



Club Secretary – AGM report July 2021

First of all, I would like to say that I hope you and your families are all well at this moment in time.

Well, once again I find myself starting with, what a year! I am fairly certain that this time last year anyone of us envisaged we would still be under the throws of lockdowns.

With little or no rugby being played within the club and training allowed to start and then stopped and then re-started again it has been a very difficult year for us all.

Last year as I wrote my report I said children were being allowed back to school and perhaps we might see some rugby in the autumn..... very short-sighted of me. Still as we come to end of the latest lockdown with vaccinations continuing apace perhaps we might be lucky for this coming season.

Behind the scenes the Board have been working hard to keep the club afloat and while I am sure Richard Bathurst will say more on the subject it has been a struggle, but we now have the new changing room complex and a kitchen extension completed, I believe Neil Morton has already cooked his first meal in it (the kitchen that is), so we are more than ready for business.

What has been very gratifying to the Board is the continued support from you the members. The VP's and Mini and Junior sections in particular who all paid their subs last year, it's just a shame that certain areas of the club membership felt that they did not need to pay their subs as they were not playing rugby. The 'subs' as I refer to them help us to run the club successfully and membership means so much more than just being able to play the game.

I would also like to thank Vince Hayward who has continued to manage the clubhouse despite being on furlough for much of the year, he has when he has been able taken bookings and made sure the functions run smoothly in his own inimitable style, we are very lucky to have him and long may he stay with us.

Finally, I would also like to give a big thank you to Neil, Naomi and Caitlin Tonge who kept the weekly quiz going on-line on Wednesday nights which not only broke the week up were very well supported and usually the source of some interesting banter.

So as one 'non' season closes and another, hopefully, looms I do hope to see as many of you as possible on the touchline next season, if not then in the clubhouse at some point during the season. In the meantime, please stay safe.

Chris Metson
Club Secretary 2021