**Manchester Rugby Club**

**Annual General Meeting – Minutes**

**26th April 2017**

**Present:**

Bryan Fisher, Tim Harper, Ieuan Lewis, Suzanne Morton, Jonathan Sheard, Norman Thomas, Jenny Thomas, Tim Holmes, Andrew Bridgman, Martin Losse, Lesley Walker, Alan Walker, Tony Smith, Jack Thomas, Will Robinson, Alison Kelly, Gerard Burns, Andrew Garety, G David Want, Tim Fantom, Diane Fantom, Alec Moores, Paul Farrington, Peter Ding, Ian Whitworth.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Stuart Robinson, Ian Brown, Pete Luxton, Judy Garety, Stuart Heaviside, Jonathan Hirst

1. **Approval of the minutes of April 2016**

No amendments. Approved by Tim Harper and seconded by Andrew Bridgman

1. **Matters arising**

No matters arising

1. **Chairman’s report**

Reports from various sections handed out and attached to these minutes.

Andrew Bridgman reported that the ambition of the 1st XV had been to gain promotion from level 6 to 7 and this had been achieved. The 2nd XV had consolidated their position in the league and were probably 2 or 3 places lower due to supporting 1st XV games over the season. One of the positive moves for next season is the continuation of the Colts Academy which would be combined with the Colts from Stockport, making a new combined Snr Colts team. Andrew Bridgman also thanks Ian Richardson for his work over the last few years with the 3rd team. Ian would be standing down from his management role and the role would be filled by Lakhbir Bhondi. M&J number were not as high this year and the knock on effect on income from memberships. M&J had provided financial support for the Epos system, the fencing round the pitches and a lot of general support to the whole club. Andrew thanked Tim Holmes for the past two seasons as Chair of M&J. Girls rugby is still a concern in relation to numbers and coaching. Marcus Edwards was unable to continue in his role. Ladies rugby is continuing to grow with a hardcore of 25/26 players every week. Still getting regular enquiries from new players but concerns that players from the girl’s teams were not progressing up to ladies when they reach 18.

Andrew finished his report by stating that this season had been the best for many years for many reasons and that building on this would continue next season. Still a shortage of volunteers to help with various roles and jobs at the club. Andrew thanked Jonathan Sheard and Suzanne Morton for their commitment to both Snr and Jnr rugby. In passing on his Chair role to his successor, Andrew commented that there was still work to do and he would support the next Chair, and that carrying out his role had been a huge pleasure.

1. **Treasurer’s report**

Jonathan Sheard provided report (copy attached).

Jonathan thanked M&J for the extra money they had given to support the various projects. Largely in line with budget for both income and expenditure. Tesco have given us the grant money from the park run application and this had to be used very soon and could not be added to next year’s budget.

Peter Ding asked if last year’s sponsor had been replaced as yet. Jonathan explained the role of Acrobat in trying to obtain sponsorship. The club had no main sponsor as yet.

1. **Questions submitted**

No questions submitted

1. **Election of Officers**

Tim Harper addressed the meeting, and wanted to thank Andrew Bridgman for carrying out the role of Chair. He stated that Andrew had put his heart and soul into the club and that he was known as “Mr Manchester”. The club owes him a debt of gratitude and thanked him on behalf of the club for all his hard work over the years as Chairman and President. Martin Losse added to Tim’s comments, stating that he had worked with Andrew on the exec for the last 5 years and was that he was an ambassador for not only rugby but the whole club especially during its darkest days.

All nominations were unchallenged and therefore duly nominated and approved. The role of Chair and Social Secretary were unfilled.

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| **Role** | **Nominee** | **Proposed** | **Seconded** |
| Chairman | Tim Harper (see below) | Ian Whitworth | Alison Kelly |
| Vice Chairman | Andrew Bridgman (see below) | Ian Whitworth | Alison Kelly |
| Hon Secretary | Suzanne Morton | Tim Harper | Ian Whitworth |
| Treasurer | Jonathan Sheard | Tim Harper | Suzanne Morton |
| Hon Fixtures Secretary | Ian Whitworth | Tim Harper | Alec Moores |
| Press & Publicity | Tony Smith | Jonathan Sheard | Suzanne Morton |
| Membership Secretary | Pete Luxton | Jonathan Sheard | Ian Whitworth |
| Lancs Rep | Tim Harper | Alec Moores | Ian Whitworth |
| Fundraising Co-ordinator | Tim Harper | Suzanne Morton | Ian Whitworth |
| Referees Society Rep | David Want | Suzanne Morton | Tim Harper |
| Rugby Representative | Bobby Bullock | Suzanne Morton | Tim Harper |
| Rugby Representative | Will Robinson | Tim Harper | Ian Whitworth |
| International Ticket | Stuart Robinson | Tim Harper | Suzanne Morton |
| Social Secretary |  |  |  |

1. Election of General Committee

Discussion took place as unfilled for Chair and Vice Chair. Could the rugby committee elect a Chair at a later date ? Consensus was that they could. Agreed section would still have responsibility to send someone to represent them at the Exec meetings. Tim Harper then suggested he would stand as Chair and Andrew Bridgman said he would stand as Vice Chair to support Tim. Proposed and seconded by Ian Whitworth and Alison Kelly. Social Sec also unfilled but Tim Harper said he would liaise with House and Suzanne Morton to assist with events.