

*Playing Fields:*  
Dalziel Rugby Club  
Dalziel Park  
Hagen Drive,  
Carfin  
ML1 5RZ



*Reply to:*  
Honorary Secretary  
Dalziel Rugby Club  
9 Lime Grove  
Motherwell  
ML1 2SW

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)  
[secretary@dalzielrugby.com](mailto:secretary@dalzielrugby.com)  
07535 497112

# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Dalziel Rugby Club

12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## 1. Attendance

Niall McKenzie, David Scott, Les Barclay, Neil Richardson, Alan Bowles, James Burns, Michael Burnett, Lynn Penman, Sandy Smellie, Douglas Stewart, Roddy Thomson, Vicki Doyle, Fraser McKenzie, Glen Forrest, Les Mitchell, John Mathieson, Eddy Ferguson, Graham Calder, Elaine Neilson, Ian Munro, Keith Macdonald, Ross Duguid, Robbie Briggs, Jamie Muir, Josh Greenhorn, Scott Duguid, Duncan Morton, Ian Johnstone, Stephen Clowes, Bobby Martin (30)

## 2. Apologies

Paul Warnock, William Talbot, Jim Paterson, John McKenzie, Andrew Miller, Peter Morton, Willie Davidson, Andrew Scott, Daniel Bartlett, Rob Neilson, Cammy Harris, Ronnie Smith, Bill Samuel, Tom Hamilton, Harry Morton, Daniel Davis, Scott Johnstone, Andrew Glover (18)

## 3. Opening remarks

David Scott opened the meeting at 7:05pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 4. Approval of the minutes of the 2022 AGM

Proposer: Michael Burnett

Seconder: Eddy Ferguson

## 5. President's Report

David Scott presented the report.

The club has enjoyed a good season for 2022-23 with player numbers remaining good at most levels though some issues within the youth sections. The First team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in West League 2 and gained promotion to West League 1; the reconstruction of the leagues to introduce National 4 meant that the top 4 teams from our league moved up. This will provide a good standard of competition for the new season.

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council





## DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in West Reserve League 3 and after changes to the reserve leagues will play in West Reserve League 2, where they will hopefully get more games after having regular weekends where games were called off due to opposition not being able to field teams.

Our partnership with FerriFit continues to show positive results, with good numbers of both senior and youth members attending the sessions they provide and going forward this can only be a benefit for the club.

Darren Moon left his position as Club Development Officer to take up a post with the SRU and after a successful interview Grant Talbot replaced took up post as our DO in December. Since his appointment Grant has brought many new initiatives to the club and is working to identify any issues and put measures in place to rectify these and help improve player numbers within the youth section and our thanks go to Grant for all his hard work over the season.

Last season we fielded our first girls' team and they have grown in numbers and have had a successful season showing great enthusiasm for the game and have some great results. This was recognised in the Community Recognition Awards for Glasgow North where Lynn Penman collected the Volunteer of the Season in Youth rugby Award, our congratulations go to Lynn and thanks for all her hard work in getting the girls teams up and running and for their successes this season.

Youth sections continue to show promise with the club playing style introduced by head coach being implemented through all sections of the club with the new resource of Club Logic helping coaches and volunteers with necessary skills and up to date information on coaching techniques. Some fantastic rugby has been played this season from all teams in the Mini and Midi culminating on another successful Youth Festival which continues to go from strength to strength, our thanks go out for DecorAll for their continued support for the festival.

The whole club structure for Midi rugby has been abandoned and each age group will be placed into a section which suits their level of play. This will hopefully lead to more competitive games for the coming season giving players a better chance to develop their all-round skills as they progress through the age grades. Our thanks go out to all the coaches and volunteers who give up their time and effort to make the youth sections such a vital part of our club and develop the future of the club.

The hospitality in the clubhouse was taken over this season by Jamie Muir. Jamie has worked hard and is looking to make the clubhouse the heart of the club before and

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council





# DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

after games and has looked to run functions over and above after match hospitality. It has been good to see the numbers of players and supporters who are spending time in the clubhouse after games and I'm sure this is helped by the success on the pitch and type of rugby we are looking to play. Thanks go to Jamie and his team for all their hard work over the season.

To this end I am pleased to award the President's Award to Judie Connor for all her hard work helping Jamie with fresh home baking and soup for the clubhouse and for her dedication in following the 1<sup>st</sup> XV throughout the whole season both home and away, it is volunteers like Judie which make the club what it is.

There is a positivity about the club which is great to see. It has been a great honour to be President of the club for the past 3 years and would like to thank everyone for their help and support.

Questions – none

## 6. Secretary's Report

Niall McKenzie presented the report.

Thank you all for attending tonight. This is my first AGM as Honorary Secretary, and it's definitely been a steep learning curve. The General Committee has met 11 times since the last AGM, with all being in the clubhouse. I have been trying to improve the flow of meetings, with all members expected to submit a report to me. These are then collated and sent out to all committee members before the meeting. This aims to speed meetings up, so time can be spent discussing the important issues relating to the running of the club. Overall, I'd like to think it is improving things, but it is only a new process and will take time for everyone to get on board.

To continue the tradition set by my predecessor, the senior club has used the following number of players this season:

First XV: 43, with Danny Southern, Fraser Musher, Cameron Duncan, Duncan Morton, Craig Peters, Adam Skelton all making First team debuts this year.

Second XV: 77

Total: 97 players, of which 56 played 5 or more games. Thanks go to James Burns and Roddy Thomson for their tireless work in encouraging new and lapsed players to pull on the jersey.

Discipline wise, we have seen a large increase in yellow cards received, in comparison to last season, with 19 issued; the First XV picking up 16 of these. It

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council





## DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

should be noted, that only one of these was received in a defeat. The Second XV received the only two red cards (in the same game) this season. I fear that these numbers will increase this coming season with the introduction of the new tackle height directives.

We had another season without the Dazzlers playing, but I hope that this won't be the case this season as we have a good number of U18s eligible in the next 12 months, as well as number of new players joining the club.

The club has the following paying membership numbers:

Senior: 64

Midi: 113

Mini: 71

Social/coaches: 64

Thanks to Roddy for the work he is doing to ensure that everyone is paying the correct amount. As can be seen by these numbers there is still some discrepancy between playing and paying numbers, but Roddy is planning some membership "Open Days" in August and September to catch up with anyone that is missing.

### Grant Funding

The main club haven't had much luck with applying for funding this year. An application to fund the construction of female changing rooms was rejected by the SRU. It appeared that the SRU don't fully understand the arrangement we have at Dalziel Park, but one of the regional managers, Peter Burgeon, attended the festival and we hope that this won't be an issue in the future. Recently, John Lowe has agreed to take on all grant applications on behalf of the club. This will also cover liaising with the P7 tour so that funding sources can be full exploited and not targeted multiple times. If you know of any funds that we can apply to, please either send them to myself or directly to John.

I have booked the Austin dinner for the 19<sup>th</sup> of August in Motherwell Miners. I will be circulating attendance lists in the coming weeks, so please keep an eye out for them.

Finally, thank you to Tom Hamilton for his support over the last 12 months, I hope the phone calls and texts asking for help will diminish further over the next few months.

Questions - none

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council





## 7. Treasurer's Report

Douglas Stewart presented the report.

**Introduction** - The last year was a successful one for all sections of the club, being the first full season without the impact of Covid for nearly 4 years. As Treasurer, this was once again new ground for me with many different challenges in supporting the rugby playing activities of the club, while seeking to ensure its long-term sustainability.

I would like to thank the committee for their support throughout the year with special mention to Ian Johnstone for his expertise, guidance & support.

I have been incredibly impressed by the work that goes on to ensure the continuation of the club's activities.

**Balance Sheet** - Thanks to the continued support of our members and committee I feel that the club is in a fairly robust financial position at the moment, but one where there are numerous calls for funding which must be balanced accordingly.

**Bank balances fell by some £8k in the year, to £41k**, compared to a modest surplus last year. In addition, we have some £5.3k net of costs accrued but not yet spent.

This includes items such as Pitch Hire, Equipment, Physio netted off against some SRU income.

The club lost the benefit of Covid support, including grants, SRU support and HMRC furlough payments. Operating costs have though increased.

**Income & Expenditure** - I will try to cover off the main items of income and expenditure for you now.

Overall **income** reduced by £5.5k to £87k last year.

Turning first to Income, Membership subscriptions increased to £42k, surpassing the amount received in 2020 by some 4% after material reductions in the last couple of years. With the support of the Club Membership and Roddy Thomson, good progress is being made in ensuring all club members contribute.

SRU income fell a further £5k to £22k and Club sponsorship increased by some £1.5k, some of which represents multi-year sponsorship so will not be repeated next year.

It is worth mentioning that £1.3k of the SRU income is from international ticket commission where Niall is doing a good job of increasing income from this source.

Match fees collected understandably increased to some £2k over the season, offset by a reduction in income from social events.

Special thanks go to the HLM's, where donations of £1.8k were received. It's terrific to see this support in uncertain times. Other donations accounted for a further £2.4k, with grants received falling to £0.

We received significant support from the SRU with income under the Club Investment Fund, including DO Funding & Travel support.

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
**North Lanarkshire Council**





## DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

The 100 Club contributed a very welcome net £2k of income. I would encourage club members to consider joining this fundraising initiative.

Overall **expenditure** increased by £2.5k to £91k.

Our main expense remains personnel costs which was stable at £33k, where we continue to invest in our coaching, DO & physio resource to support player development & retention. Investment in equipment was some £6k. Notably, pitch hire costs reduced from £21k to £15k, likely due to lack of availability of Dalziel Astro, replaced by more affordable council facilities.

We also invested in coaching apps and training at FerriFit has proven to be very popular.

The War Memorial Trust donation increased to £19k. This includes our usual donation for grass pitches and the clubhouse. In addition to the main club donation, with the Clubhouse successfully reopening during the season under the stewardship of Jamie Muir, an additional £2k of the Donation was met by Clubhouse funds. The return of a full season saw travel costs increase by some 250% to £6k, which was only partially covered by the SRU funding.

As alluded to above 100 Club Prizes of £2.4k were paid out during the year.

The Youth Festival was once again a great success and a highlight of the year.

However, in financial terms it made only a modest surplus due to lower sponsorship and some one-off costs. Funds retained are for use in the support of youth rugby activities within the club.

The overall **deficit for the year was £4k**, a substantial drop from the surpluses seen during the Covid years.

### **Conclusion**

With the return to normality, we are seeing increased calls for club funding.

Challenges remain in securing ongoing sustainable sources of income, and indeed we are reliant on one-off grants or sponsorships for much of our funding. We do remain mindful of the external environment and the impact this may have on potential sponsors and other sources of income.

We find ourselves in a stable financial position, however, clearly cannot continue to endure many more seasons with such a material cash outflow.

Looking forward to what will be our Centenary year, this provides many challenges from a budgeting perspective. Your committee has recently agreed to provide a greater focus on seeking grant funding from available sources to help fund many of our initiatives. Please contact the committee if you identify any grant funding opportunities.

While we continue to see, inflationary pressures on many of our costs and increased training provision expected to continue, I have attempted to reach a balance outlook for the year ahead and am budgeting for a breakeven position next year. Our greatest resource is our membership, and we need everyone pulling in the same

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council





# DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

direction. To that end, we intend to restructure the membership fees, making them more relevant to the various sections of the club and try and ensure everyone pays. With costs increasing, we need to manage the route forward with care, thus protecting the future of the club.

I have been very impressed by the proactive approach of your committee in identifying funding opportunities and the continued support of the club membership through the last couple of years.

Thank you for your time and ongoing support.

Questions -

Eddy Ferguson asked about the restricting of fees, Douglas Stewart pointed out that some age groups were paying the same but were getting very different benefits (extra training sessions/etc). Eddy Ferguson asked if there was any consultation, Douglas Stewart – no.

Scott Duguid – How many senior players are paying their way? Roddy Thomson – Surprising how many weren't paying at the start of the season, list drawn up and targeting those that were playing most. Still getting there, but most of senior squad are now paying.

Scott Duguid/Glen Forrest – How many HLMs are actually donating? Can we target them during the centenary day? Ans – We do send a letter to them. Maybe encourage more to set up standing order. Glen Forrest – do we send a monthly newsletter to club members/HLMs? Ans – Something to look into.

## 8. Fixture Secretary's Report

No report.

## 9. Captain's Report

Niall McKenzie presented Andrew Scott's report.

Hi all, I would like to start by saying what a great year we have had as a club. The time and dedication that people through the club are giving is great and I hope this continues into next season.

As for the rugby side of the club, we have had a successful season with the senior club playing 26 league games with 20 wins 6 loses and 0 draws. We also picked up 17 try bonus points and 1 losing bonus point, scoring a total of 821 points and only conceding 436 points.

The First XV managed to secure promotion to West 1 this year with their record being, played 16 Won 13 Lost 3 and Draw 0. They picked up 11 try bonus points and

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council





# DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

1 losing bonus point, scoring 561 points and conceding 272 finishing them in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. 2 of the 3 defeats this year were to Oban who went unbeaten. The Firsts also had a good run in the Shield being knocked out at the quarter finals by a good Dunfermline.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their league narrowly missing out on promotion. Their record being Played 10 Won 7 Lost 3 Drew 0, Scoring 260 and conceding 164 with 6 try bonus points.

This good form that both senior teams are in is 100% down to the commitment from players and coaches. Every player has bought into the fast flowing and offloading style of play that Calder and Clowes want us to play. They have also shown their commitment by turning up Tuesday and Thursday to train with around 30 to 40 boys training week in week out. The weekly analysis of other teams from the coaches has also helped the boys on a Saturday.

The introduction of Ferrifit to the club has also been a success so far with lots of boys attending classes and taking memberships out. This will only help with our season in West 1.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone for their support through the season and allowing me to captain this amazing club, I hope I will receive your continued support through next season.

Questions –

## 10. Youth Rugby Report

Niall McKenzie presented the report.

It was felt that the AGM was too Senior Club centric, and that there should be a proper round up the previous 12 months in the youth sections. I have collated reports from Grant, Vickie, Lynn, and Michael. Apologies to all 4 for the short notice for the reports!

### Mini

Overall, the mini section is strong, though there is a lack of numbers in the current P6 squad. This is an area that Grant is focusing on, so we are hoping this is a short term issue. We have had teams at Scotstoun to play before Glasgow Warriors' games and the P7 tour to Dumfries was a great success.

### Midi

Player numbers have reduced slightly over the course of the season, but again, we are hoping that the work that Grant is carrying out will come to fruition in the coming months. The Under-13s finished top of their age-grade conference. The

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council







# DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

Under-14s struggled in the conference, but eventually won their first game in 12 months against Paisley in February. The squad will be working hard on their fitness over the summer. The Under-15s have had a steady season, with improvement every week setting them in good stead for next season. They were assisted by a number of younger players from last year's Under-16s and 7 new players joining throughout the season. The Under-16s had a difficult start against some tough opposition resulting in some players leaving. However, players have joined the club from Biggar and East Kilbride. 11 of the squad will transition to Under-18s with 7 remaining. Under 18s had a slow start due to change in head coach, and are predominately Under-17s team. Results were mixed, but work ethic was there and with the squad remaining largely the same, they are looking for a more successful season next year.

## Girls

The Under-14 girls have had an outstanding season. There is now a squad of 21, with 7 moving into Under-16s next season. Our Under-12s have attended various events allowing them to play with other clubs, while still playing with the P7s. The squad was selected to attend a coaching master class in Edinburgh, hosted by Darcy Graham.

## Development Officer

Grant started in December and has had a massive impact in the 6 months since. His community programme has seen over 200 sessions delivered to over 500 boys and girls. Over the school holidays, he ran an Easter Camp which was a great success. He took on the role of Player Development Hub manager for the SRU giving the club further exposure. Grant was successful in gaining £5000 from the SRU Growth and Participation fund in a joint application with Dalziel High School.

All three youth convenors and Grant express their sincere thanks to all coaches, volunteers and parents who bring their kids along week in, week out. Without their support, none of this would be possible. Grant would also like to thank Colin Ireland and John Mathieson for their help and guidance.

Questions – none

## 11. Awards' Recipients

Player of the year – Stevie Rowe

Second XV Player of the year – Danny Southern

Young Player of the year – Craig Peters

Top points scorer – Andrew Glover (Club and 1<sup>st</sup> XV), Andrew Forrest (2<sup>nd</sup> XV)

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
**North Lanarkshire Council**





# DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

Top try scorer – Callum Croughan (Club and 1<sup>st</sup> XV), Andrew Forrest (2<sup>nd</sup> XV)  
Team of the year – Under 13 (Boys)

12. Austin Memorial Recipient  
David Scott

13. Honorary Life Members  
none

14. AOCB  
Graham Calder thanked everyone for their work before, during and after the festival this year.

Bobby Martin – asked how Motherwell FC taking over the pitches will affect the club? Ian Johnstone – no effect, they are just maintaining the pitches, don't want any access to the rugby pitches. This will be a good deal for the club. MFC want to build a structure, WMT only agreeable if rugby can use it too, i.e. Mini Section instead of the Den.

Glen Forrest asked about the centenary – answer: planning to start in January 2024. Scott Duguid said we are still looking for “sensible” suggestions for events for the year.

15. Election of Office Bearers  
President – William Talbot, proposed: David Scott Seconded: Jamie Muir – elected unopposed  
Vice President – John Mathieson, proposed: Roddy Thomson Seconded: Ian Johnstone - elected unopposed

Honorary Secretary – Niall McKenzie - re-elected  
Treasurer – Dougal Stewart - re-elect  
Membership Secretary – Roddy Thomson - re-elect  
Fixture Secretary - vacant  
Club Captain – Andrew Scott - re-elected  
Club Vice Captain – Daniel Bartlett, Proposed: Jamie Muir Seconded: Stephen Clowes – elected unopposed  
Coaching Convenor – Grant Talbot Proposed: Les Barclay, Seconded: John Mathieson – elected unopposed  
Social Convenor – Daniel Davis - re-elected  
Fields and Equipment Convenor – Fraser McKenzie - re-elected

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council





# DALZIEL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

[www.dalzielrugby.com](http://www.dalzielrugby.com)

Corporate Convenor – Ian Johnstone - re-elected

Mini Convenor – Michael Burnett - re-elected

Boys Midi Convenor – Vickie Doyle - re-elected

Girls Midi Convenor – Lynn Penman proposed: Les Barclay, Seconded: Elaine Neilson – elected unopposed

Communications Secretary – Elaine Neilson - re-elected

Under-21 member – Ross Duguid - re-elected

Honorary President – Willie Talbot said that he felt he couldn't remain Honorary President while serving as President, and after 30 years he felt it was a good time to step down from this position.

Duncan Morton, proposed: Niall McKenzie, Seconded: Ian Johnstone – elected unopposed

Honorary Vice President – Jaclyn Martin, Rector Dalziel High School - re-elected

War Memorial Trust Representative – Paul Warnock - re-elected

## 16. Closing remarks

David Scott thanked everyone for coming and for their input. Looking forward to next season.

Meeting closed at: 7:54pm

Next meeting of General Committee: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Next Annual General Meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024

*Developing and playing home grown players to play at the highest level possible by focussing on the youth of the club playing in a fun and friendly environment under the #oneclub ethos.*



**Accredited by  
North Lanarkshire Council**

