

# Annual Return (AR30) form

## Section 1 – About this form

An Annual Return must be completed by all societies registered under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 ('the Act') (including any societies previously registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965) or the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969 ('the Act') (including any societies previously registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1969). The Annual Return must include:

- this form;
- a set of the society's accounts; and
- where required, an audit report or report on the accounts.

A society must submit the Annual Return within 7 months of the end of the society's financial year. Failure to submit on time is a prosecutable offence.

Please note that this form, including any details provided on the form, will be made available to the public through the Mutuels Public Register <https://mutuals.fca.org.uk>.

For guidance on our registration function for societies under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, which includes guidance on the requirement to submit an Annual Return, please see here: <https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg15-12.pdf>

## Section 2 – About this application

<b>Society name</b>	Runcorn Linnets Football Club Limited
<b>Register number</b>	IP29719R
<b>Registered address</b>	The Millbank Linnets Stadium, Stockham Lane, Runcorn, Cheshire
<b>Postcode</b>	WA7 6GJ

Mutual Registration Department  
Financial Conduct Authority  
  
31 JAN 2020

### 2.1 What date did the financial year covered by these accounts end?

3	0
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0	6
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2	0	1	9
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### Section 3 – People

**3.1 Please provide the names of the people who were directors of the society during the financial year this return covers. Some societies use the term 'committee member' or 'trustee' instead of 'director'. For ease of reference, we use 'director' throughout this form.**

<b>Name of director</b>	<b>Month and year of birth</b>	
Michael Bignall	November	1973
Joshua Christian	July	1993
Paul Eastup	February	1966
Joseph Hedley Edwards	May	1939
Darren Law	April	1982
Steven Pritchard	June	1970
James Sidwell	November	1982
John Urquhart	May	1977
Paul Tandy	September	1951
Philip Wainwright	September	1954
Reginald Woods	February	1950

Continue on to a separate sheet if necessary.

**3.2 All directors must be 16 or older. Please confirm this is this case:**

All directors are aged 16 or over

**3.3 Societies are within the scope of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 (CDDA). Please confirm that no director is disqualified under that Act:**

No director is disqualified

**3.4 Please state any close links which any of the directors has with any society, company or authority. 'Close links' includes any directorships or senior positions held by directors of the society in other organisations.**

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3.5 Please provide the name of the person who was secretary at the end of the financial year this return covers. Societies must have a secretary.

Name of secretary	Month and year of birth	
David Bettley	June	1962

### Section 4 – Financial information

4.1 Please confirm that:

- accounts are being submitted with this form
- the accounts comply with relevant statutory and accounting requirements
- the accounts are signed by two members and the secretary (3 signatures in total)

4.2 Based on the accounts, please provide the information requested below for the financial year covered by this return.

Number of members	<b>155</b>
Turnover	<b>137,917</b>
Assets	<b>51,720</b>
Number of employees (if any)	<b>N/A</b>
Share capital	<b>51,720</b>
Highest rate of interest paid on shares (if any)	<b>N/A</b>

4.3 What Standard Industrial Classification code best describes the society's main business? Where more than one code applies, please select the

code that you feel best describes the society's main business activity. You will find a full list of codes here: <http://resources.companieshouse.gov.uk/sic/>

93120

## Section 5 – Audit

Societies are required to appoint an auditor to audited unless they are small or have disappplied this requirement. For further guidance see chapter 7 of our guidance: <https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg15-12.pdf>

### 5.1 Please select the audit option the society has complied with:

- Full professional audit
- Auditor's report on the accounts
- Lay audit
- No audit

### 5.2 Please confirm the audit option used by the society is compliant with the society's own rules and the Act

We have complied with the audit requirements

### 5.3 Please confirm any audit report (where required) is being submitted with this Annual Return

- Yes
- Not applicable

The information below impacts the level of audit required of the society's accounts. Please provide answers to the following questions.

**5.4 Is this society accepted by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) as a charity for tax purposes?**

Yes

No

**5.5 If the society is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) please provide your OSCR registration number.**

Not applicable

OSCR number:	
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**5.6 Is the society a housing association?**

No  Go to section 6

Yes  Go to question 5.7

**5.7 Please confirm which housing regulator you are registered with, and provide the registration number they have given you:**

		Registration number
Homes and Communities Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Scottish Housing Regulator	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The Welsh Ministers	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Department for Communities (Northern Ireland)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

## Section 6 – Subsidiaries

6.1 Is the society a subsidiary of another society?

Yes

No

6.2 Does the society have one or more subsidiaries? (As defined in sections 100 and 101 of the Act)

Yes  Continue to question 6.3

No  Continue to Section 7

6.3 If the society has subsidiaries, please provide the names of them below (or attach an additional sheet)

Registration Number	Name

6.4 Please provide below (or on a separate sheet) the names of subsidiaries not dealt with in group accounts (if any) and reasons for exclusions: (the society must have written authority from us to exclude a subsidiary from group accounts)

Registration Number	Name	Reason for exclusion

## Section 7 – Condition for registration

All societies are registered meeting one of two conditions for registration. These are that the society is either:

- a bona fide co-operative society ('co-operative society'); **or**
- are conducting business for the benefit of the community ('community benefit society').

A society must answer the questions set out in either Section 7A or Section 7B of this form, depending on which condition of registration it meets.

If you are not sure which condition for registration applies to the society please see chapters 4 and 5 of our guidance: <https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg15-12.pdf>

## Section 7A - Co-operative societies

Co-operative societies must answer the following questions in relation to the financial year covered by this return.

**7A.1 What is the business of the society?** For example, did you provide housing, manufacture goods, develop IT systems etc.

**7A.2 Please describe the members' common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations.** In answering this question, please make sure it is clear what needs and aspirations members had in common.

**7A.3 How did the society's business meet those needs and aspirations?** You have described the society's business answer to question 7A.1, and in question 7A.2 you have described the common needs and aspirations of members. Please now describe how during the year that business met those common needs and aspirations.

**7A.4 How did members democratically control the society?** For example, did the members elect a board at an annual general meeting; did all members collectively run the society.



**7A.5 What did the society do with any surplus or profit?** For instance, did you pay a dividend to members (and if so, on what basis); did money get reinvested in the business; put into reserves; used for some other purpose?

## Section 7B - Community benefit societies

Community benefit societies must answer the following questions in relation to the financial year covered by this return.

**7B.1 What is the business of the society?** For example, did you provide social housing, run an amateur sports club etc.

**The society owns and runs a football club in the town of Runcorn and borough of Halton, the first team playing at Step 4 of the National Game system in the Northern Premier League North/West Division.**

**7B.2 Please describe the benefits to the community the society delivered?** Here we are looking to see *what* the benefits to the community were. Community can be said to be the community at large. For example, did you relieve poverty or homelessness through the provision of social housing.

**The club provides sporting opportunities for men, women, youth and junior age group players (boys and girls) in excellent, modern facilities, thereby encouraging a healthy lifestyle and fostering a strong sense of community pride.**

**After two promotions since formation in 2006 and moving to its own purpose-built ground in 2010, the club is the highest-ranked football club in Runcorn in terms of first-team league status, achieving some of the highest crowds at its level of football and representing the town against clubs from throughout the North of England.**

**The club actively engages with other community organisations and charities and has linked up with local businesses who are keen to support grassroots football for the benefit and well being of the community.**

**7B.3 Please describe how the society's business delivered these benefits?** The business of the society must be conducted for the benefit of the community. Please describe *how* the society's business (as described in answer to question 7B.1) provided benefit to the community.

**The club has more than 400 players using our facilities throughout the year.**

**It has supported community initiatives including the "No More Knives" campaign to tackle knife crime and has continued links with charities including Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY)**

**The club has also supported a number of local charities, organisations and schools through the provision of prizes for raffles and tombolas.**

**7B.4 Did the society work with a specific community, and if so, please describe it here?** For instance, were the society's activities confined to a specific location; or to a specific group of people? Please note that in serving the needs of any defined community, the society should not inhibit the benefit to the community at large.

**The club is based at its own complex which has been developed over the last 10 years, after more recently taking on a lease for additional land from Halton Borough Council. It also hires facilities for playing and training elsewhere in the town.**

**The club's facilities are used by outside organisations for summer football and the clubhouse is available for small community gatherings and parties. The District Football Association holds its regular meetings in the clubhouse and the club has staged junior finals on the main stadium pitch. Our ground and clubhouse/toilets are all fully accessible to people with disabilities.**

**Runcorn Linnets offers free admission to accompanied juniors on first-team match days along with concessionary entry to 16-18 year olds, students and Over 65s to ensure that spectating at and enjoying our games is affordable as a**

**leisure activity. We have again joined forces with Halton Borough Council to provide an entry discount to holders of their Leisure Card.**

**7B.5 What did the society do with any surplus or profit?** For instance, did you donate the money; did money get reinvested in the business; put into reserves; used for some other purpose?

**Our small surplus has been held in reserve for further improvement of our facilities.**

**7B.6 Please state any significant commercial arrangements that the society has, or had, with any other organisation that could create, or be perceived as creating, a conflict of interest.** Please tell us how you ensured that any such conflict of interest did not prevent the society from acting for the benefit of the community.

**N/A**

## Section 8– Declaration

The secretary of the society must complete this section.

<b>Name</b>	<b>David Bettley</b>
My signature below confirms that the information in this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge	
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Position</b>	<b>Trust Secretary</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> January 2020</b>

## Section 9 – Submitting this form

Please submit a signed, scanned version of this form along with your accounts and any auditor's report by email to: [mutualsannrtns@fca.org.uk](mailto:mutualsannrtns@fca.org.uk).

Or you can post the form to:

Mutual Societies  
Financial Conduct Authority  
12 Endeavour Square  
London  
E20 1JN

This form is available on the Mutuals Society Portal: <https://societyportal.fca.org.uk>

Registered as a Limited Company in England and Wales No. 1920623. Registered office as above.



# Annual Report 2019

Runcorn Linnets FC Limited  
For the year ended 30 June 2019

Prepared by Burton Beavan

Mutual Registration Department  
Financial Conduct Authority

31 JAN 2020



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# Chairman's Report

## Runcorn Linnets FC Limited For the year ended 30 June 2019

We started our first season in the BetVictor NPL 1st Division West extremely strongly, it was great to see us carrying on our great form from the 17/18 championship-winning season, once we had found our feet.

Any real cup runs, Cheshire Senior Cup aside, continued to elude us and missing out on the playoffs by the skin of our teeth was a bitter-sweet ending to the season.

It's clear that our start to the league in the 19/20 season has not met many people's expectations, but it has to be said that the changes to the league boundaries on the creation of the North West Division have played a huge part in this. It also hasn't helped that the glut of fixture rearrangements sent us on some of our longest away trips, some in midweek, while there was a lack of home league games during the whole of October.

Although we faced another disappointment with an early exit from the FA Cup, we finally saw a cup run, in the Buildbase FA Trophy. This not only delivered some much-needed prizemoney and valuable matchday income but we managed to fit in the biggest home game we have ever had, again generating important funds.

We have also built a great friendship with FC United of Manchester who of course are an other fan-owned club. I would personally like to thank all the volunteers, who helped out in the build-up to the FC United match, including those from our Ladies and Junior sections. We simply could not have managed without them all.

I would like to say a special thank you to Trust Board member Josh Christian, whose work in his community liaison role has been incredible. Josh has been building relationships that we can really shout about and will help push the club forward through great news stories and sponsorship.

Volunteer numbers are also slightly up on last season, which is extremely encouraging. But we can always use more help, especially with jobs around the ground, pitch preparation and behind the bar.

Our gates are continuing to grow, the school season tickets giving free admission to those in the top-two year groups at all Runcorn secondary schools are starting to have a positive impact and at each home match, we see more and more younger supporters in the ground. What is most encouraging is that they have also chosen to come to the cup games and pay to get in.

It's no secret that our junior section has had some issues over the last 12 months. I can't go in to much detail as they are still dealing with these. But I would like to let you know what we did to help to maintain our Junior teams while their executive committee pulled and held it all together. The exec did lose access to the bank accounts for a number of months. During this time, the board agreed to cover some of the operational costs until they regained access to the accounts and started to generate funds again. They are now in a position, where they can start to pay the money back to the Trust. We expect the funds to be paid back in good time, along with an monthly standing order to cover ongoing costs each month.

Our NPLFA team is now up and running. This will provide us an income, which grows depending on what facilities they use, as well as access to players should Ello decide to use them.

As always, fundraising is extremely important to the club. If you have any ideas for fundraising events, please speak to Trust Board member Paul Tandy, who will be leading our fundraising activity.

A massive thank you again goes to all our sponsors - especially Millbank, SoccerMillion, Webb's, Grangeside, Apec Taxis and Jem Recycling. SoccerMillion facilitated the installation of our new borehole, which will give us access to free water to maintain the pitch in dry spells.

Significant investment was made on the pitch over the summer, more than we have ever spent before. This was due to the deterioration it suffered last season with the hot, dry summer. We are now looking into the best options to further develop the playing surface and the facilities in the ground.

Many thanks

Mike Bignall

December 2019





# Trust Information

**Runcorn Linnets FC Limited**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2019**

## **Board Members**

- Mike Bignall (chairman)
- Jon Urquhart (vice-chairman) - resigned from the board post year end
- Josh Christian
- Paul Eastup (Director)
- Hedley Edwards
- Darren Law
- Steve Pritchard
- James Sidwell
- Paul Tandy
- Phil Wainwright
- Reg Woods - resigned from the board post year end
- Rob Findlay (vice-chairman) - appointed to the board post year end

## **Trust Secretary**

- David Bettley

## **Registered Office**

The Millbank Linnets Stadium  
Stockham Lane  
Murdishaw  
Runcorn  
Cheshire  
WA7 6GJ

## **Accountant**

Burton Beavan  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
112-114Witton Street  
Northwich  
CW9 5NW



# Statement of the board

## Runcorn Linnets FC Limited

For the year ended 30 June 2019

The Board are required to prepare financial statements for each financial period, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the association and of the income and expenditure of the association for that period. They consider that the Society is exempt from an audit.

In preparing those financial statements the Board are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to do so

The Board members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the association and to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1965 -78. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the association and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Board on the 5.12.2019 and signed on its behalf by:

David Bettley

Secretary



# Accountants Report

**Runcorn Linnets FC Limited**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2019**

We report on the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

## **RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS & REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS**

As explained in the Statement of the Board of Management's Responsibilities, set out on page four, the board is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to carry out procedures designed to enable us to report our opinion in accordance with applicable law and Standards for reporting accountants' applicable in the United Kingdom.

## **BASIS OF OPINION**

Our work was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Standards for Reporting Accountants and so our procedures consisted of preparing the accounts with the records kept by the society and making such limited enquiries of the officers of the society as we considered necessary for the purpose of this report. These procedures provide the only assurance expressed in our opinion.

## **OPINION**

In our opinion the income and expenditure account and the balance sheet for the period ending 30 June 2018 is in agreement with the books of account kept by the society and that, on the basis of the information contained in the books of account, they comply with the requirements of the Industrial & Provident Societies Act 1965, the Friendly and Industrial Provident Societies Act 1968 & the Cooperative & Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

In our opinion the society has satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the accounts for the period ended 30 June 2019 as set out in the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 and the Friendly and Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1968 and did not at any time within the period fall within any of the categories of society not entitled to such exemption.

Burton Beavan

Chartered Certified Accountants

112-114 Witton Street

Northwich

Cheshire

CW9 5NW



# Profit and Loss

## Runcorn Linnets FC Limited For the year ended 30 June 2019

	NOTES	2019	2018
<b>Sales</b>			
Awards Evening		246	857
Bar Takings and Refreshments		21,291	-
Centenary Celebrations		-	2,294
Cup Income		3,600	4,600
Fundraising - Net of Expenses		10,989	7,241
Grants and Donations Income		5,317	4,535
Interest Received		11	7
Match Day Receipts		54,513	47,958
Membership Income Received		11,129	10,512
Merchandise Sales - Net of Expenses		1,349	(49)
Programmes and Advertising		1,681	2,131
Season Tickets		5,206	5,435
Sponsorship		22,586	10,059
<b>Total Sales</b>		<b>137,917</b>	<b>95,580</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>		<b>137,917</b>	<b>95,580</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>General Administration</b>			
200 Club Prizes		5,365	4,300
Accountancy fees		3,480	1,790
Affiliation, shared gate and other fees		4,405	2,646
Bank fees		-	159
Bar cost repairs		1,788	-
Bar costs - Beer festival		4,024	-
Bar Costs and Catering		11,238	2,764
Coach Hire		152	748
Depreciation Expenses		2,718	3,291
Employer NI		118	-
FA Fines		3,015	1,802
General Expenses		89	1,158
Ground expenses inc utilities		5,142	(1,115)
Ground Rental Expenses		1,200	70
Insurance		2,611	3,341
IT costs		156	-
League fees		2,319	-
Legal and Licensing		188	2,020
Match Officials		2,044	3,406
Medical Equipment and Physio		270	254
PayPal fees		191	114
Pension costs		26	-



	NOTES	2019	2018
Playing Kit and Laundry		3,441	(705)
Premises Expenses		-	6,421
Printing and Stationery		-	140
Programme Production		3,712	3,817
Staff wages		71,109	55,945
Telephone and Internet		1,138	324
Training and pitch hire costs		3,301	200
Travel and Subsistence		75	233
<b>Total General Administration</b>		<b>133,314</b>	<b>93,124</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>133,314</b>	<b>93,124</b>
<b>Net Profit (Loss)</b>		<b>4,603</b>	<b>2,456</b>



# Balance Sheet

## Runcorn Linnets FC Limited As at 30 June 2019

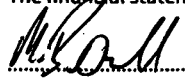
	NOTES	30 JUN 2019	30 JUN 2018
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Plant and machinery		5,154	6,872
Land and buildings		16,000	17,000
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>21,154</b>	<b>23,872</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Runcorn 200 Club Account		8,866	8,026
Runcorn Lloyds Account		24,083	10,762
Runcorn Savings Account		6,156	5,469
Cash Account		65	51
Inter company transactions		850	-
Accrued Income		12,000	-
Inventory		-	441
Other Debtors		-	122
<b>Total Current assets</b>		<b>52,020</b>	<b>24,871</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>			
Accruals		20,148	1,500
PAYE Payable		1,306	-
<b>Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		<b>21,454</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>Net current assets (liabilities)</b>		<b>30,566</b>	<b>23,371</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>51,720</b>	<b>47,243</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>51,720</b>	<b>47,243</b>
<b>Capital</b>			
Current Year Earnings		4,603	2,456
Ordinary Shares		155	281
Retained Earnings		46,962	44,507
<b>Total Capital</b>		<b>51,720</b>	<b>47,243</b>




## Client Approval

**Runcorn Linnets FC Limited**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2019**

The financial statements were approved by the Board on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and signed on its behalf by

.....(Chairman - Mike Bignall)

.....(Director - Paul Eastup)

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## Runcorn Linnets FC Limited For the year ended 30 June 2019

### 1. Accounting Policies

#### Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been compiled on a basis which enables profits to be calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice and which provides sufficient and relevant information to enable the completion of a tax return.

#### Turnover

There is a rolling membership, the annual renewal date falls on the anniversary of the date on which the member joined, and consequently income is stated on a receipts basis.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided, at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Buildings	25 year Straight line
Plant and machinery	5% reducing balance

### 2. Fixed Asset Schedule

	<u>Land and buildings</u>	<u>Plant and machinery</u>
<b>Cost</b>		
Balance b/f	25,000.00	13,030.64
Additions	-	-
Disposals	=	=
Balance c/d	<u>25,000.00</u>	<u>13,030.64</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
Balance b/f	8,000.00	6,158.66
Charge for the year	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,718.00</u>
Balance c/d	<u>9,000.00</u>	<u>7,876.66</u>
<b>NBV</b>		
As at 30th June 2019	<b>16,000.00</b>	<b>5,153.99</b>
As at 30th June 2018	17,000.00	6871.98





### 3. Creditors

Accruals	2,040
Deferred Income	18,108
PAYE Liability	1,306
	21,454

### 4. Debtors

Inter-company transactions	850
Accrued Income	12,000

### 5. Share Capital

Allocated, called up and fully paid shares  
Each member holds one share of £1 in the society.

These shares carry no rights to dividends or distributions on a winding up. Each member has a right to vote at a members meeting.

Under the Associations rules share capital is non-refundable; if a person ceases to be a member, the amount subscribed for the share becomes the property of the association.

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
As at 1st July 2018	281	159
Issued during the year	7	122
Ineligible applications	122	-
Written off on lapses in membership	11	-
As at 30th June 2019	<b>155</b>	<b>281</b>