

## **Minutes of Clonduff GAA Annual General Meeting held Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

### **Present:**

An Cathaoirleach: Brendan Ó Muirí, An Runai: Anita Bn Ui Bhranagain, Cisteor: Lorraine Bloomfield, Leas Cathaoirleach: Martin Farnon, Leas Runai: Níamh Ní Mhuirí, Leas Cisteor: Pdraig Mac Mathuna and 97 other members.

### **Welcome**

Chairman Brendan Murray welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded those present that all questions and remarks should be addressed through the chair.

### **Apologies**

Guinevra McGilligan sent her apologies that she wouldn't be able to attend to present the Camogie Report.

### **Minutes of 2014 AGM**

Proposed by Paddy O McConville and seconded by Thomas Murnin

### **Standing Orders**

The Standing Orders were adopted on the proposal of Paddy Morgan seconded by John Anthony Gribben.

### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's Report was adopted on the proposal of Sean Cairns, seconded by Ryan McShane. Anita presented the report which had been available to download from the club's website from the previous week.

Marie Walls queried why the Adult Games Committee Chairperson hadn't been replaced as it was vacant from the beginning of the season. Brendan said the post was vacated in May and the Executive handled the business from then on.

There was a lengthy discussion on the end of season Juvenile Day with some people advocating a return to the previous format.

Questions were asked about the proposed development – Space and Place Funding Claim has been submitted and we will know in February if we are successful; if so this will cover the drawing up of plans. There is Lottery Funding available for community projects not solely sports projects. There was a lengthy discussion on the availability of funding via the proposed wind farm. There is money available that will be spread across the entire area from which the turbines will be visible. The Chairman said that rightly or wrongly the Executive took the decision not to promote the wind farm but they would be included in the community pot.

PJ appealed for more help with Field Work; Paudie suggested expanding the size of the Executive but it was pointed out that people did not have to be on the Executive in order to be asked to help or offer to help out around the club.

With regard to an article in the Irish News, Brendan said his words had been taken out of context and this had been pointed out in 'The Clonduff Post'.

In response to questions from the floor Anita explained that both insurance and club membership runs from 1<sup>st</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> December – registration can take place up to end of March but if a player is injured without up-to-date membership then he has no insurance cover.

Sean Cairns was concerned about the amount gear left behind by both adults and children and some of it is never claimed.

Anita apologised for the omissions and errors in the report: Congratulations to John Boden on playing for Ulster; Rían Branagan playing Shinty; U16 Ladies winning league and Bronagh O'Reilly who also helped out; it was Charlie Carr who was on County Minors as Stephen McConville was the previous year.

Brendan thanked Anita for a very comprehensive report.

### **Camogie Report**

In Guinevra's absence Teresa said that the senior team did well to get to the Championship final and there are currently underage teams in all age group and hope to have a minor team in 2016. Kitty said she would like to thank parents for their support throughout the year.

## **Finance**

### **Treasurer's Report**

Padraig presented the Finance Report. He asked for anyone interested in FOC to come forward and for anyone willing to help with major fundraising. VAT payable on sponsorship.

Thanks to Sean McGreevy and Catriona Doyle in the Post Office for their help during the year.

Johnny McPolin queried if there was any money coming in from signs around the field or match programmes. Brendan said no money came in from signs this year but if anyone wished to help with this task please come forward as much more help is needed in all aspects of running the club. Padraig said we could look at doing packages with local businesses for adverts in programmes and a sign if we had that additional help.

Senior team expenses was queried – apart for trainer fees we now had to pay referees fees on a monthly basis and more games had been videoed this year.

County Clubs Draw query – direct debit date closed early for County but club offered a direct debit option - money goes in and out each month for the draw as a result of this.

Paudie explained that money is transferred to Development Account and this had been used to pay for the gym, tarmac etc and there were no outstanding amounts due on any of it.

Connor Donnan asked was the figure for renting out the field not quite low for the amount of games.

Schools games pay £30; County gives £75 if flood lights are used and championship matches 10% of gate. PJ said there has been an increase in number of games at night.

It was asked why Lotto takings had decreased – Padraig pointed out that it had actually increased but there had been no other significant fundraising event this year – 'Friends of Clonduff' are the fundraising body of the club.

Colin Shields commended Padraig on the comprehensive Report; Brendan thanked Lorraine for all her hard work over the year and singled out the monthly finance reports for special mention.

### **Chairman's Address**

Brendan said it gave him great pleasure to address AGM for last time after 5 years. He said it hasn't always been easy but everything he did was for the good of the club and he hopes that the new Chairman will get the respect of all club members. He said we are one of the best club's in Down and people have different opinions and these should be discussed in the committee room and left there. He wishes to forget about the dark days because there were many great days. Some of the highlights during his reign included buying six acres of land which is totally paid for; 125 Celebrations Day which was a very proud day for the club and which should be built upon; the success of the Club Shop; tarmac the driveway – thanks to Gerry McGreevy for all his voluntary help. The white and yellow lines are there for Health and Safety reasons – respect this, respect your club! The new club gym has been erected and is the best option in the meantime until there is hopefully a building at the road. His biggest disappointment over the past 5 years has been lack of success at senior level. The Juvenile structures were set up for benefit of the youth and hopefully the future adult players – he wasn't knocking anyone's prior work – he respected it and thanked them; he feels we are a long way behind neighbouring clubs whom we can sit back and admire but it breaks his heart that it's not our club. Everyone can put their shoulder to the wheel for this success.

Good work has been done with Camogs winning Ulster Title last year – another great day; success of ladies can be built upon too for future success. Our facilities are to be commended but these can be developed – we are the envy of other clubs. It is everyone's club.

Over the past 5 years we have lost many great members but this year we lost five more valuable, lifelong members of our club; John Curran, Dalsey Mooney, Barney McPolin, John O'Hanlon and Stephen Doherty. Brendan thanked everyone who worked with him on committees and who helped in any way in the club; lotto team (main source of income) – urged more people to get involved; sponsors over the past 5 years/any one who made donations particularly Dean Davies; Anita and Lorraine for their support to him and to the club; to Mary and the three girls for their support.

Brendan sent his best wishes to his successor and he wished everyone a happy Christmas and a fruitful new year.

### **President's Address**

Dean Davies thanked the outgoing Executive committee and particularly Brendan for his perseverance of the past five years. He took great delight in the Thirds Championship win and hoped it would inspire others. He congratulated all the winners in the club in whatever code. He appealed for greater discipline in the club as indiscipline may cost us dearly at some time. His big disappointment of the year was that the County Board wouldn't call off a match at the time of Dalsey's death. He finished with a couple of quotations – 'Ask not what your club can do for you, ask what you can do for your club' and 'United we stand, divided we fall.'

### **Election of Officers**

All posts were declared vacant and President Dean Davies, assisted by the unopposed Secretary took charge of the elections – tellers were appointed. The new Executive is as follows following the relevant elections:

Chairperson	Jimmie Cousins
Vice Chairperson	Dermot Fitzpatrick
Secretary	Anita Brannigan
Assistant Secretary	Niamh Murray
Treasurer	Lorraine Bloomfield
Assistant Treasurer	Padraig Matthews
Registrar/Insurance	Alistair McGilligan
Delegate to Co. Board	Tommy Kelly
P.R.O.	<b>Vacant</b>
Children's & Welfare Officer	Teresa Carr
Cultural/Language & Community Officer	<b>Vacant</b>
Facilities Management Officer	PJ McGreevy
Adult Games Officer	Brendan Murray
Juvenile Games Officer	<b>Vacant</b>
Players' Representative	Rory Grant + One each from other codes
Additional Members (up to 5)	Martin Farnon, James McConville, John Anthony Gribben

Incoming Chairman Jimmie Cousins took the chair and in addressing the members he said he was delighted and honoured to be elected Chairperson of a proud club like Clonduff. Firstly, he would like to thank all who voted for him and those who didn't – everyone was entitled to their opinion and he paid tribute to Thomas who is a committed club member and asked him to become involved in the Executive. There are a number of unfilled positions and the need for a Health & Wellness Officer. He will do his utmost to co-opt people into those positions and he will do his best to lead the club to where it wants to be. Together we will do the best we can and hope we get the full support of all. There will be an open meeting in the second week in January to ascertain what we all want from or can give to the Club next year.

### **Motions to AGM**

Motion 1 – member purchases Down Club Draw ticket this will include membership for the year; Brendan Murray proposed, PJ McGreevy seconded

Paudie Matthews said if this was carried membership would have to be opened to CCSS members also  
The Motion was carried on a majority vote

Motion 2 – proposed Chairperson should be allowed to address AGM before election of officers. Thomas Murnin proposed; Paudie Matthews seconded

Jimmie said this would be a totally new departure for GAA Clubs and that he would be worried as it could become a manifesto.

The Motion was carried on a majority vote

The AGM concluded at 10.20pm

Meeting of Executive after AGM

Jimmie congratulated everyone on being elected to the Executive and said when he was asked to do the job he felt he had something to offer – trying to involve everyone to surge forward.

We need to have an Executive Meeting before Christmas and then we will have the Open Meeting in January.

Our priority in the meantime is to fill all the vacancies with the right people and another priority is to appoint a Health & Wellness officer as deemed necessary by GAA in the light of personal pressures imposed on all communities. We also need to look closely at the subcommittees

It was agreed that for the foreseeable future Executive Meetings will be on the second Tuesday of each month. The December meeting will be on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015 @ 7.30pm in the Clubrooms.

Signed ..... Dated .....  
(Cathaorleach)