



WIGAN ST. PATRICKS ARLFC

Extraordinary General Meeting

16th December, 2020

REPORT OF THE CLUB SECRETARY

WIGAN ST PATRICKS ARLFC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

1. Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this Report is to seek the approval of Club Members to the postponement of the Club's Annual General Meeting for 2020 to a date no later than 31st December, 2021 and to agree, in the meantime, that to provide and ensure stability for the Club during the intervening period, all current Club Committee Member and Club Officer appointments, together with the appointment of the Club's accountants, each be extended to that date.

2. Recommendations

Club Members attending the Extraordinary General Meeting are requested and recommended to approve the following Resolutions, that:

- 2.1. Given the impact of the current and ongoing Coronavirus pandemic upon the Club's business and trading activities, the Club's Annual General Meeting for 2020 be postponed to take place on a date no later than 31st December, 2021
- 2.2 The office of each of the Officers of the Club and each Club Committee Member consequently be extended until that date
- 2.3 The appointment of the Club's accountants also be extended until that date

2.4 The requirement within the Constitution and Club Rules for a minimum number of Club Committee meetings to take place during any calendar year be suspended until such time as the Club Committee can be satisfied that, given the current Coronavirus precautions and restrictions, it is reasonably safe for Club Committee meetings to resume

3. Background

3.1. The Constitution and Club Rules of Wigan St Patricks ARLFC require (at para. 11(a)) that an Annual General Meeting of the Club (“AGM”) shall be held on or before 31st December in each calendar year and shall take place no later than 15 months after the previous AGM.

3.2. The purpose of the AGM is to:

- receive a report concerning the activities of the Club since the previous AGM;
- receive a report concerning the Club’s financial transactions since the previous AGM;
- receive and approve an annual Financial Statement concerning the Club’s accounts and its current and projected financial position for the forthcoming year;
- receive a presentation from the Club’s accountants upon the Club’s accounts for the previous financial year
- appoint Officers of the Club and elect Club Committee Members for the forthcoming year;
- appoint Trustees of the property owned by the Club, should any vacancy have arisen;
- appoint the Club’s accountants for the forthcoming year;
- discuss and vote upon any resolution put to the meeting, whether in relation to Club policy or to changes in the rules of the Club; and
- consider any other business.

3.3 The Club Committee is required by the Constitution and Club Rules to include the following Officers of the Club:

- Chairperson
- Treasurer
- Club Secretary
- Club Welfare Officer
- Facilities Manager

3.4 In addition to the Officers of the Club, the Club Committee may include up to seven further members of the Club (an overall maximum of twelve) to be elected at the Club’s Annual General Meeting or, should a vacancy arise between Annual General Meetings, to be proposed, seconded and approved by a simple majority of the Club Committee.

- 3.5 Each Officer of the Club and Club Committee Member holds office from the date of their appointment until the next Annual General Meeting of the Club, unless resolved otherwise by an Extraordinary General Meeting. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club may be called at any time by the Club Committee and may conduct any of the business of the Club that would otherwise have been transacted at an AGM.

4. Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic

- 4.1 As indicated at paragraph 3.2 above, the overall purpose of the Club's Annual General Meeting is to review the activities of the Club and its financial transactions over the previous year and to receive and approve both the Club's financial accounts for that period and a statement concerning the Club's projected financial position for the forthcoming year.
- 4.2 However, due directly to the incidence of the Coronavirus pandemic, the Club closed for all activities on 16th March, 2020 and has yet to reopen. Although most teams resumed training and paid membership subscriptions from 4th September, 2020, a further lockdown (which took effect from midnight on 4th November, 2020) meant that these came to an end from that date and the payment of subscriptions was again suspended. No other club activities or club business have taken place since 16th March, 2020.
- 4.3 Given these circumstances, a financial or business year in relation to the Club's activities has only partially taken place during 2019-20 and a report upon the Club's financial transactions and financial activities, together with the Club's accounts for the financial year, is only available on a partial and incomplete basis. This would also be at cost to the Club in terms of accountancy fees, at a time when the Club is receiving no regular income. As the overall purpose of an Annual General Meeting can not therefore be fully achieved in current circumstances, it is proposed that the Annual General Meeting for 2020 be postponed to a date no later than 31st December, 2021 and be combined at that time with the Annual General Meeting for 2021.
- 4.4 It is further proposed that to ensure stability for the Club during the interim period in meeting the challenges and difficulties presented by the pandemic, all current Committee Member and Club Officer appointments be extended to the date of the next AGM. In addition, and for similar reasons, it is proposed that the appointment of the Club's accountants should also be extended until that date.

5. Club Committee Meetings

- 5.1 The Constitution and Club Rules further require that the Club Committee "shall meet as often as is required for the effective performance of the business of the Club and

shall hold no less than four meetings in any calendar year” (at para 10(k)). However, given the consequent restrictions arising from the ongoing pandemic, it has not been possible for the Club Committee to meet on any regular basis, or at all, since 29th January, 2020. It is requested therefore that Club Members agree that, in all the circumstances, the current requirement that the Club convene a minimum number of meetings in each calendar year be suspended until such time as Coronavirus precautions and restrictions are such that the Club Committee considers that it is reasonably safe for meetings to resume.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The current and ongoing Coronavirus pandemic and restrictions have meant that the Club has effectively been closed for business since 16th March, 2020. This has meant that the Club has been unable to complete a full financial and business year during 2019-20 and has also been unable to meet the requirement within the Club Constitution for a minimum number of Club Committee meetings to be convened during the current calendar year. Club Members are accordingly requested to agree that the Club’s Annual General Meeting for 2020 be postponed to a date no later than 31st December, 2021 and to extend the office of the current Officers of the Club and Club Committee Members and the appointment of the Club accountants to that date.
- 6.2 Club Members are also requested, in the current exceptional circumstances, to agree that the requirement for a minimum number of Club Committee meetings to take place within a calendar year be suspended until such time as the Club Committee can be reasonably satisfied that it is safe for such meetings to resume.

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