

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GUERNSEY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION LBG HELD AT GUERNSEY ROVERS AC CLUB HOUSE, PORT SOIF LANE, VALE ON THURSDAY 22 JUNE 2023 AT 6.00 PM

1. Roll call of members

Persons present in person -

Chris Schofield	Chairman
Andy Robert	Representative Belgrave Wanderers FC
Keith Russell	Representative CF Independant FC
Andrew Le Cheminant	Representative Northerners AC
Wayne Martel	Northerners AC
Paul Heathcote	Representative Rangers LBG
Chris Lihou	Representative Guernsey Rovers Athletic Club LBG
Antony Sarre	Referees Society
Martyn Banton	Director
Andrew Gill	Director and Finance Director
Gary Roberts	Director/Chief Executive
Robert Titterington	Director/Secretary

Persons present by proxy or remotely

Alderney Football Club	Lee Sanders
Margaret Broome	by her proxy Chris Schofield
Kevin Gilligan	by his proxy Chris Schofield
Guernsey Football Club LBG	by its proxy Gary Roberts
Steven Sharman	by his proxy Gary Roberts

Absent

St Martins AC LBG
Sylvans
Vale Recreation LBG

2. Chair

Chris Schofield acted as Chair of the meeting

3. Apologies and Establishment of Quorum

Apologies had been received from or on behalf of Margaret Broome, Kevin Gilligan and Steven Sharman who had appointed proxies as indicated above. The presence of the above was noted, representing 16 members (out of 19 registered members). The necessary quorum (at least 5 members and 3 Directors in accordance with Article 30 of the Articles of Association) was recorded as being present.

4. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 22 June 2022

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 June 2022 were tabled having been circulated previously with the Agenda.

After due consideration, on the proposal of Andrew Gill and as seconded by Martyn Banton, IT WAS RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 June 2022, be and are hereby approved and the Chairman of the Meeting be authorised to sign the minutes as a true record.

5. Matters arising

No matters arising from the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 22 June 2022 were raised.

6. Minutes of 2023 Special General Meeting

The Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 20 April 2023 were tabled having been circulated previously with the Agenda.

After due consideration, on the proposal of Chris Lihou representing Guernsey Rovers Athletic Club LBG and as seconded by Keith Russel representing CF Independent FC, IT WAS RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 20 April 2023, be and are hereby approved and the Chairman of the Meeting be authorised to sign the minutes as a true record.

7. Matters arising

No matters arising from the minutes of the Special General Meeting of 20 April 2023 were raised.

8. Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented his report to the members. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

9. Company Secretary's Report

The Company Secretary indicated that there were 19 Members of the Company, compared to 20 as at the time of the 2022 AGM, and that following the resignation of Phil Sykes during the course of May, there were now 8 Directors. He confirmed that the company records were up to date as far as he was aware. He also confirmed that the Annual Validation for the Company in respect of the Companies and Charities registers had been made.

10. Finance Director's Report

The Finance Director presented a report for the financial year ending 30 June 2022. He noted that during the course of the financial year, competitions and travel recommenced following opening up to travel and other activities post Covid. As usual during a year when the Muratti was hosted in Jersey, income was down and the reduction in income was compounded by a decrease in sponsorship income of about £8,000. Income in the year 2021 was £394,247 and in the year 2022 was lower at £385,166.

There was £110,303 cash at the year end in 2022, compared to £139,077 at year end 2021. That reduction in cash was as a result of expenditure on the Victoria Avenue development. Expenditure had been capitalised and fixed assets valued accordingly for the purposes of the Financial Statements.

11. Directors' Annual Report and Financial Statements

On the proposal of Chris Lihou representing Guernsey Rovers Athletic Club LBG, as seconded by Martyn Banton IT WAS RESOLVED that the Directors' Report and Unaudited Financial Statements for the twelve month period ending 30 June 2022 be and are hereby approved.

12. Elections

12.1 *Inter Insular Delegate (Article 23)*

Martyn Banton was elected as the Association's Inter Insular Delegate on the proposal of Chris Lihou representing Guernsey Rovers Athletic Club LBG as seconded by Andy Robert representing Belgrave Wanderers FC.

12.2 *Disciplinary Committee (Article 23)*

- Robert Priaulx

- Darryl Parkin
- Mark Le Tissier

were re-elected to the Disciplinary Committee on the proposal of Paul Heathcote representing Rangers LBG, as seconded by Andy Robert representing Belgrave Wanderers FC.

13. Auditors

On the proposal of Chris Lihou representing Guernsey Rovers Athletic Club LBG, as seconded by Martyn Banton, previous resolutions exempting the Company from any requirement under the Companies Law to have its accounts audited for future years were confirmed.

14. Any Other Business

None.

The meeting closed at 1820 hours.


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Chairman

Date: 27 June, 2024

CHAIRMANS REPORT GFA AGM 22nd JUNE 2023

The 2022/23 season has been the second of the GFA 3 year strategy and I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the progress we have made which we will be reporting to the FA NGB at our strategy review meeting on the 5th July. This is this presentation that underpins the funding and ongoing support of the FA.

Facilities:

Since my report last year the GFA secured £100k of Football Foundation investment to upgrade existing floodlighting at Northfield, Corbet Field, Blanche Pierre Lane and the Track and that work was completed during the season. The GFA was also successful in its application to the Football Foundation for a funding grant of £115k in respect of the 'Equipment Bank Scheme' which with additional external funding support has enabled all clubs to gain access to specialist and affordable grass pitch maintenance equipment. Utilising this specialist equipment will ensure that the quality of club grass pitches will be enhanced over the long-term thereby providing better quality playing surfaces that are also better equipped to cope with the periods of inclement weather.

With regard to the project to develop the GFA HQ/3G Stadia community facility at Victoria Avenue we continue to work through the final stages of the project, and hope to have some positive news in the near future.

It is testament to the tremendous amount of work put in by the GFA Board and staff, particularly our CEO Gary Roberts, that over the course of the 2022/23 season the association has secured in excess of £1.7m worth of funding from the FA and the Football Foundation and is now close to delivering on all of the key facilities objectives identified within our strategy.

Participation:

I am pleased to report that we are ahead of FA targets for both male and female participation. Female participation has benefited from funding secured from the FA Football Delivery fund and the commitment of the Association Development team to developing a coordinated female pathway. Overall we are currently 146 female players ahead of target and from an ongoing development perspective it is noteworthy that association staff have during the season delivered sessions in 13 schools to over 1500 girls aged 5-9.

Male participation has also increased, due largely as a result of your strong club structures but also the Association's work across the community, which has delivered over 400 hours of football based activity sessions in both primary and secondary schools. Two other significant developments during the season were the establishment by the Association Youth council of a recreational indoor turn up and play opportunity and the new Aztech Arena , which has proved to be extremely popular with young participants and will continue in to the 2023/24 season. Overall we are currently 123 male players ahead of target.

Workforce:

The success of our strategy and therefore the provision of all the football opportunities we are seeking to provide is very much dependent upon you, the grassroots workforce. The value and importance of the volunteer workforce which includes coaches, referees, administrators, welfare officers, committee members and grounds staff, cannot be underestimated and the GFA greatly appreciates the work of everybody who commits their time to the game.

During the season the GFA in partnership with the FA Education Department has coordinated a programme of CPD delivery. This programme, which has been delivered at a number of club facilities, has been well attended by coaches committed to their own ongoing learning and development and has ensured that the GFA has exceeded the CPD target for the season. This programme has assisted in reaching a position whereby 97% of Youth Teams have a qualified coach. The commitment shown by the coaches is mirrored by the volunteer referees, with over 98% of youth and open age matches covered by a qualified referee.

Looking ahead to 2023/24 the Association will be turning its attention to the recruitment of the next generation of volunteers to support the game and ensuring that they are retained within the game and sign-posted to appropriate learning and development opportunities.

Football Environment & Safeguarding:

The Association has again successfully met the FA Safeguarding Standard and is committed to ensuring consistent safeguarding and child-centered practice, increased and enhanced safeguarding awareness and knowledge in the island football community. During the season the GFA safeguarding team has monitored and supported safeguarding within club environments, undertaking 12 validation visits and by once again providing in-service training for club welfare officers. That training has included raising awareness of the safeguarding requirements for open age football which will come in to effect from the start of next season.

A further development of note is the work carried out by the GFA Youth Council in raising awareness about safeguarding for young people. This has included creating child-friendly safeguarding posters along with designing a safeguarding related cartoon, which can be found in the Youth zone on the GFA website.

Business Excellence / Governance:

The Association has commenced work towards achieving the FA Code of Governance and the Preliminary Level of the Equality Standard, which are both mandatory requirements of all County FA's by 2024.

The first stage of the achievement process was the detailed review of the Association Memorandum and Articles of Association, which led to various amendments being adopted at the Special General Meeting held in April. The process to achieve the Code of Governance will continue in to the 2023/24 season, with the Board aiming to have completed all required actions by the end of the calendar year.

Significant progress has also been made towards achieving the Preliminary Level of the Equality Standard for Sport. Following an equality, diversity and inclusion survey of various local stakeholder groups the Association has developed an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan that will be used to direct specific actions that are focused on specific goals and objectives, including ensuring that local football is inclusive and fully accessible to all within the football and wider Island community, supporting equal opportunities and promoting a positive and safe environment.

Before concluding my strategic review of the 2022/23 season I would like to take this opportunity to thank our many partners, you our member clubs, the GFLM and the Guernsey Sports Commission, your and our many sponsors for their, continuing support.

On the pitch our congratulations go to all our clubs for their endeavors at all levels of the domestic game and particularly Guernsey Rovers on their Priaux and Guernsey FA Cup successes. Whilst it was a disappointing return to Muratti competition in terms of results, other than the Under 18's who eventually prevailed on penalties, this did not necessarily reflect performances, but clearly the current trend is one that we will all be working hard to reverse.

At senior men's and women's level we have an opportunity to bounce back at the forthcoming Island games and I am sure we will all be hoping to be involved in medal matches.

To conclude I would like to thank my fellow GFA Board Directors, for their support and commitment it is much appreciated but specifically I would like to thank the Association CEO Gary Roberts and all our workforce for their hard work and industry in what are always interesting and challenging times in local football.

Looking ahead to 2023/24 this will be another extremely busy year particularly with our ongoing Strategy obligations, the Victoria Avenue project and achievement, before the end of 2023, of the mandatory FA Code of Governance and Preliminary Level of the Equality Standard.

Thank you.

Chris. Schofield

Chairman

