

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club  
Held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at the Rugby Pavilion**

**Present:** Julian Hussey, Peter Brook, Ayo Fraser, Allan Staerck, Kevin Hart, Louis Brown, Guy Livingston, Simon Hussey, Stuart Briggs, Kathy Briggs, Ross Duncan, Pete Dacey, Lloyd Vercoe, Sam Petchey

**1. Apologies:** None

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

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

**3. Matters Arising:**

- White boards for the Undercroft priced at £54 from MV. Guy also found 8x4ft 2.00mm thick at £33.60 from Building Plastics. Delivery cost not known.
- Allan has obtained quotation for formal after match shirts. Will not ask John Dalton to sponsor as he has been very generous in other areas. Also decided not to have a sponsor logo as well as the club badge as potentially would need to be changed each year.
- No response from Darren Poole re possible event on 29<sup>th</sup> July.

**4. Chairman's Report:**

Fireworks booked for 4th November. I would like to create a working party to share the responsibility of this event. Volunteers required please.

Ed Taylor who coordinates the West Dorset Huddle has created a WhatsApp group for easier communication. He would like to arrange a visit to us towards the beginning of next Season with John Constable accompanying him.

Thanks to Ayo and Stuart for their work with the LC on their bill from last year.

**5. Treasurer's Report:**

Draft accounts for the year to 30 April 2023 for the Rugby Club Operations and for the bar had been circulated. These are currently being reviewed and verified by Simon Hartley with a view to finalising by the month end. No material changes in numbers are expected. Club operations show a loss of £6500, with the main increase being cost of kit at £18,000. Some costs relate to the previous year, such as the Junior Awards evening. Subscriptions and sponsorship have increased. We must accept we will be strongly challenged on these figures at the AGM. In future we will need to be more cost conscious.

BRFC Enterprises only covers 9 months trading and shows strong sales and clubhouse hire. It also included one off set up costs of £7000. It was agreed that Changing Room cleaning should be charged to the Rugby Club. Also the legal charges should be split between the Club and BRFC Enterprises. This will severely increase the Club losses but show that BRFC Enterprises has made a healthy profit.

The LC invoice for the past season has reduced following our meeting with them. It will be paid over three months. In future costs for utilities should decrease, especially with the installation of solar panels.

Current balance is £49,493.60.

Congratulations were given to Ayo who is now officially an England Rugby Advanced Coach (Level 3).

**6. Secretary's Report:**

We have a Bath Rugby day camp booked for the 26th July. They will need the pitches and access to the changing rooms and the toilets.

Dorset & Wilts have the AGM on the 19th July at Salisbury RFC  
Age grade registration has opened in GMS. All senior players to register and then junior players parents have been asked to re-register their children. All to be done on GMS  
Cleve RFC U10s touring next year would like a game with our U10s on the Sunday. Contact is Paul Douglas 07542 001300. Charlie English will contact him.

#### **7. VP's Report:**

Nothing to report.

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

Next season's league fixtures are available on the RFU website. I have not received any requests to alter fixtures or to arrange fixtures on vacant dates. There is a meeting to discuss Cup competitions this evening.

To date I have had positive responses from Blandford Forum, Crewkerne, Wheatsheaf Cabin Crew and Puddletown for the Tens Tournament.

Chard and Swanage & Wareham will not be taking part.

Wimborne, Yeovil, Weymouth, Lytchett Minster, Rory Greening have not replied to date.

As nobody has come forward to take on the Fixture role Kevin will kindly chase up the teams who have not replied.

A working group of Julian, Peter, Ayo and Ross will meet to discuss ideas of how to maximise the day. Possibly a band in the evening?

JH,PB,AF,RD

#### **9. Coaching report:**

The touch sessions are coming to an end but have had consistent numbers of around 40. It has fostered a good sense of club togetherness through all age groups.

#### **10. Juniors report:**

The only key issues/concerns to note are:

- Running of Kitchen: We have had contact from one of the young ladies that helped in the kitchen to say she is keen to help out, but we need a person or a company to manage this.
- Sourcing of food: A more simplified system to be setup for this year and ongoing.

Other points to note:

- We will set up a Bar WhatsApp group for Volunteers for the Junior Section.
- We have been approached by a woman who has recently moved to the area and is interested in Rugby Club Bar work. She has worked in several in the past and thinks it's a great way to meet anew likeminded people in the community. Lloyd has contact details if of interest. Contact details passed to Stuart.
- We will be arranging a Junior Coaches meeting this month to pick up on Training Compliance, Registration, Tag Festival , etc . Clubhouse should be available most evenings. Just need to check with LC they have no bookings. Copy of Jesse's report attached separately.

SB

Lloyd has hopefully identified three potential Safeguarding personnel.

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

Stuart, Sam, Oz and Timmy will meet to decide on how to promote World Cup coverage and which matches to show. Volunteers will be required to help with the bar.

The pre-World Cup warm-up games are on Amazon at a cost of £415+VAT. We can only show three as 5<sup>th</sup> August booked months ago for an event. Agreed that Stuart should book the package.

SB,SP,TE,Oz

SB

## **12. Grounds Maintenance:**

The pitches will be white-lined in the next couple of weeks.

Agreed Guy to carry on as League contact.

The LC should have advised us of the recent Wipeout World event held on the pitch. We need to be aware when caravans are legally using the grounds. Queried whether we should be entitled to part of any payment to the LC. Peter to speak to the LC. If it happens again next year can we make more of it, by opening the bar, providing food etc?

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

Bar - June events approx £1300 takings

Bar Bookings:

15th July Bridport Barracudas 3pm to 6.30pm. Guy will be there at 3pm to help Rachel with the initial rush. Agreed to charge them £100 and provide use of BBQ FOC.

5th August Diamond Wedding 3pm to 9pm.

18th August Nantes 5pm to 9pm to be confirmed, Guy to do the bar. BBQ to be provided.

19th August Tens, details to be confirmed.

27th August Baby Shower pm, we need to staff bar.

1st September Wedding confirmed 3pm onwards.

2nd September Club weekend details to be confirmed. Ross, Pete and Lloyd to sort out.

Agreed that Kelly Heath's Race Night in memory of Keith Readings should be held after the World Cup as clubhouse very busy Sept/October. Stuart to speak to Kelly.

23rd September Enquiry for Colfox Reunion 80 people. Cannot do as same date as England V Chile.

We had to ditch 1/3rd keg Guinness. We have 1 unopened left sell by date end June. Agreed it should be fine for Tens tournament.

Sponsorship: Shirt draw £4575, Player Awards £225 plus shorts from Woodman. John Dalton has offered to sponsor two away match coaches. Amount to be agreed. Website needs to be updated. Stuart to speak to Tom.

BRFC Brown Sign: Cost £1137.88. Peter and Stuart will donate £150 each towards cost.

Given need to be cost conscious at present, agreed to consider later. Allan to ask if the LC will make a contribution.

Team Shelters: Planning permission was approved for 2 plastic shelters, 3m x 2m high, no specified depth, in the application for the hoardings. Agreed to go ahead. Should be 5m distant from pitch. Need to check measurement from junior pitch. If not sufficient, proceed only with single rather than double shelter.

## **14. Club Development:**

a) Safeguarding – already covered.

b) School liaison – 9 schools already committed to Tag Festival

c) Publicity – article on Stuart and BRFC in July West Dorset Magazine. Future articles for Bridport News on Training and Ayo's coaching achievements.

d) Volunteers – some identified but pool needed for bar.

e) Development Plan – ongoing.

## **15. AOB:**

a) AGM to be held Friday 28th July. Two weeks notice to be given. Needs to be sent out on GMS first.

b) Lloyd will advertise for help in kitchen. Ross may know people who can help.

c) Louis will run Tackle height presentations, first to the seniors then down through the wider club.

d) Louis is now on the RFU Discipline team.

RD/PD/LV

SB

SH

SB

AS

- e) Ross queried whether more cones/bibs are stored anywhere at the club. A full list of any equipment needed to be given to Louis as may be available through Premiership and other clubs.
- f) Allan has offer of small table football. Does the club want it?
- g) Unfortunately Carlos is leaving soon to go to Colfox School.
- h) Potential problems with BT Sport need checking.
- i) Peter asked for ideas for something in memory of Charles Rowan, possibly connected with the bar.
- j) Apologies will be sent to D&W re AGM in Salisbury next week.

Winners of the Sponsors Shirt Draw 2023/24

Front – West Country Catch

Back – A J Wakely

Sleeve – R & D Tuck Thatching

Meeting closed 8.50pm, next meeting Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm