

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club**  
**Held on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at the Rugby Pavilion**

**Present:** Simon Bareham, Allan Staerck, Peter Brook, Ayo Fraser, George Hussey, Louis Browne, Kathy Briggs, Lloyd Vercoe, Niamh Vercoe, Jim Jones, Guy Livingston, Chris Wood

**1. Apologies:** Julian Hussey, Pete Dacey, Charlie Samways, Nic Courtice, James Keen, Wayne Munro

**2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:**

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

**3. Matters Arising:**

- Lloyd will cost floodlights for the end of clubhouse but we need to be mindful of expenditure given substantial outlay on proposed development.
- Possibility of holding Registration day on 23<sup>rd</sup> August but may not go ahead due to short notice and availability of relevant personnel.
- Outstanding - James to pull together list of people associated with the club who have food vans who could be approached to help with catering for future events.
- Pictures to be used for the laminated boards in front of the bar to be taken from social media and best chosen. Also to include some of the old black and white team photos and the BRFC emblem.
- Tuck hoarding has been installed. Peter will contact Mystic re the 'Respect the Match officials' sign. Two large back-to-back signs required. Creative are making a large Palmers Brewery sign to be placed under the scoreboard.

LV

JK

PB

**4. Chairman's Report:**

Many thanks to everyone for all their hard work over the three Lions weekends. It was great to see the Clubhouse so full and vibrant.

The AGM was very straightforward but it was a shame about the lack of attendees. Perhaps greater publicity required in future.

**5. Treasurer's Report:**

Balance end of July - £63,306.47

Current balance - £58,514.08

Major outgoings include renewal of VEO subscription and Junior vouchers. Also £5k for site investigation for proposed development.

YTD bar takings - £21,692.50

The bar did well over the three Lions weekends. The Sky contract was a three-month package for RFU affiliated clubs and is about to expire.

The seniors need to be encouraged to contact their sponsors to agree commitment for next season.

**6. Secretary's Report:**

Four boxes of sanitary provisions have been received from the RFU. The committee agreed these should be stored in the First Aid room.

The D&W AGM is next Wed at Salisbury.

**7. VP's Report:**

The fixture book is nearly ready to be sent to Creeds.

Three new VPs were signed up during the Lions weekends.

Lloyd and Jim have agreed the best way to set up the social membership is to download it into Apple Wallet. Some cards will be printed for VPs and those who do not use Apple wallet.

Jim has been investigating bar margins. Agreed there would be small increases up to Christmas along with more controls, stock audits etc. If the margin is not hit by year end, then further price increases will be looked at.

A list of personnel authorised to work behind the bar needs to be on display. A nominee from every age group should receive training.

#### **8. Fixtures:**

Crewkerne have pulled out of the 10's tournament this Saturday. Kick off is 11am with the last game at 3.30pm.

As the clubhouse is booked for the evening on Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> August it was agreed the Brown Bowler should kick off at 2pm.

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> August – pre-season friendly against Chard 2nds.

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Sept – first league game home to Weymouth.

#### **9. Coaching / Team Management /Captains report:**

As of this evening only 10 players confirmed for the 10's tournament.

Training numbers also low but to be expected during the holiday season.

Start of season looking ok, good blend of colts with seniors.

The pre-season schedule of fixtures has now been finalised and Charlie will be promoting these on the socials asap.

#### **10. Junior's report:**

All set for the season.

Lloyd thanked the club for all the support for the USA trip which went really well. Bridport News writing an article hopefully to be published this Thursday. Guy to contact Andrew re possibility of article in Rugby World. Also contact West Dorset Magazine?

GL

#### **Girls/Ladies Rugby (Pete Dacey)**

Discussion on bar opening for the Women's World Cup.

England play Australia on Sat 6<sup>th</sup> September, ko 5pm. This follows the opening league game of the season against Weymouth so will be on TV after the match.

Depending on how England progress will look at opening for the Quarter finals on Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Sept and Semis on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Subsequently decided to open Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug for the opening match England v USA.

#### **11. Social report:**

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug after the Brown Bowler both teams will have a social evening in town.

Possible wine and cheese evening. Also an evening with Richard Balson.

#### **12. Grounds Maintenance:**

Pitches all mown but ground very hard due to lack of rain. Sean and Stuart will mark up the pitches.

Rabbit holes becoming a problem again. Guy to try fox repellent.

GL

#### **13. Business Development Report**

- We are now out to tender for the works. Mac Construction have replied saying they are busy until Spring so will only be able to do the works if we are putting the project on hold.

- Tender returns are due on 1<sup>st</sup> September... it would have been a week early but I'm on leave until then, so thought we may as well give them the week.
- Once returns are in and checked I'll give an update ahead of next Committee meeting
- What was the Committee view about when the works should be done? Are you happy for the Contractor to carry out during the Season, or would you prefer to wait until we have some down time in playing? We will take advice from the Contractors once they start looking at this to see what they can feasibly do within a Live Club setting.
- Discussion is needed on Finances and understanding on what building cashflow requirements vs available funds.

It was felt the ideal start time for the works would be Feb/March with a view to completion in time for the Awards day. However we will need to wait for the tenders before making a final decision.

To date 150 bricks have been sold and £5400 received from CrowdFunder. The scheme cannot be re-run but remains open. Once the work has been agreed it was felt that sales of bricks would pick up again.

#### **14. Club Development:**

a) Safeguarding – all coaches need to complete the relevant courses before September. Query whether if we visit Somerset do we need to advise the RFU. The tour/tournament organiser is responsible to do this.

#### **15. AOB:**

- a) At present the cold tub is stored in the Undercroft where it could be damaged. Agreed that the BBQ should be moved to the container. Guy will send Simon the dimensions so that he can get a cover made for it.
- b) Many of the training posts are broken. Ayo to buy some new spikes for them.
- c) RFU courses fixed for 8<sup>th</sup> September. Agreed the next Committee meeting be brought forward to 1<sup>st</sup> September.
- d) Chris will ask Lewis for better access to GMS so he is able to do a better breakdown of memberships.
- e) Pressure washer required for grilles in kitchen. Probably able to use Palmers.
- f) Guy suggested Barracudas be asked to buy a new cylinder for the BBQ in return for free use next year. Agreed.

GL/SB

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm, next meeting Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 6.30pm