

Cricket club appeal for rates policy review

A plea to Kirklees Council to acknowledge the work done by local amateur sports clubs by granting rate relief was made at the Skelmanthorpe Cricket Club annual meeting this week.

The club decided to write to the Council, seeking a review of current rating policy regarding rate relief to local organisations.

The club point out that if at any time the local authority had to take over the running of village sports clubs, the cost to ratepayers would far exceed the amounts asked for in rate relief.

Presenting the club's balance sheet, secretary-treasurer Mr M T Heeley reported that in spite of a severe cut-back on playing equipment there had been a loss on the season of £15. Account was taken of the £125 granted by Kirklees towards the cost of a new mower which is to be purchased after the club's equipment store has been repaired.

Attention was drawn to a general increase in essential running costs and a call for increased subscriptions from playing members was upheld. Subscriptions for senior players were increased to £1.50 from £1. Youths (under 18 and working) to £1 from 50p, Juniors to 50p from 25p. The amount paid in general rates last year was £64.

Officials elected were:
President, Mr C E Field;
chairman, Mr H Gummerson;
vice-chairman, Mr D Hobson;
secretary-treasurer, Mr M T Heeley. Committee: Messrs A Crompton, P Dickinson, A Fitton, J H Greaves, K Gregory, G Hirst, K Mills, S Moakler, J Schofield, R Telford, W Tyas.
League representative, Mr Heeley; junior league

representative, Mr Greaves.
First XI captain, G Crompton;
second XI captain, R Telford.

NOTE: Kirklees Council do not give rate relief but instead sports clubs can apply for grant-aid. The former Denby Dale Council under which Skelmanthorpe came, granted 100 per cent rate relief.