

Romsey RFC Annual General Meeting – 2023/2024



These are the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting held in the clubhouse at Ganger Farm on Tuesday 4th June 2024 starting at 7.00pm.

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and was quorate by the definition as set in the Romsey Rugby Club rules. No objections were raised.

Attendees:

Adam Pinkney	John Gray	Neil Prowse	Tristan Pattison	Nick Buck
Tim Clayton	Michael Streicher	Oliver Coburn	Bill Smith	Dan Murrant
Harrison Scott	Ollie Soundy	Harry Fenemore	Jim Lamont	Simon Richards
Jason Forty	Gary Patterson	Nick Smith	Alice Hodges	Baz Newman
Darren Buckley	Cerrie Gray	Natasha Campbell	Matthew Cambell	Spencer Scott
Nick Grey	Richard Wood	David Creal	Nick Creal	Dan Symmons
Alfie Lawrence	Ian Paxton	Simon Stent	Terry Barr	

Apologies were received from Eric Bailey, Pete Jones, Gary Banks, Dave Grosse, Iain Messenger.

The minutes of the 2023 AGM were reviewed and adopted unanimously. They are available on the club website.

Proposed by Jamie Glanville, seconded by Cerrie Gray.

The President's Report, Chairman's Report and DoR Report were merged into one report, all read by John Gray.

John Gray is stepping down as Chairman to become President.

Eric Bailey provided his report electronically, which was read out by John Gray:

"I am sorry to be unable to join you at today's AGM as I am overseas. However I wanted to say a few words as I step down after 13 years as Club President. It has been a privilege to serve as President and I hope I have contributed to the stability and development of the Club over the years, up to the point of transferring to our great new facilities at Ganger Farm. Since the move I have been less active and as I now spend periods overseas it is time to hand the baton to a younger person who can help to take the Club forward.

Of course, after almost 50 years of association with rugby in Romsey I will still be around the Club whenever I am available. I will continue as a sponsor and will be happy to assist the Club wherever possible

Very best Regards,

Eric”

Chairman – thanks to everyone who has played and volunteered this year. Results have been great. Seniors finished mid-table, but had some great results. The expansion we have had with minis and juniors should hopefully continue next season, which will all feed into the seniors and help that part of the club. Walking rugby has started this year and has been a great success, helping many realise they can have fun and enjoy rugby at any age.

Thanks to both Dave Grosse and Gav Harbour for their work over the last year, but they have now stepped down as coaches from the seniors. The report from Dave Grosse was provided electronically and was read by John Gray:

“My apologies for being unable to be present at the AGM today. Following my decision to step down as Head Coach, I am pleased to report that the senior team has developed and progressed well over the past 2 seasons.

Together with my Assistant Coach, Gavin Harbour, and the club captain, Caine Latham, we have jointly built a team that now has an identity and confidence that bodes well for the future.

Despite the various challenges we have been faced with, a positive momentum has continued, and a winning mentality has grown from within.

I am also proud to have coached a team that has the lowest average age in our league. Our front row alone, had an average age of 19. Also, and considering their lack of senior rugby experience, not once did I see anyone take a backwards step. Again, this can only bode well for the future.

Both Gavin and I will continue to work with the club to help secure a replacement coaching team and to ensure that we do all we can to help this team achieve its true league potential.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the club for all the memories and opportunities it has given to me since joining the club in 2003 both as a player, coach and sponsor. I wish you all the very best in taking this club forward.

Best regards, David”

Looking to secure our long-term position at Ganger Farm, and we are in the process of securing a new lease for 25 years. Aim for next season is to get a regular 2nd team set up to get as much rugby played as possible. To do so, we need lots of volunteers to prevent the same people doing multiple jobs and taking on all the burden. The club should also be a social space for all club members and our guests to enjoy. We also strive to be a club that is a key part of the local community, and one that is a contributing member of the wider Hampshire rugby community. We want to all ensure that we play more rugby, and we need to have a sustainable future financially to support everyone.

Thanks go to Eric who is stepping down as president after many years. Thank you for everything he has done and I hope as he said he will continue to support the club as we move forwards.

New VPs to be asked are Dave Gross, Nick Creal and Sara and Paul Hodges.

Juniors Report

We have had 13 youth teams from u5/6s through to colts playing this year. This is including our new girls team. We now have 247 players in the youth section, an approximate increase of 20% on the season before.

Our minis teams, u7-12, have really enjoyed their rugby and shown a lot of skill and passion in the festivals they have attended. The u7s enjoyed their first taste of competitive rugby at the Winchester and Basingstoke festivals. The u8s also enjoyed their first festivals and are eagerly looking forward to starting tackling next year. The u11s went unbeaten in their last festival at Farnborough. Also, our u12s won the TREDs discipline trophy at the Basingstoke festival, which is fantastic.

Our junior section has also put in some fantastic performances this season. The u13s were the first Romsey team to win a match at Ganger Farm. The u14s won the 3rd place playoff in the Hampshire Cup. The u15s are the first team to put a trophy in the clubhouse, winning their league.

It is also great to see the number of players increasing across the age groups. At the end of season it was fantastic to see some of our colts players in a seniors match to prepare them for rugby life next year.

Going into next season, we are struggling with coaches in the u5/6/7. Jamie Glanville has kindly said he can help out for the first couple of months. But, we need to find a lot of new coaches for those age groups. The rest of the age groups looks okay, and Jamie and Beyers have confirmed that they will carry on coaching the colts next season.

Treasurers Report

Accounts proposed by, Paul Finney, seconded by Adam Pinkney. The club members accept these accounts without the need for a formal audit.

We have had the move to Ganger Farm from the Sports Centre. Ganger Farm is far more expensive to run, and as such the Ganger Farm reserve fund has been spent. An equipment replacement fund has been set up to start building up funds for when equipment needs replacing.

Sponsorship makes up 25% of our income, so it is important everyone buys into that to keep sponsors onboard.

We have hosted a number of non-rugby events. Some were profitable, some were not. Hopefully we can build on those and learn from them so that we can start to make more money from them.

Tristan Pattison providing a breakdown of future plans for next season

Off-season is never quiet. Saturday is the Premiership Final so the club will be open. We have not opened the club for final for many years, so as many people to attend as possible. Details are already out for the event.

Romsey Carnival on 6th July. Looking for volunteers.

22nd July club being redecorated. Looking for volunteers to help with moving furniture and getting the club ready.

Beer festival. Already sold about 105 tickets. There will be plenty of beer and food, with music as well. Done a leaflet drop as part of the promotion for this event, and also to promote the club generally.

This has gone well, and is something we will look to do again in the future. Looking for volunteers to help, who will get a free ticket.

Thank you's to Eric, Dave, Gav, Caine and special thanks to Nick Smith.

Harrison Scott – incoming Club Captain

Thanks to the outgoing coaches. Started rugby journey here at u4. Honoured to be considered for role as club captain. Goal is to continue with creating a pathway for young players coming through. It is key for the club to grow a 2nd team and push forwards as 1st team. By achieving these goals we will continue to grow.

Election of Officers

The following were elected without opposition:

Position	Member	Proposed by	Seconded by
Honorary Secretary	Adam Pinkney	Tristan Pattison	Nick Creal
Honorary Treasurer	Neil Prowse	Tristan Pattison	Adam Pinkney
Chairman	Tristan Pattison	Adam Pinkney	Nick Creal
President	John Gray	Tristan Pattison	Adam Pinkney
Club Captain	Harrison Scott	Tristan Pattison	Adam Pinkney

AOB

Q – From Alan Bourne - Had Chairman in Messenger for five years before he passed this onto John Gray. He passed on the baton silently. Is the club doing anything to recognise the efforts of Iain?

A - This is in the motions and will be acted on. (Post AGM note – Iain was thanked at the previous AGM when he formally stepped down from his role).

Q- - Start of last season the seniors had a pre-season with a team from Kent. They are keen to play again, so will this be acted on?

A - Jamie Glanville will try to arrange this again.

Q – is it the committee who decides who can run as president and chairman? Can anyone else run?

A - Others can run, but since the notice of the AGM was first sent, no other nominations come forwards.

Q – a large amount has been spent on equipment. Is that something we can get a grant for going forwards?

A - There are plenty available which we are looking at, as the more the better.

Meeting closing at 19.44.