

# Reddish Conservative Club – Minutes

## 1910s

Unfortunately, we have no records of minutes of the committee meetings before 1917. All monetary conversions are based on average earnings comparison to 2010.

## 1917

### 25th January, 1917: General Committee Meeting

Resolved that the matter of serving intoxicating drinks to the [orderlies](#) of the local military hospital stand over, for further information.

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### 28th February, 1917: General Meeting

Resolved that [The London Graphic](#) be sent to the Reddish Military Hospital, which was located at the North Reddish School on Longford Road. Also resolved that the secretary interview Reddish Military Hospital Matron asking if she will put up, in a prominent position, a notice (to be supplied by Reddish Conservative Club) extending to the soldiers an invitation to make use of our Reddish Conservative Club. As newcomers, it was felt that they would be unaware of the privileges which we offer to all.

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### 8th March, 1917: Special General Meeting

Resolved that:

- the price of alcohol be increased, with the prices the same for consumption both on and off the premises:
  - Beer: 3½d (£3.22) per pint and 1¾d (£1.61) per [gill](#) (in this context a gill is half a pint); and,
  - Stout: small bottled stouts be 4d (£3.68) and large bottle stouts 7½d (£6.90)
- The amount of £1.1.0d (£232.88) be handed over for the Poor Children's Fund and the amount of 12/- shillings (£113.07) had been collected for our soldiers.

Also Mr Barnes explained that he would have to resign of the committee as he would have to attend classes of the [Red Cross Society](#) and could be called upon to undertake his duties at any time.

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### 10th April, 1917: General Meeting

Resolved that the mater of the steward attending to the garden be left in the hands of the secretary and chairman and that this committee allow him the use of the south side of the garden as a kitchen garden.

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## **12th April, 1917: House Committee Meeting**

Resolved that we raise the price of beer to 5d (£4.62) per pint 2½d (£2.30) per [gill](#). Also resolved that [Oxo](#) be raised to 3d (£2.76) per cup.

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## **23rd April, 1917: Special Meeting**

Resolved that a letter of condolence be sent to Lady Houldsworth, owing to [Sir William Houldsworth's](#) recent death on 18th April, 1917.

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## **26th April, 1917: House Committee Meeting**

Resolved that the price of tobacco products would be increased:

- Rolling tobacco [Twist](#) be raised to 7d (£6.44) per oz;
- The cigarettes Golden Dawn and [Gold Flake](#) from 4d (£3.68) to 5d (£4.60) per packet and [Woodbines](#) from 2½d (£2.30) a packet to 3½d (£3.22) a packet; and,
- Cordula cigars would be 3½d (£3.22) each, all others 2d (£1.84) each.

Resolved that we send two representatives to the [Houldsworth Working Mens Club](#) regarding a suitable memorial to [Sir William Houldsworth](#).

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## **24th May, 1917: House Committee Meeting**

Resolved that owing to the fact that [Woodbine](#) cigarettes can be purchased outside the club at 1½d (£1.38) per packet, that our price for same be reduced for conformity.

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## **28th May, 1917: House Committee Meeting**

The secretary read a letter from one of our members, Mr T Fairbrother, who is out in France, asking if we could send out a cricket ball. It was therefore decided to have a collection and send two balls.

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## **12th June, 1917: General Meeting**

Resolved that we allow our steward to obtain work during the day owing to the great increase in the cost of living due to the war. It being understood that his duties must not be neglected.

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## **11th September, 1917: General Meeting**

Resolved that a collection be taken on Friday night in order to purchase a football bladder to send to our member Mr Fairbrother, in France.

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## **26th October, 1917: Special General Meeting**

Resolved to amend Rule No. 16: "The committee shall have the power to elect from time to time as honorary members without entrance fee or subscription members of His Majesty's Forces, visiting friends of members, gentlemen of distinction, and those who have rendered valuable services to the constitutional cause. In the case of member's friends, 48-hours notice shall be given in accordance with the law. Such honorary members shall enjoy the full privileges of the club."

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## **11th December, 1917: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that the club be open as usual on Christmas Day. That the steward be given two hours for dinner during which time the bar will be closed for sales.

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# **1918**

## **25th February, 1918: Special Committee Meeting**

Resolved that:

- each member of the club be allowed two pints of beer or stout per day from Monday to Friday each week; and,
  - on Saturday of each week, each member shall be allowed two pints of beer, or stout, at dinnertime and two pints likewise at night.
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## **12th March, 1918: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that spirits be sold out upon Doctor's Notes at the same price as over the bar.

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## **9th April, 1918: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that the price of billiards be raised to 6d (£4.44) per game of 45 minutes and 3d (£2.22) per game of 25 minutes.

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## **11th June, 1918: Committee Meeting**

"The chairman now informed the meeting that Dr. Ramsay had secured a silver cup, which he desired to present to the club. The cup to be the first prize along with £1.1.0 also given by Dr. Ramsay in a series of billiards handicaps. After a few suitable remarks, in which the donor expressed his appreciation of the kindness and the spirit of friendship which all had shown to him, and trusting that the gift would not only help to stimulate the already good social feeling existing in the club. But would be the means of helping and consolidating those principles for

which the club stood. On behalf of the committee, the chairman accepted the cup, assuring Dr. Ramsay that no words could express the pleasure, which it afforded him, to accept the cup on behalf of the club. And the doctor could rest assured that the cup would be prized, not for its monetary value only, but because of the inartistic motive which inspired the gift."

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### **8th October, 1918: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that:

- we use the assistance of a waiter on Saturday nights at a remuneration 3/- shillings (£26.80) per night; and,
  - the secretary forward a letter of protest to the manager of the [Stockport Tramways](#) against the tram stop being removed from opposite the club.
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### **19th November, 1918: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that:

- the matter of sending delegates to a conference to be held in London by the British and Constitutional Labour Party be not adopted, owing to the expense the same would incur, but that the secretary shall write stating that we agree their objects and at a latter date will consider the matter of becoming affiliated;
  - we donate £5.5.0 (£938.14) to the North Reddish Unionist Association; and,
  - we allow ladies the use of the card room for their next meeting.
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## **1919**

### **14th January, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that:

- the wages are to be increased to:
    - Steward £2.5.0 (£352.01) per week;
    - Secretary £2.2.0 (£328.54) per annum;
    - Treasurer £1.1.0 (£164.27)per annum; and,
    - Recreation Secretary £3.3.0 (£492.81) per annum.
  - Delegates to the Mansion House receive £1.1.0 (£164.27) and 16/6d (£129.07) respectly;
  - we join the Working Men's Club Union; and,
  - we pay 5% on loan money.
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### **4th February, 1919: House Committee Meeting**

Resolved that the bitter be sold at 6d (£3.90) per pint.

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### **14th February, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that we recommend to the general committee the paying off of all loans and the opening of a deposit account at the bank.

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### **4th March, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that we subscribe the sum of £11.10 (£164.27) to the [St John's Ambulance](#) Brigade Reddish Nursing Division.

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### **13th May, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that:

- on the signing of peace, we forward telegrams to the local MP in accordance with the letter received from the [ACC](#); and,
  - we go to [Rudyard Lake](#), for our Annual Picnic. N.B. This was later rescinded owing to the committee being unable to make the necessary arrangements.
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### **8th July, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that:

- in order to commemorate [Peace Day](#) (19th July, 1919) we give a "Free Night" to our members to commence at 6:00 p.m. and that we also arrange for a Potato Pie Supper and Social Evening; and,
  - we subscribe 10/6d (£82.14) to Reddish Sick Nursing Association.
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### **4th August, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that we allow the use of one of the billiard tables each Wednesday evening for practice purposes for those taking part in the league matches. The table to be used from 6:30 p.m. until closing time.

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### **9th September, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that the matter of giving a prize for swimming, to the schoolgirls of Reddish, be left in the hands of our secretary.

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### **19th September, 1919: Special Meeting**

This meeting held to discuss the purchasing of a brewery and to ascertain how many members would take up shares in same. After discussion it was resolved that, although favourable, we do not wish to commit ourselves until fuller particulars are laid before us.

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### **1st October, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that we have a [Whist Drive](#) & Dance on the third Saturday in each month.

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### **5th November, 1919: Committee Meeting**

Resolved that:

- we allow the Reddish Cricket Club (this is now [Denton West End Cricket Club](#)) the use of the pots for Saturday next;
- chess players have the use of the large room upstairs when required;
- card playing shall not in future be allowed in the billiard room; and,
- the Visitors on Wednesday next (the members of the [Manchester City Football Club](#)) be given a cheque for the value 7d (£4.55) each for purchasing refreshments.

A letter was read out from Mr. T D Hodsum expressing his keen appreciation of the hospitality which we had extended to him in making him an honorary member of the club during his visit to this country from the USA. And expressed the hope that when he next visited this country. He would find the present success of the club had been maintained and that he would meet his old friends again.

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### **3rd December, 1919: Special Committee Meeting**

Resolved that we entertain all our members, who served in His Majesty's Forces during the war, by inviting them to tea on 10th January, 1920.

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### **29th December, 1919: Special Committee Meeting**

Resolved that:

- we provide a menu, consisting of turkey, roast beef and pork, for our returned soldiers, on 10th January, 1920;
- we do the catering ourselves for the soldier's party; and,
- each soldier be given eight cheques at the value of 3d (£1.96) each.