

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 12th August 2024 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Peter Brook, Allan Staerck, Simon Bareham, Ayo Fraser, Louis Browne, George Hussey, Kathy Briggs, Charlie Samways, Lloyd Vercoe, Niamh Vercoe, Guy Livingston, Timmy Edwards

1. Apologies: James Keen, Pete Dacey, Rob Sullivan, Chris Wood

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

The minutes were approved, proposed by Allan and seconded by Lloyd. All in favour.

3. Matters Arising:

- Confirmed that Alan Haggerty will be helping to referee at the 10's tournament.
- Allan and Guy still trying to source suitable brush heads for the boot scrubber.
- Moretti now in stock to replace Carlsberg.
- The defibrillator has been installed. Training to be arranged.
- Sarah Samways will head a sub-committee to organise future sponsorship.
- Noel very happy to accept Life Honorary Membership. Article published in West Dorset Magazine.
- Ayo proposed, Allan seconded that Alex take over the cleaning at £15/hour as from beginning of September. All in favour.

4. Chairman's Report:

Many thanks to Peter for chairing the last meeting. Simon was welcomed to the meeting as Vice Chairman.

Very good friendly match at Honiton on Saturday, two clubs with very similar values.

Palmer's have offered to sponsor an electronic scoreboard at £3200 over a three-year period as a headline sponsor of the club. This was agreed though the wording of 'headline sponsor' needs to be clarified given we have other major sponsors. Palmer's would look to continue similarly after this three-year period.

Nantes may be interested in sponsorship. Peter to contact to discuss.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Current balance is £70,895.05. Outgoings include kit and training equipment.

Bar takings in the new financial year are £11,630 to date, including £2,260 in July. Next year we need to concentrate on getting more clubhouse events off-season.

Various sponsors have come forward for junior kit, including Jo Ashton for U16 girls and Bridmet U16 boys.

As regards the club development project, it was agreed to use £10-15k from the bank account to take this forward, together with £20k from the Matthews legacy and approx £10k from the sale of bricks at £48/brick. However it is essential to get some tenders for the work asap to ascertain more specific estimate of costs. It should be noted that any enquiries for clubhouse bookings next year may be impacted by the building work.

6. Secretary's Report:

Adult player registration needs to be done on GMS.

7. VP's Report:

Agreed that fixture books should be printed again this year. Peter will ask Creeds for a proof for discussion at the next meeting.

AS/GL

PB

PB

8. Fixtures:

Good fixture against Honiton on Saturday. If possible would like to arrange a return fixture but Honiton's fixture list very packed.

10's tournament on Sat 17th will be a round robin, not a knock-out. Teams will be arriving 9.30/9.45 for a 10.30 start. Burger van booked from 10am.

Next season's fixture list has been circulated. Will look for a social fixture for the gap between 21/9-19/10.

14th September – Past Captains buffet lunch before 1st home league fixture against East Dorset Dockers. Taj Mahal to be asked to sponsor. Band/disco to be booked for the evening.

2nd November – fireworks and band. No league fixture. England v NZ on TV.

21st December – Xmas do following Puddletown at home.

1st Feb – Sponsors lunch. Blandford at home.

22nd March – VPs lunch. North Dorset at home.

Peter will check availability of Liz Beale to provide catering for Sponsors and VPs lunches.

JH

9. Coaching / Team Management /Captains report:

Now halfway through pre-season training. Numbers were good for the 1st block averaging 30 but have dropped to around 20 for the 2nd block, possibly due to holidays.

21 players have been sponsored to date which is a massive positive.

Good team at Honiton on Saturday considering some players away and some injuries.

Having problems finding people to help with strapping for next season.

St Johns will provide cover for the 10's tournament, cost £200.

Will need to target support for the 1st league game away to Weymouth on 7th September.

PB

10. Junior's report:

Season will start on Sunday 8th September.

11. Social report:

Already partly discussed under Fixtures report.

Query whether to do raffle at the 10's tournament or maybe use scratch cards.

Nick Courtice will be joining the social group. Due to work commitments Oz will mainly be involved on Saturdays with raffles, six nations etc.

12. Grounds Maintenance:

Pitches are all mowed and will be marked up on Wednesday. A few rabbit holes are re-appearing.

13. Business Development Report:

The bar will be open from 11am on Saturday. Guy will check cover for the evening.

Moretti already priced up ready to replace Carlsberg as soon as it runs out.

Bottleman recycling to be arranged on a pay per pick up. Lloyd to get two bins to be able to include plastics and cans.

Possible problem with parking at the 10's due to some areas not being accessible. Allan will advise Will, also that the coach spaces need to be coned off.

GL/LV

AS

14. Club Development:

a) Safeguarding – not heard yet re safeguarding audit.

b) School liaison – nothing to report.

c) Publicity – Allan queried the website costs at £30/week. This cost does also cover licences etc so thought good value for money.

Charlie will be unable to write match reports this season. Kathy will email VPs to see if anyone can help with this.

d) Volunteers – ongoing

e) Development Plan – awaiting confirmation of planning permission for the new development.

15. AOB:

a) Kelly to be asked to create a shared calendar of events for us to upload our events to avoid any future duplications.

b) Email circulation lists need to be kept up to date.

c) Julian will ask Paul re strapping cover. George to check with the football club.

d) Agreed that pictures of the senior players together with their sponsorship details and QR codes to access should be on the noticeboard facing the entrance. These should also be available on the website.

e) The LC had received a small legacy for the specific use of the rugby club. This was used to replace the lights in the clubhouse.

f) Lloyd will be clearing out the boiler room. Anything not claimed as wanted will be thrown away after two weeks.

g) Allan advised that once the bags of gravel used to deter the travellers are no longer required, then we can use them.

KB

GL

JH/GH

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm, next meeting Monday 9th September at 6.30pm