our members.

Lastly, the Quinssa Mailer, where would we be without it? Many thanks to Duncan for regularly sending out his own thoughts plus the numerous contributions from the rest of the committee to keep you posted on all things Quins and Quinssa.

We start this season's events tonight, with Billy Millard speaking to us after formalities conclude, which we're very much looking forward to.

We follow this with our trip to Grenoble having arranged tickets and events for 111 members.

Next up we have Nigel Owens in November which is almost sold out. So, if you haven't booked your place and would like to attend, please speak to me later.

In December we have arranged a block of 300 seats for the Treviso game and numbers are currently at 200. Details of pre/post match events will follow once confirmed.

Lastly, we're in the process of arranging an evening with Paul Gustard and hope to be able to confirm a date soon. We'll send details out in our mailer as soon as we have them.

I hope you can see how hard the committee work hard on your behalf and we hope we contribute to your enjoyment of being a Harlequins supporter.

Before I sum up and hand over to Warren, Lyn will be covering the Bursaries we are offering to the Ladies team in AOB, so if you have any questions relating to this, Lyn will be happy to answer them then.

Conclusion

Being a Quins supporter has always been a rollercoaster ride, but it's an amazing club to support and be involved with, that's why we're all here.

I hope you continue to be happy with my leadership and I thank you for your support for us as a committee, for the season past, and the one in progress.

Here's to a successful season, both on and off the pitch.

Thank you.

Scott Cooke
Chair – Quinssa

3. Treasurer's Report

The Accounts were presented by Warren Kennedy, Treasurer.

Note: There was a transposition error on the Income & Expenditure statement. The 2016/17 closing balance is 12,867.61 (and not 21,867.61). This has been corrected.

The opening balances as of 01/08/17 were:

Current Account: £12,867.61
Savings Account: ££25,923.47

The closing balances were:

Current Account: £4,398.57
Savings Account: £22,935.38

Current account:

Opening balance as of 01 August 2017 was £12,867.61

Income for the year was £36,074.38

Expenditure for the year was £44,534.42

Note: The expenditure exceeded income because expenses carried over from 16/17 season that were paid as part of 17/18 season

Totalling .circa £15,600.00 these included:

- £6,000.00 donation to Quins Academy
- £1,460.00 to Maciu Vosa charity
- £750.00 for Coach Travel
- £5,400.00 for 16/17 Pre Season dinner
- £2,000.00 for Eddie Jones evening raffle prize.

Income was derived primarily from membership subscriptions with a small profit from merchandise sales. Surplus funds from European tickets sales, income from raffles and Lyn Gadd's Jewellery sales contributed to Academy fundraising

Coaches: We made a £1,662.00 loss over season running 6 coaches

Academy: We donated £3,000.00 to the Quins academy this year.

Pre season dinner: Quinssa subsidised this to .circa £960.00

The remaining expenses include:

- admin costs for Mail Chimp services (to send the weekly mailer)
- web hosting services
- printing, postage and stationery costs
- costs of hiring rooms at the Stoop for events
- purchasing raffle prizes for events
- Quins replica shirts to present to away supporters teams in Champions cup games
- Income & Expenditure related to purchasing European away game tickets & arranging away events
- Charity payments – on the back of fundraising included £1,000.00 to Shooting Star Chase & £579.00 to the Maciu Vosa Trust

The closing balance as of 31 July 2018 was £4,398.57

Savings Account

Opening balance as of 01 August 2017 was £25,923.47

£3,000.00 was transferred to current account to boost the 2016/17 Quins Academy payment

£11.91 was generated in interest

Closing balance as of 31 July 2018 was £22,935.38

Note: Lyn Gadd spoke about the provision of 4 educational bursaries (total £2000) this year to young promising women in Ladies team as agreed by the membership. A summary of the bursaries can be found at the end of the minutes. Quinssa will be working with Quins to publicise the bursaries.

We plan is to keep reserves of circa £10,000.00 (about 3 seasons average admin expenses) and provide circa £10,000.00 in further small one off bursary payments.

Jane Thornton suggested we investigate using some of the surplus funds to support Future Hope charity in Kolkota (associated with Quins). This will be reviewed by committee during 2018/19 season

Warren Kennedy
Treasurer

4. Accounts

David Holland has audited the accounts and found no issues during his review. The committee thanked David for his work. The accounts were accepted with a show of hands.

Proposed: Simon Coleman

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 with a show of hands without contest.

Proposed: Louise Hopkins

Seconded: Wayne McDonald

6. Election of Committee Officers and Members

The Officer and Committee member nominations were as follows:

Officers				
Position	Name	No	Proposer	Second
Chair	Scott Cooke	776	Ross Leek	John Sweeney
Vice Chair	Steve Scott	144	Bob Hiller	P Gent
Treasurer	Warren Kennedy	628	Sally Kefford	Sally Swait
Secretary	Lyn Gadd	540	Ann Stevens	Andy Capon

Continuing Members			
Name	No	Proposer	Second
Kay Capon	3772	Penny Bushell	Billy Bushell
Duncan Franklin	24	John Hartley	James Haward
John Heigham	233	Steve Scott	Duncan Franklin
Lou Hopkins	73	Alex Franklin	James Haward
Chris Munton	500	Bob Hiller	Ann Stevens
Pat Scott	695	Bob Hiller	P Gent
Emma Stewart	102	Alex Franklin	S Ellis
Geoff Sykes	2228	John Clement	Angela Clement

A block vote was taken via a show of hands regarding the appointment of the 4 officers and 8 committee members. There were no objections

7. Any Other Business

Thanks

Jane Thornton thanked the Committee for their work,

8. Close of Meeting

Scott Cooke thanked everyone for attending.

Bursary Details Summary

All 4 of the girls are part of the Tyrrell's Premiership XV's squad and have adjusted their University choices in order to be closer to the Quins Women's programme going forward.

All will benefit from the additional bursary support

Name	Age	Amount	
Bobby Hayward	18	£500	Currently injured but played in 1 st XV games last season and back soon
Ellie Miles	19	£500	Currently injured but played in 1 st XV games last season and back in new year – she featured in the programme last week
Isobel Mayhew	18	£500	Playing for 1 st XV
Charlie Wellbelove	18	£500	Came back to the area instead of staying at Hartpury, expected to challenge for 1 st XV soon