

1. Chairman's Report

It seems only five minutes ago that I was preparing my first Chairman's Annual Report for last year's A.G.M. I recall in that report that I mentioned that 2005-06 had been a very busy time for the club and that my first season as Chairman had been one of consolidation in terms of the direction of the club off the pitch. Well that is certainly not the case this year and I am quite amazed that another year has passed and I am now at the end of my second year as Chairman.

I reported at the beginning of the season that the committee had decided that it would make an application to become an FA Charter Standard Development Club. I am delighted that this application was granted and the standard of the club's football development plan was congratulated by the Birmingham County FA and has since been used as an example to other club's making similar applications.

The management committee was increased and each committee member was given a specific area of responsibility for example Head Coach, Kit Coordinator and School Liaison Officer. I am pleased to report that this meant that the work load of the committee was spread across the board and no particular individual was over burdened.

The three main challenges off the pitch this year have been met thanks to a healthy relationship with the Parish Council for Brinklow

- The Parish Council have provided extra ground work to Barr Lane in an effort to improve drainage, which we hope will mean less games are postponed.
- Also plans to extend and redevelop the Church Rooms in Broad Street to include changing rooms for our teams using Barr Lane were prepared and submitted to the Borough Council. These plans have recently been approved and some funding for the project is in place, which is very exciting. I have given an undertaking to the Council that the Football Club will make funding applications to assist in this project.
- A covenant that had been discovered prohibiting the sale of alcohol at any events on Barr Lane. The committee assisted the Parish Council in having this legally amended to allow 6 events per year for the whole village where alcohol can be served.

I would like to think that the committee has managed to keep most of the admin work away from team managers so that they could focus on the coaching of their teams. However this is not always possible and on occasions we have had to ask the managers to take on extra tasks. Some managers were more helpful than others and some were more organised than others in terms of administration. One or two managers appointed an admin person for their age group to assist in the more mundane tasks, which I would recommend to other managers who have not done so. With this in mind the creation of a Parental Support Group has been placed on the Development Plan and I hope that this will be up and running before Christmas. I hope that this will encourage parents from the younger age groups becoming more involved.

The annual 6 side was organised for the first two weekends in June. The Juniors was to be held over the first and the Seniors over the second. Unfortunately the Seniors had to be cancelled due to lack of interest. However what a weekend it was for the Juniors, fantastic weather, great football and a real club social event. Although it was hard work I cannot tell you all how much I enjoyed myself. Once again we have received much praise from our guest teams on what a great tournament it was. I honestly believe that it is the best in the County and I am very proud to be associated with it. I thank personally every person who helped out during the weekend for giving up their valuable time.

Finally the club held two presentation nights, the Seniors at The White Lion and the Juniors at the Brownsover Hall Hotel. Both were very enjoyable evenings and I hope that all of the players enjoyed their well deserved recognition and awards. The Club's top goal scorer was Sam Brake from the under 9's and the Club Person of the Year was Kimberley Greasley from the girls under 14's, Kim received the Steve Weller Memorial award for the first time, which was kindly donated following Steve's death during the season. Neil Huddleston was given an outstanding achievement award and finally I am delighted to report that Mick Holt was elected and awarded the title of Vice-President, a thoroughly deserved honour. I express my thanks to Geoff and Kathy Bedford from the White Lion and the staff at Brownsover Hall.

On the pitch once again the enthusiasm of our players is quite staggering. To see players from the age of 4 to 40 playing for Brinklow is fantastic and makes this club so special. Each squad of players no matter how old gave everything on the pitch and their efforts were rewarded well once again. The achievements of our teams are recorded in the roll of honour section of this report so I will refrain from listing everything but I think the League and Cup double achieved by the Youth Team is worthy of a special mention and also the wins at 6 a side level, well done to our champions the under 10's at the Brinklow 6 a side, the under 9's and under 8's at Admirals and the under 7's at Lutterworth.

I believe that at the end of a busy but rewarding season the club is vibrant and thriving. Next season looks to be another exciting one with a new Senior Saturday Reserve Team being formed and also a new girl's age group. A second Vice Chairman position is to be created to act as a single point of contact for the Seniors. The Treasurer has provided encouraging information regarding the financial state of the club which I am sure will be approved at the A.G.M, so all in all we have much to look forward to.

I would like to thank the following Dave Lowe, who will not be seeking re-election as Secretary but remains involved in the club; I appreciate all that he has done. Paul Wilby editor of our very own magazine 'On the Brink'. Tony Glasscoe, my Vice Chairman for his valuable contribution and advice. To all of the committee for their continued support. Our sponsors for the valuable contributions that they have given, to all of our supporters who turn up to watch and last but not least the players themselves, thank you.

Rich Farthing
Chairman

