

Records of the closure of the Clarion Club House and the sale of the land.

Up to 1967

approx. shareholders 550 share nos 1 to 1669

Rutland C.C. 216 share nos 1670 to 1885

Meeting Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1973

Present Mrs S Walker, Mrs A Walker, Mrs G Frost E Ardron, S. Fletcher, A. Walker. S. Walker. J.Longbottom. J. Rudge J. Dealy. Mrs Dealy.

Statement by J. Rudge Before this meeting Starts, I think we should get organised as most developments have been done spontaneously.

A chairman and secretary should be elected and minutes recorded and signed.

For the benefit of new arrivals here is a resume.

In October 1972 Mr J. Longbottom received a letter from T. Saxton and G. Glossop (Estate Agents) saying they had clients interested in the Club House.

A meeting was held at 149 Murray Road and as everyone was under the impression that the offer from Richmond Motor Bike Club had folded up, we tried to find Mr Thornton.

In course of enquiries we found deeds had been removed from the C.W.S Bank and had not been put back, and no trace of the Richmond M.C. at Sheffield Library or at the A.A. or R.A.C in the years 1966 or 1967, as they had dropped the name of Richmond when becoming users of the Club House.

No registration after 1967 with A.A. – R.A.C. or Hallamshire Association..

At a further meeting in December we managed to trace Mr Thornton's address, 9 Silverdale Road on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 1973.

It was proposed and carried that E. Ardron be elected chairman and J.Rudge secretary.

E.Ardron, J.Rudge and J.Longbottom were elected to see Mr Thornton at 8<sup>th</sup> January 1973.

Meeting 29<sup>th</sup> January 1973 at 149 Murray Road 7.30 pm

Present—Mrs Dealy, Mrs S. Walker, Mrs A. Walker, E.Ardron, S.Fletcher, J. Longbottom, E.Walker, S.Walker, H.Beardmore, W.Howe, J.Rudge.

Letter from T.Saxton asking us to contact them re- proposed sale.

Letter read from Sir Ron Ironmonger in reply to my letter of December in which I stated facts which lead to Richmond M.C. taking over, and that events had made us doubt the validity of the offer. He promised in the letter he would investigate this.

Letter read from D.Humphrey (my son in law of Edinburgh) giving us some planning information. Myself and A.Walker had had a talk with the planning officer dealing with Mr Thorntons application and had made a note of our misgivings.

Mr Thornton had made an application for a caretakers house not exceeding 10 rooms and outline for Club House.

J.Rudge—J.Longbottom—and E,Ardron gave account of their meeting with Mr Thornton. He had made 40 shareholders and was very near getting planning permission, and asked us not to call a general meeting.

He agreed to come to a meeting at 149 Murray Road on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February to discuss share values.

Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> February 1973 at 149 Murray Road

Present—Mrs I.Dealy—Mrs A.Walker—Mrs S Walker—Mrs G. Hinchliffe—Mrs G Fletcher—S. Fletcher—E.Ardron—S Walker—J.Dealy—A Walker—J.Longbottom—J Rudge—W.Howe—E.Greaves.

Also present Mr T. Thornton

This meeting has been convened to give Mr Thornton opportunity to enlarge on his offer of buying shares of older members. He also had a letter from A. Spencer Valuers stating what in their view the 11.1/2 acres of the Club House would fetch at auction.

Mr Thornton read letter from A. Spencer's saying their estimate was of £750.

After discussion he said he would offer £3 a share, or would double the £750 to £1500.

After further discussion Mr Thornton agreed to attend a General Meeting of Shareholders (prior to 1967) to make his offer there.

We should call the meeting around March 5<sup>th</sup> at Victoria Hall if possible and acquaint Mr Thornton of same.

Another meeting was continued after Mr Thornton had left after he had read letter from Town Hall. As we may have to have a solicitor it was agreed we open a fund, for meetings and adverts etc Minimum £2.

A. Walker was elected Treasurer . We were not impressed with the letter from A. Spencer's re: £750 for land.

It was agreed that J. Dealy make arrangements with Mr T. Weaving of Bank Street for an independent valuers report and A. Walker and J Rudge interview Mr Weaving so we can have a report for February 19<sup>th</sup> 1973 .

It was carried we have a General Meeting of Shareholders pre: 1967 at Victoria Hall around March 5<sup>th</sup> 1973.

Carried we have one advert in 'Star' on Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>

Regarding a chairman for General Meeting...after discussion it was agreed E. Greaves , and if he could not attend E. Ardron.

Signed E.Greaves 19/2/73

Committee Meeting held Monday Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> 1973

Present---Mrs A. Walker---Mrs S. Walker--- Mrs S. Fletcher---Mrs M Hemming---Mrs E. Stringer---  
Mrs G. Hincliffe---A. Walker--- S. Walker---J. Longbottom--- E. Greaves (chairman) --- J. Walker---  
W. Howe ---E. Ardron --- J. Rudge.

Arising out of minutes of Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, passed except for item re: £3 a share which was deleted to read a offer of £1500 for shares of older shareholders (pre:1967)

Letter read from T Saxton. Secretary stated he had written to say we would let them know after A.G.M. on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Letter read from Sir Ron Ironmonger in which he enclosed a copy of letter from Sheffield Town Clerk..

Letter read from T. Weaving Valuers saying that land at Club House should fetch £4,000 plus.

A. Walker & J. Rudge gave a report on our visit to T. Weaving.

As Town Clerk and T. Weaving advised us to have a solicitor it was carried that J. Longbottom, A. Walker, & J. Rudge, see Mr Cowley of J. Clegg & Sons Ltd , to ask advice re: the present position of club and shareholders. Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> if possible, to suit J. Longbottom about 3.30pm.

Town Hall notified that A.G.M. March 12<sup>th</sup> 1973.

Procedure for General Meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> 1973 was discussed.

Start off with Chairman's remarks, which would include reference to building etc on Club House, it would be wise to have deeds on table with share book for reference. Secretary would read minutes of Special General Meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1967 and then report why this meeting had been called. Carried. Report accepted. only delete item re: the 40 shareholders Mr Thornton had made.

The committee carried that W .Howe and S. Fletcher act as doormen for only shareholders. No press to be accepted.

In case E. Greaves could not attend as chairman E. Ardron be chairman . Secretary then distribute leaflets showing shareholders etc. of of club to 1966.

Share no's 1 to 1669 ---- 550 shareholders (approx)

Share no's 1670 to 1885 ---- Rutland C.C. 216 shares

Share no's 1886 to 2074 ---- Richmond M.C. 188 shares 47 shareholders.

Est. 63 should attend A.G.M. but likely to get 50. 200 approx no trace.

Committee Meeting held February 26<sup>th</sup> at 149 Murray Rd.

Present---Mrs A. Walker---Mrs S. Fletcher---J. Longbottom---W. Howe---J. Walker ---A. Walker---  
J. Dealy---Mrs J. Dealy.

Minutes of previous meeting passed as read.

J. Rudge and A. Walker gave a report on visit to solicitor as J Longdon could not attend. Solicitor stated time some action was taken and promised to act on our behalf. Solicitor stated he would attend A.G.M. on March 12<sup>th</sup> 1973 if required, but would sooner stay away. Carried we agree to this.

Moved we send letter to Mr Thornton asking him to bring deeds. After discussion re: previous committee re: agenda, it was carried that we were not satisfied over offer etc. J. Walker will move we sell Club House by auction. No press be Admitted.

We may need a Chairman – Secretary and caretaker committee of 12.

Secretary pointed out that various shareholders had remarried, and it was carried that the wife's of such can come to meeting.

Secretary also pointed out about £120 owing in small loans 10/-, 15/- , etc. in loan script, as per rule 22.

SPECIAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ---Monday March 12<sup>th</sup> 1973 at Victoria Hall Sheffield  
7.15 p.m. Chairman E.Greaves.

In his opening remarks, chairman expressed his pleasure at seeing so many old friends as in some cases it was 20-30 and even 50 years since various shareholders had seen one another.

He explained that since the Special Meeting in March 1967 when an application by the Richmond Motor Club to use the Club House was granted no progress seemed apparent, and called on secretary (of caretaker committee) to report.

Chairman also stated 4 in room were not shareholders, but Mr Thornton had agreed they should stay as they had come to supervise ailing shareholders and so these 4 could not vote or take part in discussion.

Secretary (J. Rudge ) then read out full minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1967 meeting, which accepted the offer of Richmond Motor Club to take over the running of the Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd.

After this J. Rudge read report of caretaker committee saying that since 1967 we had not had one word from Mr Thornton. That no record of Richmond M.C. around 1966 etc. could be found , and we had had great trouble locating him. On credit side he had been busy submitting plans for redevelopment and one for a large caretakers house, but so far had been turned down. On debit side nothing had been done at Club House, decay was worse than 1967. However we had met Mr Thornton 3 Times and though we had been unable to agree on various matters it was agreed we call a General Meeting of pre: 1967 shareholders to discuss an offer from him of £1500. Mr Thornton had had land valued by Henry Spencer & Sons for £750.

Discussion arose about this offer T. Payne asking Mr Thornton on whose behalf he was making this offer. Mr Thornton stated as secretary of the Clarion Club House he was making it on behalf of the remaining 48 shareholders created by him after 1967.

Mr A. Walker pointed out that at a committee meeting with us in January 1973 Mr Thornton had admitted these 48 shareholders were not valid. Mr Thornton denied this.

Mr J. Walker then moved H. Guest seconded that the offer of Mr Thornton should not be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

Mr J. Walker also moved H. Guest seconded that the minutes of 1967 meeting were a true record, but not be confirmed. This was carried.

R. Backhouse moved, T. Payne seconded that the Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd. and grounds be sold by public auction, and that Mr Weaving ( Valuer ) who had stated in letter that his valuation was £4000 plus be contacted and solicitor Mr Cowly also be engaged to represent us.

This was carried Unanimously.

As 1967 agreement was not confirmed, this meant Mr Thornton was no longer secretary of Sheffield Clarion Club House, and this was agreed.

A new set of officials were elected

Chairman E.Greaves Financial Secretary A.Walker

Secretary J.A.Rudge

Committee Members Mrs I. Dealy---Mrs E .Fletcher--- Mrs G. Frost (Walker)--- Mrs M .Hemming

(Rudge)--- R. Backhouse---W. Howe--- S. Fletcher---E. Ardron---J. Walker---Sam Walker---H. Guest---

Stan Walker---T. Payne carried.

R. Backhouse moved, T. Payne seconded that the shareholders made after 1967 March meeting be declared void. This was carried unanimously.

Was agreed that J. Rudge and A. Walker meet solicitor and valuer as soon as possible from today (March 12<sup>th</sup>) and when any details are available call a committee meeting. Deeds and share register were at meeting.

In attendance were shareholders Mr & Mrs Fretwell, Mr & Mrs Evans, Mrs A Lockwood, W. Lockwood, B. Lockwood, E. Greaves, Mrs E. Greaves, J. Rudge, S. Rudge, G. Hallatt, Mr & Mrs J. Dealy, B. Dealy (Smith), Mr & Mrs A Walker, G. Walker (Frost), M. Walker (Crerar), J. Walker, Mr & Mrs S. Walker, A. Levesley, F.H. Lee, Mr & Mrs Fernie, Mr & Mrs W. Howe, S.F. Burton, Mr & Mrs Dorson, W.A. Frost, Mrs I. Clements, Mr & Mrs S. Fletcher, Mr & Mrs E. Ardron, P. Ardron, J. Linley, J. Needham, T. Payne, W. Booth, Mr & Mrs Beardmore, Mrs M Hemming (Rudge), E. Morton, R. Backhouse, C. Wade, H. Spooner, Mrs Spooner, A. Crosby, Mrs V. Walford, R. Jackson, Mr & Mrs J.A. Swingler, H. Guest, W. Billing, Stan Walker, Mrs E Stringer, Mrs Joan Lund (Stringer) Mrs D. Wiseman, Mrs E. Hallas, Miss D. Thorpe, Mrs D. Carver, F. Davis, Mr Frost, F. Howe, Mrs Howe, Mrs D. Gavin, Mrs Sadie Hodgson (Aldred), Mrs A. Hall (Aldred), Mrs M. Aldred, Mrs G. Hinchliffe, Mrs E Johnson (E. Money), Mrs E Ayres, Mr & Mrs Wallington, J. Bailey.

Meeting concluded 9.30 pm.

COPY OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING – March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1967 at 7.30 p.m. at Y.M.C.A. Fargate.

Convened at the requisition of one tenth of shareholders .

The following shareholders were present.

Mr Longbottom (in the chair) Mr W.D. Cowley (club solicitor by invitation).

T. Seeley	E. May	S. Fletcher
C. Jackson	Mr Mrs Beardmore	H.M. Morton.
J.W. Fieldhouse	F.H. Lee	I. Clements
J.A. Swingler	C S. Wade	A. Spooner
W. Frost	L. Hall	E. Morton
T.A. Needham	H. Howe	J. Hough
E. Stringer	M. Wallington	W. Howe
F.A. Philips	E.J. Fletcher	E. Burton
E. Edlington (Baines)	M. Ardron	S.F. Burton
M.H. Taylor (Baines)	E. Ardron	H. Guest
E. Hallas	J.W. Wallington	D. Waseman
W. Billing	J. Walker	R.H. May
S. Walker	G. Clements	J. Rudge

Chairman reported representatives of press was present and it was decided he be allowed to report on meeting. J. Longbottom then asked solicitor, Mr W.D. Cowley to address the meeting.

Mr Cowley pointed out Mr Longbottom had consulted him at suggestion of Mr Boler, clubs auditor in 1966, when he Mr Longbottom was left as sole official. Mr Keeton (secretary) and Mr Coukham (Treasurer) had resigned leaving Mr Longbottom in an intolerable position. The club was virtually defunct. No activities carried on whatsoever, no resident caretaker, no shop, no income at all coming in. Mr Longbottom had arranged with the rating authority that premises be no longer rated until such time as activities were resumed and only outgoing was the fire insurance of £4-8-10 annually. Solicitor pointed out Club had obligations under the Industrial Act and Companies Act, and that the situation could not be left as it was. The meeting had been called to consider the future of the society. There was no committee, no funds, and calling of this special General Meeting was only way action could be taken. Urged a committee be formed there and then, as whatever action it was possible to take, a committee would be necessary, even if club e.g. were wound up.

He then said representatives of Richmond Car Club were in attendance and would put certain propositions to the meeting if allowed to do so. Solicitor then put various alternatives that were open to the club and threw open the meeting for discussion. A lively discussion followed, and it was proposed Mr Stan Walker, seconded T. Seely, a committee be formed.

Carried by 24 votes to 5. 12 shareholders volunteered to serve on a "caretaker" committee.

Proposed F.S. Burton, seconded G. Clements, that the following be committee .

J. Longbottom---W. Howe---Mrs E. Edlington---H. Beardmore---Stan Walker---Mrs E. Hallas---  
T.H. Needham---T. Seely---Mrs H. Taylor---J. Fieldhouse, J.A. Rudge---C.Wade

Carried unanimously.

After discussion as to action club should take, decided that Mr Thornton be invited into meeting to explain proposition of Richmond Car Club and it's members. Mr Thornton mentioned, they had some 300 members with substantial club funds, ranged from ages 20 to 60 years, who were willing to put in a lot of work, and wished to place their resources at the disposal of Clarion Club House Ltd, and become members thereof , and merge their identity in the Clarion Club. If Accepted they would drop the name of Richmond Car Club altogether, they would welcome in any of the club members to remain as members who wished to do so. He gave details of various improvements they had in mind, such as renovating and rebuilding of the Club room, provision of toilets, shower, baths etc., construction of swimming pool, provision of track for go- karting , or if this were not allowed say for running and cycling. Mr Thornton then retired and after further discussion was proposed by Mr M. Wallington, seconded by W. Frost , that the shareholders of Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd., should accept the Richmond Car Club as members of the Clarion Club and that the Clarion Committee be instructed to arrange matters accordingly.

A amendment that the whole matter should be referred to the committee for discussion was put and defeated, and on the original proposition being put to the meeting was carried 27 votes for 4 against. Committee meeting was arranged to be held Y.M.C.A. on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 at which "caretaker" committee should meet small number of Richmond Car Club to go into details for carrying above arrangements into effect. No other business. Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Meeting Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup> 1973.

J. Rudge (secretary) along with A. Walker interviewed Mr Weaving (valuer) and requested him along with solicitor, Mr Cowley of Clegg and Sons to arrange for the sale by public auction of Club House. Mr Weaving got in touch by phone with Mr Cowley and it was arranged that as soon as possible, they would arrange a date on a Sunday for all four to look over Club House Grounds.

Deeds were handed over to Mr Cowley for safe keeping. Minute book with account of General Meeting of March 12<sup>th</sup> was handed to Mr Cowley, who said he would have copy of General Meeting photostat for reference and for Register General.

Share Register handed in a week later, on March 21<sup>st</sup> 1973.

Meeting of sub-committee Tuesday March 20<sup>th</sup> 1973 at 70 Everingham Road at 2 p.m.

To discuss the point raised re- loan script at General Meeting

E. Ardron ---H. Guest--- A. Walker---J. Walker--- J. Rudge .

I had called these as all were ex secretaries.

J. Rudge pointed out around 1923, admission to the Club House was 31 minimum, either 1 share at 5/- and 15/- loan, or 2 shares @ 5/- each and 10/- loan etc. One of reasons why some had only one 5/- share, was as wages then were only £2/19/- , after one 5/- share had been paid the rest was paid in small amounts until full pound was reached. Some members thought that this loan later on was transferred into shares, but the majority of cases was still one share at 5/- and 15/- loan.

It was carried that we recommend to full committee that the loan stands and be paid at its face value.

Letter read from T. Thonrton increasing offer to £4,000. Agreed we leave this for full committee meeting.

Meeting of sub-committee Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup> 1973 at 70 Everingham Road at 8 p.m.

Representatives from Rutland Cycling Club present to discuss problem of block of shares held in name of Rutland Cycling Club.

Present J. Rudge ---W. Howe---J. Walker---(A. Walker could not attend) and J. Watkinson (secretary of Rutland and A.N.N. other)

After discussion we were unable to arrive at a result as Rutland had no share scripts with them, did not know whose names were on script and were unable to say whether any special arrangements were made when the shares were taken out. They promised to get to know who had the share scripts and let us know details later.

We pointed out that in our view this (£54 9216 shares) should have been a loan (repayable) as the rule states only individuals can be shareholders. Pointed out to them even the Clarion Cycling Club could not take a block share out, it was taken out as a loan, Woodcraft and Youth Hostel had also been refused. Their secretary admitted some of their members looked at the shares as valid, though their view was, we think, that they would settle for repayment at face value of 5/- a share.

On various dates A. Walker and Myself (J. Rudge) had discussed correspondence, copies of which had been forwarded to solicitor. Written to solicitors on 1 or 2 occasions re- minute book re- Rutland shares, as until we get old minute book we are stalemate.

A. Walker and myself requested a meeting with solicitor on Wednesday July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Letter sent to solicitor that in my view Mr Thornton was guilty of fraud, re- his letters of December 1970 and his application for planning permission to City Council in 1971 and 1972.

Meeting of committee, Wed. July 18<sup>th</sup> 1973 at Hartshead Friends Meeting House Sheffield at 7.15 p.m.  
Present Chairman E. Greaves---Secretary J. Rudge--- Financial secretary A. Walker---  
Mrs M. Hemming (rudge) ---Mrs E. Fletcher---Mrs G. Frost (walker).--- Mr E. Ardron---R. Backhouse--  
- W. Howe---S. Fletcher --- Stan walker--- S. Walker ---J. Walker--- H. Guest---T. Payne.  
Secretary gave report, deeds and share book had been handed to solicitor for safe keeping.  
A letter was read from T. Thornton offering £4000 for land and asking for to be reinstated as shareholder. Moved that this lay on the table.

A. Walker and myself (J. Rudge) gave a report on our visit to solicitor on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Solicitor stated that he had received letter from Register General that Mr Thornton on behalf of the Club House in December 1970 had applied for the Club to be de-registered, so that now the solicitor was in the process of getting the club registered again, as until this was done he could not do anything re. Sale on behalf of the shareholders. After much discussion, it was carried that R. Backhouse be co-opted on to make three people when J. Rudge and A. Walker visit solicitor again.

Address of committee:-

Eric Greaves, (chairman)	52 Vernon Road Sheffield.
A. Walker.	149 Murray road. Sheffield
Mrs Gay Frost	43 Charnock Dale Road Sheffield
J. Walker	308 Shirehall Road
Mrs Ivy Dealy	
Mr Sam Walker	22 Barnard Avenue Coal Aston Dronfield S18 6Bn
Stan Walker	818 Ecclesall Road S11 8TD
Mrs Margaret Hemming	158 Crimicar Lane Sheffield 11
Mr & Mrs Fletcher	89 Slate Street.
Ernest Ardron	109 Sturge Street Sheffield 2
Robert Backhouse	"Hilldene" Hemming Green, Old Brampton, Chesterfield.
Walter Howe	422 Springfield Road Sheffield
Harold Guest	15A Meadow head Avenue Sheffield S8 5RT
Tom Payne	38 Mildon Road Sheffield 6
J. Longbottom	28 Helmtun Road Sheffield 8

All letters or copies have been forwarded to solicitor re: farmer from Dore etc. who was clearing up to Club House.

Friday September 7<sup>th</sup> 1973.

A. Walker and J. Rudge visited solicitor S Cowley (Clegg) to see if any progress had been made. After talk solicitor agreed it would be good idea if we were to, visit Registrar General in London to put our case before him, as at present we were disfranchised and would have to be re-registered. before we could sell the Club House. Solicitor said he would arrange a date. May cost us a £100 to re-register.

Copy of letter received from Registrar General by solicitor.  
Registry of Friendly Societies  
17 North Audley Street  
London W1Y 2AP  
Tel. 01-629-7001  
Our ref. 8069R/MJP Dated. June 1st 1973

Dear Sir Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd.

I am writing in answer to your letter of May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1973. I would draw your attention to the fact that the Club's registration under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 was on 11<sup>th</sup> December 1970, cancelled at its request. The request was made on September 20<sup>th</sup> 1970 on the grounds that the Club was no longer operative. I would draw your attention to the provisions of S.16 (7) of the act as to the effect of cancellation, but regret that the registrar is not in a position to give you any further assistance in the matter.

Yours Faithfully M.A.Pearce

Visited City Library, checked the act as stated Halibartous Law Book – book 17, page 333.

In view of the above letter we find it very odd that he should make application to the Sheffield City Council in 1971 and 1972 for planning permission for a new Club House and a caretakers house on behalf of a Club House of 300 members.

Copy of letter received from Clegg & Sons September 14<sup>th</sup> 1973.

Dear Mr Rudge

Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd.

We have now heard from the Registrar of Friendly Societies with an appointment for you and A.Walker for Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 p.m.. However we have given the matter further thought and wonder on reflection whether it would serve any useful purpose to see the Registrar. Will you please telephone us so that we could discuss further the question of applying to the court for the appointment of trustees to enable the sale of the land to be proceeded with.

Yours Faithfully D. Cowley.

We agreed to delay visit to registrar and solicitor to speed up sale of land.

Interviewed Solicitor on Monday October 1<sup>st</sup> 1973, re-letter received from Jordan & Sons Ltd, Queens Council, re:- sale of land.

In our interview with solicitor we discussed this letter from council in detail.

Solicitor said that by law, the land at Dore Moor, whose deeds were in the name of Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd. Could not be sold (as legally there was no Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd) until application was made by council in the Chancery Court to establish legal owners, owing to Mr Thornton's action. After discussion on this we suggested, would it not be easier to apply for re-registration to bring us to status Quo, and then we could start afresh. This took solicitor by surprise, he admitted he had never thought of this. He agreed it would save us a lot of money if it were possible. While we were in his office, he rang Registrar's office in London, and reply received was very favourable. However he pointed out he would send all particulars to London (copy of General Meeting, minutes etc.) and hope that Registrar General would grant this. Failing this we should have to apply to the court for appointment of trustees to enable the sale of land to be proceeded with, which may with solicitors fees – council etc. cost nearly £1,000.

October 5<sup>th</sup> 1973

I received copy of letter which Clegg & Sons propose to send to Registrar General asking for comments for which meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> October has been called.

Committee Meeting October 11<sup>th</sup> 1973 at Hartshead.

Present J. Rudge---A. Walker---J. Walker---S. Walker---H. Guest---T. Payne---W .Howe---  
S. Fletcher---Mrs Fletcher---J. Longbottom, E. Ardron.

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

Main business was in a letter from solicitor , which he proposed to send to Solicitor General, which he asked for any comments re- any alterations.

After discussion on this, it was agreed we return this to him , for him to send, after we had agreed on certain minor alterations. This then to be sent by solicitor to Registrar for re-registering if possible.

On October 13<sup>th</sup> 1973 I returned letter to solicitor, which he then sent to Solicitor General, hoping for him to grant us re-registration to save us expense of going to court.

In December I phoned solicitor to see if he had heard anything , but it was not until January 4<sup>th</sup>. We received a reply.

On January 11<sup>th</sup> 1974 we (A. Walker – R. Backhouse and myself {J. Rudge} ) met solicitor at his office He read us a letter from Solicitor general stating he could not retract from the previous one as he had received particulars from Thornton in 1970 signed by chairman etc. and that was the end of the matter. After discussion we pressed for a personal interview with Department to state our case for re-registering , and solicitor telephoned London , and a meeting was arranged for us to visit London on Friday February 15<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm., for us to argue our case.

Farmer to clear huts at Club House is

H.D.Farnsworth & Sons Ryecroft farm Dore Road Dore Sheffield.

Copy of letter received by solicitor regards letter sent by him for re-registering Clarion

Register of Friendly Societies

17, North Audley Street

London W1Y 2AP

Tel: 01-629-7001 ext. 3

Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> 1973

Messers Clegg & Sons  
Sheffield

Your ref: WDC/VH  
Our ref. 8069R(d) L3 (SIF.82)

Dear Sirs

Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd.

Thank you for your letter of Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> 1973

If you wish to make formal application for registration of a new society under the Industrial and Provident Soc. Act of 1965 your application will of course be considered. I must point out however, that I am not at present able to add anything to Mr Vollmars' letter of 8<sup>th</sup> November. If the sole object of the proposed new registered company is to sell the piece of land in question, then it does not seem that this purpose is one for which registration is permissible. I am in any case doubtful whether registration of a new society even if it were possible, would help you in your present difficulty. If I understand the position correctly, on cancellation of the registration of the previous society, the piece of land in question became the property of the members. If you were now able to register a new organisation from the previous registered society, and I do not know what measures you would propose to take to ensure that the land became vested in it. It is true that section 3 of the 1965 Act lays down that registration "shall vest in the society all property for the time being vested in any person in trust for the society", but it is by no means clear that the existing members hold the piece of land in such trust.



With regard to the last paragraph of your letter, I am bound to point out that our files contain a certificate to the effect that a resolution to request cancellation of registration was passed at a general meeting duly held on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> 1970

Yours Faithfully C.B.E. White

On Friday February 15<sup>th</sup> 1974

A. Walker --- R. Backhouse----J. Rudge, visited office of Registrar General 17 North Audley Street London at 2.30 pm, to state our case for re-registering the Club House, or to find a way out of the impasse which we are in. As they already had my letter (copy of which follows) this enabled us to start on questions immediately. They were very sympathetic over our position, but after 2 hours of talking, they said they were they could not do anything, but would write to Clegg & Sons re: the points raised. We were shown a certificate of de-registration of the Club House signed by E. Thornton, their Chairman, 2 committee members and his solicitor. Main stumbling block is that in the eyes of the law, no Sheffield Clarion Club House exists as a registered body, and so do not own the Club House grounds in law. Either by going to the courts or by some other way, this will have to be done. We did explore the idea of 4 trustees to be appointed by General Meeting to sell the land, but this may mean tracing all the shareholders, regards their wills, in case shares have been left to sons, daughters etc. This is the law. Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> acquainted Mr Cowley with what had happened, and will call committee meeting after he has heard from London.

Regarding the Registrar's office accepting the de-registration, they pointed out that they have to accept this at face value, as unless special circumstances are shown, they do not interfere with the internal affairs of any club, and it would be up to us re: the conduct of Mr Thornton. To them it was a straight forward case of de-registration owing to the poor affairs of the Club as shown in their letter from Mr Thornton (as he stated lack of members). Also date of their supposed Annual Meeting had been advertised in the Derbyshire Times.

Sheffield Clarion Club House Ltd.

Your ref. 8069R(D) L3 (SIF.82)

Our ref. WDC/ VH.

For the attention of Mr C.B.E. White

Dear Sirs,

Registry of Friendly Societies

In reply to your letter to Messrs Clegg & Sons, Solicitors of 14 Figtree lane Sheffield, we would like to give you a short history of the events leading to the present impasse and hope it will clear the air.

Around 1920 the Sheffield Clarion Club House Limited was formed and approximately 10 acres of land, on the outskirts of Sheffield, near the Derbyshire Moors, was bought. Three old army huts were bought for their use. Membership was by Shareholders, who must hold at least one share of 5/-d each. There was a yearly membership of 2/6p, so that after two years of yearly membership, you had to become a shareholder or leave. Any shareholder wishing to be an official must have had five years admission as a shareholder (this was later altered to two years) Up to the year 1967 the Club House was able to keep going as a viable concern, but then came to a slump. Activities dropped to a low level. In this year a Special; General Meeting was called to discuss a proposition from a Mr Thornton, secretary of the Richmond Motor Club of Sheffield. He stated they had some 300 members with substantial funds, their ages between 20 and 60 years. They required premises for meetings etc. and our

Club House was ideal, and wished to become members as a whole and would make renovations etc. After discussion, the offer was accepted.

We pointed out that, owing to the fact that none of the Richmond Motor Club were shareholders, so could not be officials (in the eyes of the law) until they had been members of the Club House for two years. A caretaker committee would have to be formed of shareholders present, to work with Mr Thornton. This was carried. Since that General Meeting, until 1972, we had no word or letter from Mr Thornton.

In 1968 and 1969 we tried to trace Mr Thornton as we saw to our dismay, that no work had been done at the Club House. Mr Thornton had left his house in Sheffield, so we came to the conclusion that they had abandoned their project.

At this time we had received an application for the use of what was formerly used by the Club as a football field, from a school. We now made determined efforts to find Mr Thornton with help of police etc. We found there was no Richmond Motor Club, none had ever been affiliated to the R.A.C. or the A.C. This was confirmed by the Hallamshire Motor Club who control all the clubs in the Sheffield area. No one had ever heard of them. With the help of the Yorkshire Electricity Board we finally traced Mr Thornton. He was very evasive, but after 4 or 5 meetings with him he stated that he had made a planning application in 1971 /1972 for extensions to the Club House, including a caretaker's house (not exceeding 10 rooms). We were granted an interview with the planning Department of the Sheffield Town hall (where Mr Thornton had made his application on behalf of the Clarion Club House Ltd) as we were not satisfied that things were in order. They agreed to delay the application until we had a special General Meeting. This was held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1973 at Victoria Hall Sheffield. Over 100 shareholders were present. After allowing Mr Thornton to talk, the meeting unanimously passed a resolution; that Mr Thornton be removed from being secretary of the Sheffield Clarion Club House and that the Minutes relating to the offer of 1967 of the Richmond Motor Club be not confirmed.

It was only later last year that we heard from you that Mr Thornton had made an application in 1970 to de-register the club. This was not in order as not one bona fide shareholder had been notified or seen notice of a General meeting in the press. A week after the general Meeting we received a letter from Mr Thornton offering a sum of money to buy out all the shareholders, and asking for admission to the Club. This was refused.

In view of all the above notes we are dismayed that we cannot revert to status quo, as in our view we should be allowed to have our meetings as shareholders of the Sheffield Clarion Club House Limited and decided what we wish to do, to sell the land. Although it has been the intention of the large majority of the shareholders to sell the land, even now some of our younger shareholders, (our children and grandchildren) would still like to carry on though in a very modified way, so we trust you will grant us this application, as, in our view, the propriety of the application by Mr Thornton in 1971 and 1972 to the planning department after de-registering the Sheffield Clarion Club House in 1970 is very much open to question.

Deeds – share register (from 1920 onwards) are in the hands of our Solicitors, Messrs Clegg & Sons. The minute book is held by me, as secretary of Sheffield Clarion Club House Limited, which substantiates all the facts in this report. We are not affiliated to any working men's club affiliation as we do not sell intoxicants, the strongest drink being tea.

Signed

J. Rudge  
General Secretary

On Monday March 11<sup>th</sup> 1974

A Walke r---R. Backhouse---- and myself (J. Rudge) visited solicitor R. Cowley (Clegg & Sons) to discuss letter which Registrar general had sent to solicitor in response to our London visit on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> 1974, copy of which is here, their reference 8069 (D) L3 dated 18<sup>th</sup> February 1974. After discussion of

this solicitor stated that only way to establish ownership by shareholders was to apply to the courts for a ruling, which the solicitor thought would be favourable. Four trustees would then be appointed with power to sell Club House for the shareholders. There are two ways for this, one is for a shareholder to apply for legal aid, the other is for shareholders to instruct solicitors on the behalf of the Club. The second may cost in the region of £1,000 and in each case it would take about 12 months . Solicitor then gave us a legal aid form to study for use in getting legal aid if possible.

Committee Meeting Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup> 1974 at Friends Meeting House Hartshead 1974.  
Present E. Greaves (chair) A. Walker, S. Walker, Mrs M Walker, Stan Walker, J. Walker,  
E. Ardron, E Ardon Mr & Mrs Fletcher, W. Howe, T. Payne, J. Longbottom, H. Guest.  
Minutes of previous committee meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> October passed as read.

J. Rudge and A. Walker then gave account of number of meetings we had held with solicitors and registrar in London to try to get round the question of re-registering the society so that we could sell the land.

After much discussion Secretary pointed out that the registrar General would not budge from his previous declaration that no new registration was possible. This means (as per letter of 18<sup>th</sup> February reference 8069R(D) L3) the shareholders became the owners of the societies, property, and they now hold it trust for each other because of de-registration in 1970. To get over this it means we have to apply to court for a bearing by Queens Counsel for them to give permission for 4 trustees to be appointed with power to sell on behalf of shareholders. With solicitors fees this may cost £1,000. Other way is to apply for legal aid to this. No one at committee would volunteer to have his name put forward.

A resolution was carreid that Mr & Mrs Dealy approach T.Weaving Land Valuer, give him particulars of our problem to see if he would stand costs of our application to courts in conjunction with our solicitor as we had given him first option of the land sale (which would be by public auction) after general meeting of 1972.

Two auditors were appointed Mr & Mrs S Walker .

To sum up, it means that our solicitor when making arrangements for sale of our land, was told by registrar general that we as a company were de-registered. This means that the land in effect is held by shareholders like a trust fund and that to overcome the effects of de-registration we have to apply to court for a ruling to appoint 4 trusted with power to sell the land for the benefit of shareholders.

#### COPY OF A LETTER

REGISTRY OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES  
17 North Audley Street London W1Y 2AP  
tel. 01-629 7001 ext 3.

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Messrs Clegg & sons  
Solicitors  
Victoria Chambers  
14 Figtree Lane  
Sheffield  
S1 1NE

your ref. WDC/VH

our ref. 8069R(D) L3

Date 18<sup>th</sup> February 1974

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Dear Sirs

Sheffield Clarion Club House Limited

As you know, on 15<sup>th</sup> February I had a discussion with Mr Rudge, Mr Backhouse and Mr Walker on the problems which are now facing the unregistered society. I understand that the present wish of the members is to sell either nine tenths or the whole of the land in question, and to register a new society for the purpose of carrying on the existing activities. At present, of course, I cannot comment on the question whether the application to register a new society would be successful. However, it seems to me that even if a new society were registered before an attempt were made to sell the land, the problem of making title to the land would be the same. The legal position on this matter is not clear, but it seems to me that when registration was cancelled in 1970 the existing shareholders became the owners of the society's property, and, so far as I can see, they now hold it in trust for each other. I should be grateful if you would let me know whether you agree with this view of the legal position. If it is correct, on registration of a new society section 3 of the 1965 Act would not operate because this lays down that registration shall vest in the society all property for the time being vested in any person in trust for the society.

This being the case, it seems that in any event the problem will remain of ascertaining precisely who were the shareholders at the date of cancellation of registration. I note that Mr Rudge has a complete register of all shareholders since the society's inception and I therefore wondered whether it would be possible to attempt this task without application to the court. However, I take it that problems will arise in the case of shares which have passed by nomination, will or intestacy. I think that the committee of the society would probably welcome a discussion with you of the problems involved, and would like to know the estimated cost of an application to the court, if such application is the only means of resolving the difficulty. It occurs to me to ask whether the court would have power to make a declaration notwithstanding that the present representatives of some shareholders could not be found.

Yours Faithfully

C.B.E.White.

Committee Meeting held Wednesday April 3<sup>rd</sup> at Hartshead

Present E Ardron (chairman) Sam Walker, A Walker, Gay Frost, Mr & Mrs Fletcher, R. Backhouse, H. Guest, J. Longbottom, W. Howe.

Minutes of previous meeting were passed as read, A. Walker gave a report on talks he and Mrs Ivy Dealy had had with T Weaving regarding him (T. Weaving) acting as guarantor in case our case goes to court for us to establish legal ownership of the land. It was agreed unanimously that report of A Walker be accepted, which means T. Weaving agrees to act as guarantor for costs of case, and he also has 25% of the sale price of the land, after his costs have been met. Carried that J. Rudge, A. Walker, R. Backhouse

Along with T. Weaving settle the matter at meeting with solicitor on Friday April 5<sup>th</sup> at solicitors office. It was carried that no General Meeting to take place, as yet.

J. Rudge gave a report regards a visit he had had from Town Planning officials to his house. They require the Club House to be taken down, land etc, made tidy. I pointed out to them we had no funds to employ anyone to do this, Farnsworth of Dore Road was pulling it down, but they said this was not going fast enough. A meeting had been arranged for A Walker and myself to visit Town Hall on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April for further talks.

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April

We met Mr Grubbing of Town Planning Dept. He showed us a number of photos of Club House, said we should have to pull it down etc. as City Council etc. were perturbed at the state of the Club House.

We explained that we were having talks with Mr T Weaving re-guaranteers etc. so we arranged further talk for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 70 Everingham Road.

Friday April 5<sup>th</sup> 1974

Received at 70 Everingham Road a reporter from Telegraph & Star, who stated he called for information re Club House, as they had had a lot of complaints re condition of same.

I told him I could not give him exact details, but that the so called venture by Richmond Motor Club was off, that no one regretted condition of Club House more than us, and that we were in consultation with the Planning Dept Sheffield Town Hall and Clegg & Sons (solicitors) on proposals to raze the Club House and tidy it up.

Letter received from Mr Martyrs in reply to mine of 1<sup>st</sup> May in which I criticized him for making remarks in press instead of getting in touch with me.

On Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April visited 47 Crowder Crescent, as wife of owner Mr Coulton had told me as a old member of Richmond M/

. C. he might be able to give me Mr Thornton's address as we had still not received old minutes books from him, On knocking on door Mr Coulton said he did not want to say anything, there was a individual inside who would answer me, and out came Mr Thornton, the door was locked and we had a battle royal outside. He stated the registrar had told him to advertise General Meeting in Derbyshire Times and that everything that had happened had proved their suspicions, that we would allow them to build a new Club House etc. and then take it away from them at a General Meeting.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1974

Received a letter from solicitor stating that City Council had pulled down Club House as it was a danger to public and would charge to us

May 4<sup>th</sup> 1974

Interviewed solicitor re pulling down of Club House. This had taken solicitor by surprise, but council had done this as they classed it a danger.

May 8<sup>th</sup> 1974

Interviewed Town Planning re application for a sports centre by Bass Charrington at Dore Moor similar to one by T.Thornton to see where this was in case of Club House. Showed plans etc. based on Door Moor Inn and fields around.

Very odd.

Committee Meeting September 18<sup>th</sup> 1974 at Friends Meeting House Hartshead.

Chairman E. Greaves, A. Walker, J. Rudge, J. Walker, Stan Walker, W. Howe, R. Backhouse, Mr & Mrs S. Fletcher, E. Ardron, H. Guest.

Minutes of April 3<sup>rd</sup> were passed as read, report given of all the happenings since then, which included demolition of Club House by City authorities.

Letter was read from solicitor asking us to break down the list of shareholders into 3 groups, Shareholders living, Shareholders of whom there is no trace, and those with descendants. as counsel wishes for a smaller list for court purposes.

The question of those shareholders created by Richmond M/C. was questioned, but as solicitor had advised us to include these and argue about it after court case had been settled it was agreed this take place.

A committee (R. Backhouse, W. Howe, A. Walker) was carried to go through list of shareholders at secretary's house October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 1974

Met solicitor Mr Cowley along with A. Walker and R. Backhouse. Solicitor stated counsel had suggested all non traceable shareholders be sent a letter stating that they would be expelled from being a shareholder unless they notified secretary. Solicitor will print leaflet and envelopes and we arrange to post these.

After interval of say a month we then call a general Meeting so that all known shareholders living will be represented on the application at court.

November 25<sup>th</sup> 1974

Posted 400 envelopes to non traceable shareholders.

The following have replied

G.Critchlowe	23 West Knowle Terrace	
J.R. Cribley	late 171 Earsham Street	now 11 Longley Crescent
A.Kelsey (dead)	170 City Road	Next kin Miss E Kelsey 170 City Road
H.B.Shaw (dead)	24 Cat Lane	“ “ Horace Shaw 24 Cat Lane
Mrs H.B.Shaw(dead)	24 Cat lane	“ “ “ “ “
Horace Shaw	24 Cat Lane	
R.Whittington (dead)	86 Lyons Street	Next kin B.Whittington 61 Cross House Rd
W.Jennison	Warwick View Castletown Scotland	
V.Jennison (dead)	Next kin W.Jennison	
W.J. Jennison (dead)	Next kin W.Jennison	
Mrs D,L. Jennison (dead)	next kin W. Jennison	
Mr J Telford (dead)	Next kin Mrs J. Brittain 113 hartley Brook Rd	
Mr J.L.Royle (dead)	next kin Mrs A.Royle Flat 34 2 Stanwood Rd S6 5JF	
C.E.Royle (dead)	next kin Mrs A Royle	
G.H.Royle (dead)	next kin Mrs A.Royle	
J.Newbould (dead)	next kin Doris Newbould 45 Ratcliffe Road Sheffield	
Mrs E. Johnson (maiden name E.Money)	Abbey Hotel 944 Chesterfield road Sheffield	
Mrs A.Fretwell	19 John Eaton Almshouses Bunting Nook Sheffield	
Mrs E.Spooner	7 Richmond Hall Drive S13 8TP	
Harry Spooner	“ “	
Mrs V.Fox	35 Catherine Street Sheffield	
Joseph Fox (dead)	next of kin Mrs V Fox	
E.Hallas	70 St Thomas road Crookes Sheffield	
J.W.Hindley	31 Vernon Road Sheffield 17	
H.B.Ward (dead)	next of kin Miss F.E.Ward Storth lodge Moorwood lane Sheffield 17	
Mrs Royle	Abbey Lane	

January 1975

a second set of circulars prepared by the solicitor were posted to over 200 addresses of non traceable shareholders .

Received a number of indignant replies from people who had received them who were not shareholders.

Booked March 26<sup>th</sup> 1975 (Wednesday) for special General Meeting of Shareholders in response to telephone call to solicitor.

Friday January 7<sup>th</sup>

Visited solicitor along with A. Walker to discuss replies we had received to circulars sent out to non traceable shareholders in December and January. Solicitor asked me to prepare a list of all envelopes received and let him have list. These totalled about 200 for first circulars and 140 for second.

I let him have list on Monday February 10<sup>th</sup> 1975

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> 1975

collected another batch of 400 circulars to be sent out . I pointed out to him none of us were happy that the Richmond Club members would be able to come to Special general meeting but he said this would have to be done as the Law Courts would not look kindly at barring them.

Committee Meeting Thursday February 27<sup>th</sup> 1975 Friends Meeting House Sheffield 7.30 pm  
Present Secretary J. Rudge, A Walker, J. Walker, S. Walker, Stan Walker, W. Howe, Mr & Mrs Fletcher, E. Ardron, H. Guest, J. Longbottom.

Minutes of previous meeting were passed as read.

Secretary gave report that 3 lots of circulars had been sent out to find any members living.

Over 400 first, 300 second, and 200 last. Postage cost about £25.

Secretary stated that Law Society would insist that until case is settled Richmond should be classed as shareholders.

Letters were read from various shareholders in reply, Richmond had recorded their letter.

For general Meeting Agenda we should have to be guided by solicitor.

S. Fletcher, W. Howe, J. Rudge volunteered to act on door at special General Meeting.

Letters received in response to 3<sup>rd</sup> Circular Letter

Mrs E.Royle 93 Abbey lane P.R. of G.H.Royle

Mrs E Mount P.R. C.Mount of 236 School Rd Crookes

Mrs L.Thornhill maiden name Miss D.Hall of 23 Brighton Terrace Rd Sheff. Now 2 Longley Hall Rise

R.Barton Horns Inn Holmsfield P.R. of R.Barton Wincobank Avenue.

J.Eaton (junior) 68 Folds Crescent Sheff.

J.Eaton (dead) P.R. J.Eaton (junior)

Mrs A.Eaton (dead) P.R.J.Eaton (junior)

Miss E.Daft 28 Thompson Rd Sheff.

Mrs Daft (dead) P.R. Miss E.daft

W.Daft (dead) “

Miss F Daft (dead) “

J.A.Swingle 9 Allerton Road sheffield S9 3AG

J.J.Swingle (dead) P.R. J.A.Swingle

Mrs E.Swingle (dead) “

W.Rich (dead) 517 Attercliffe Common P.R. J.A.Swingle

Miss D. Thorpe 72 Ellerton Road Sheffield

These sent to solicitor March 10<sup>th</sup> 1975.

Further letters received

A Bell (dead) late of 35 Evelyn Rd P.R. Mrs E.Bell 65 Norton Lees Crescent

Mrs A E.Bell 65 Norton Lees Crescent

Miss B Bell (dead) p.r. Mrs A.E.Bell 65 Norton Lees Crescent

Mrs E Owen 173 Hunter House Road Sheffield maiden name E.Bell

Mrs C Cowen (dead) of Springhouse Rd P/R. Mrs D.Carver 59 Ballifield Rd

Mr Charles Cowen (dead) “ “

Miss F.Cowen (dead) “ 2

Miss M. Howe now Mrs M Garvin 7 Westover road Sheffield S10 5TN

A.Wood (dead) of 70 Upper Valley road P.R.A.Walker 149 Murray rd.

Miss E Bains now Mrs E Edlington 30 Meadow Bank Avenue Sheffield 7

F.Pilgrim(dead) p.r. Miss G Pilgrim 11 Norton Park Crescent Sheffield 8

Mrs E Pilgrim (dead) p.r. “ “

Miss E Walker now Mrs Roper 23 Cragside Whiteley Bay Northumberland

Mr J Easthope 26 Herburton Road West Southbourne Bournemouth

Mr G Taylor Pine Trees Trescome Rd Goldsethny Penzance

H. Wolstenholme 34 Crumpsall Rd Sheffield 5

Special general meeting held Wednesday March 26<sup>th</sup> 1975 at Friends Meeting House Hartshead Sheffield

About 90 shareholders present. Owing to illness Chairman and Vice Chairman were not present, so was moved and carried, that J. Rudge be Chairman.

I pointed out that it had taken all this time with solicitor to try to settle the affairs of the Club and called on solicitor Mr Cowley of Messers Clegg & Sons to explain why. Solicitor said that owing to club being deregistered by Mr Thornton in 1970 we should have to appeal to courts to place the name of the club into the hands of the four trustees named (E. Ardon, E Greaves, J Rudge, A. Walker). To do this the shareholding would have to be whittled down to a more realistic number. Three different circulars had been sent to over 400 shareholders, trying to trace them. We had been successful in about 50 cases. He then read out names of shareholders we could not trace and the resolution following was carried. Only one vote against. The second resolution was read and also carried unanimously.

The first resolution was proposed by W. Howe, seconded by E. Greaves.

The second resolution was proposed by G.F. Burton and seconded by R. Backhouse.

### THE SHEFFIELD CLARION CLUB HOUSE LTD NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of The Sheffield Clarion Club House Limited will be held on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 1975 at Friends Meeting House, Hartshead, Sheffield at 7.30 p.m. for the purpose of considering and if thought fit passing the following Resolution that is to say:-

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that any shareholder who has not attended any meetings of the Society held during the two years preceding this resolution and who fails to acknowledge receipt of two consecutive notices addressed to him by the society at his last address of which he has notified the Society or whose Personal Representative fail to acknowledge receipt of such notices as aforesaid shall be deemed to be guilty of conduct detrimental to the Society and to have acted in manner prejudicial to the best interests of the Society and shall if so determined by the Society in General Meeting be expelled and any shares registered in his name shall be extinguished in accordance with the provisions of Rule 42 of the Society's Rules DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 1975

(signed) J.A.Rudge Secretary

#### Resume

Club house was sold on Tuesday October 28<sup>th</sup> 1975 at Law Soc. Hall Sheffield by Mr T. Weaving for £5,700. (Five thousand seven hundred pounds). In response of letter from Solicitor on 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 1976, A Walker and myself visited him. We pointed out as far as we knew, only debt owing was for bulldozing of Club House by Corporation, solicitor said she would ask discretely about this. £4,700 had been placed on deposit £1,000 had been returned for expenses. £202 had been paid to T. Weaving valuer. A. Walker handed over list of people who had given sums of cash for us to carry on. Solicitor said this would be paid when residue sent out.

Later on in week, as I was a little puzzled how on what basis share out would be, I rang solicitor and pointed out that, though he had now all living shareholders and next of kin, he had not asked for holdings of these. As I did not know what norm. he would use, as some only had one share, some are owed 15/- loan, others 4/- and 5/-, and Rutland with 216 shares. Said he would send list later and asked me to put down all holdings. I had trouble locating Rutland C.C. Sec. according to Information Dept



Dronfield. They put me on to Mrs Barnsley of Walkley Road who showed me their balance sheet listing 216 shares at 25 pence each. I pointed out this should have been loan, but they were sticking it out that it is shares. Have asked them to forward share scripts to me as it is uncertain who has them.  
Re- the 5/- share and 15/- loan, solicitor is prepared to accept that it should have been all share.  
When solicitor returns complete list of shareholders living, I shall know exact number as it was impossible to keep a copy, as over 400 names were written at first postage and 250 at second, to find list for General Meeting, so it is a estimate list I give you for recounting assets.  
Richmond Motor Club must now be classed as existing shareholders, though I am puzzled that Rutland C.C. shares are entered in 1963 in what I think is E.Thorntons hand writing.  
P.S. Letter received Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> with names of next of kin approx 80 and shareholders alive 180.

Committee meeting held Thursday Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> 1976 at hartshead 7.30 pm

Present E. Greaves, E. Ardron, A Walker, Mrs M Hemmings , W. Howe, Stan Walker, H Guest, J Walker, J. Rudge

Minutes of previous meeting were passed as read.

See read out of final list of living shareholders and also list of next of kin.

Sec. gave report of his meeting with solicitor who had said that in his opinion the shares held by Rutland C.C. would be in law considered legal and not as a loan. So we may have to pay out on 216 shares. Much argument took place over this and it was then agreed that we should try to ask solicitor to agree to pay out all money invested by shareholders (£54 for example to be paid Rutland) and then the rest would be shared by all shareholders, living and next of kin, as this would be a fairer way., as if not Rutland would have a 20o/o share.

The list showed	next of kin	80	with	200	shares
	Living shareholders	180	with	650	shares
	Rutland			216	shares @ 5/- a share.

We had not heard from City Council re- costs of clearing ground but solicitor had written them re this

From Newspaper cutting

#### SHEFFIELD CLARION CLUB HOUSE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the winding up of the club has now been completed and that the accounts giving details thereof and of the disposal of the Club's property and of the distribution amongst the various shareholders are now available for inspection. The accounts may be examined at 14 Figtree Lane Sheffield S1 1NE between the hours of 10.00 am and 12.00 noon and 3.00 pm and 4.30 pm Monday to Friday inclusive until the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October 1976 after which date the first and final distribution amongst the shareholders will be made by post without further notice  
DATED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 1976

( Signed ) CLEGG & SONS

14 Figtree Lane  
Sheffield S1 1NE

Solicitors for above – mentioned Club

