Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 8th June 2026 at the Rugby Pavilion

Present: Julian Hussey, Peter Brook, Simon Bareham, Allan Staerck, Ayo Fraser, Louis Browne, Guy Livingston, Kathy Briggs, Lloyd Vercoe, Jim Jones, Niamh Vercoe, Sarah Samways

1. Apologies: Chris Wood, George Hussey, Pete Dacey, Wayne Munro, Lou Edwards

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:
The minutes were approved.

3. Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere):

- Howdens to send quote for insurance cover.
- Drainage issues to be looked at in-house instead of expense of paying for dye test.
- Letter to D&W regarding Safeguarding issue followed up but no constructive response.
- Still no resolution from D&W regarding fines for late submission of results.
- Due to safety aspects need to consider different options to deal with the rabbit problem, possibly with ferrets. To be checked with Pest Control/Rentokil. Jim to contact Roger the 'Rat Catcher'. **JJ**
- James not yet contacted Tom Gamwell re updating of website. **JK**
- Agreed that blackout blinds better option than curtains. Pete Wyrill at Hillarys and ABC to be contacted for quotes. **LV**
- Julian and Lloyd to discuss basic costings for 60th anniversary event. Possibility of Dylan Hartley as a speaker. **JH/LV**
- New Veo camera has been purchased.
- Guy to obtain details of blazers from Barton and pass to Chris. **GL**

4. Chairman's Report:
Many thanks for all the support and messages following the passing of Simon.
Advice has been sought from Porter Dodson regarding the proposed agreement from the LC. Once their opinion has been received meeting will be arranged with the LC to discuss.

5. Treasurer's Report:
Balance end of May - £73,934.41. Main expenditure included the Veo camera and additional architects fees.
Bar end May - £16,916.70
Bar to date - £20,538.75
First tax return for the bar covering 1 Nov to 30 April has been submitted. A return will now need to be submitted every quarter. Going forward will need to be more diligent with record keeping and optimise opportunities for VAT recovery. New invoice system should help.
Soldo card to be acquired for Lou to use for food purchases etc.
Jim feels that price increases for the bar should be implemented over the summer as more non-rugby sales in that period.
Initial figures for the accounts would seem to indicate approx £1k profit for Enterprises but must bear in mind that costs include £15k already spent on the extension. Bar staff costs also nearly doubled from last year to £12k and will need to be more controlled in future. The LC invoice also higher at £9,700 compared to £8k last year.
BRFC looking at a profit of around £4k, down from last year. Expenditure on TV sports packages increased considerably and will be cut back in future.

<u>6. Secretary's Report:</u>
Nothing to report.

<u>7. VP's Report:</u>
Following the AGM Peter will email the VPs to remind them that to be eligible to apply payment must be received before entering the ballot for international tickets.

<u>8. Fixtures:</u>
Nothing to report.

<u>9. Coaching / Team Management / Captain's reports:</u>
Unanimous appreciation recorded for the hard work and dedication given by Charlie in his role as captain and coach. Best wishes also expressed for his upcoming surgery and a speedy recovery.
Advert has been placed on social media for a new Head Coach. Interest from Jonathan Dicker and proposed he meet with Ayo, Simon, Charlie and Daragh on Friday. Level of remuneration discussed.
Nick Hodge has previously expressed interest in assisting. Guy to contact him. **GL**

<u>10. Juniors report:</u>
Nothing to report.

Exeter Rugby Camp:
Pete has managed to get a Rugby Camp Day from Exeter Chiefs on 12th August. They will bring a team of coaches to deliver a range of sessions and games across the day for U6-U14 boys and girls. We just need to provide pitches and access to changing rooms. Once timings received will do a social media blitz but also should look at advising local schools so they can advertise in newsletters for the summer holidays. **PD**

Ladies Rugby Fit:
Still going strong, with 37 members in group and between 14-22 for current sessions.
Hopefully will put in a touch team for Puddlefest with Pete as the token male player. He would like to request some money for kit/fancy dress on the day and will get details for consideration.
The sessions will finish at the end of June but will continue in the new season with a view to forming a team, some only wanting touch but others keen to push forward to contact, including some Chard players.
Committee asked to consider what options available for some form of membership in September and providing Bridport kit so they feel part of the club. Pete will investigate possible fixtures for touch games with local teams. To be discussed in more detail at next meeting. **PD**

<u>11. Social report:</u>
Nothing to report.

<u>12. Grounds Maintenance:</u>
Grass growing slowly despite wet conditions. Pitches have been white lined.
Roadside pitch to be used for parking for Beer Festival.

<u>13. Business Development Report:</u>
Work started on the kitchen. Will has suggested it would be a good opportunity to install

separate gas and water meters and happy to split the costs 50/50. Passed unanimously.
Lou has suggested an upgrade to the Hallmaster booking system to be shared by both Lou and Gill though need to check this can be integrated into the website. Agreed hire charges need to be reviewed and should include cleaning/security and also VAT.
Essential to ensure that all international match dates and club fixtures are blocked out.

Sponsorship:
Sarah updated meeting on progress so far for next season. Going well.
Some hoardings to be removed due to non-payment but several replacements in pipeline.
Guy Wyndham in charge of player sponsorship - £145.
An update on the brick situation to be available by the AGM.
Sponsorship draw to take place on 4th July during England v South Africa game.
Dates for match ball sponsorship will be allocated at the time of the draw.

14. Club Development:
a) Safeguarding – nothing to report.
b) School liaison – nothing to report.
c) Publicity – social media coverage good.
d) Volunteers – Guy to contact Nick Hodge.

15. AOB:
a) Allan asked if the AGM date could be circulated well in advance.
Nominations for Officers were proposed and once all agreed, Kathy will send 2025 minutes, the agenda and list of Officers to Julian to be sent out on GMS and then emailed to VPs. **JH/KB**
b) Peter and Noel are meeting Sophia Houghton to discuss her donation to the club. It was proposed this be used for two double benches in the spaces between the hoardings with the possibility of covering these over in the future.

Meeting closed at 8.05 pm, next meeting Monday 13th July at 6.00 pm