

FORMATION OF A CRICKET CLUB AT RAINHILL.

On Monday evening a meeting of the inhabitants of Rainhill was held at the hostelry of Mr. Shortt, the Railway and Commercial Hotel, to consider the desirability of forming a cricket club in the village. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. Holland Owen, and amongst a numerous gathering there were present Messrs A. Carr, R. Mawdsley, J. J. Owen, J. Thornburn, W. Johnson, jun., G. Robinson, J. Pickering, J. V. Evans, E. P. Critchley, Sumner, T. Rogers, T. Parker, J. Johnson, A. Roby, W. Roby, Bell, &c.

The Chairman said they had met that evening, after a preliminary meeting, to take into consideration the advisability of forming a cricket club in Rainhill. As he had said they had already held a meeting, and that was the second gathering which had been called through Mr. W. Johnson, jun., and Mr. Shortt, who thought they ought to revive the old cricket club in the village. They desired to know what the feelings of the young men of the township were on the matter, and, if necessary, a committee should be appointed to see Mr. Strettle with the view of getting the field they formerly played upon. If they decided to have a club they might get the same field, and thus save the expense of relaying a crease. A deputation was appointed at the first meeting to wait upon Mr. Strettle, but that deputation had not done its duty, and no arrangements had really been made. What they practically had to decide that night was whether they should have a cricket club or not. They formerly had a cricket club which was a success financially, and during the time it was in vogue the cricket played by the members was considered first class. The record of the matches was very creditable, but he believed it was owing to the younger portion of the inhabitants of the township not taking it up that the club fell through. They would be pleased to know that at the end of its career there was a good balance left in the hands of the treasurer. That balance was divided between the Rainhill National School and the Roman Catholic School. That balance accrued from the Rainhill sports. He had no doubt that if they decided to have a club they would receive support from outside players. He was sure if it was their wish that a club should be formed in Rainhill they would receive the support of the inhabitants, who would be only too willing to help them. Then in the second place he felt sure they would muster a good eleven, and their club would not only be a club in name but one they would be proud of.

Mr. Thomas asked if in case they could not get Strettle's field, had they any idea where they could get another from.

The Chairman said that at present they had not, but this would be a matter left in the hands of a committee which would be formed.

Mr. A. Carr suggested that a committee be formed to go round and canvass to see what funds could be raised.

The Chairman said that unless they decided that night to have a club in Rainhill, it seemed to him they could not get subscriptions. The first question they had to decide was whether it was the wish of the meeting that a club should be formed in Rainhill.

Mr. T. Critchley said that if they could get Mr. Strettle's field, and no football was played on the field, he would give them £8 for the first year.

Mr. T. Parker and Mr. Johnson Owen seconded the motion that a cricket club should be formed.

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