

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 9th May 2023 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Peter Brook, Noel Gregory, Ayo Fraser, Allan Staerck, Louis Brown, Guy Livingston, Stuart Briggs, Kathy Briggs, Ross Duncan

1. Apologies: Simon Hussey, Kevin Hart, Jed Gravelle, Dan Butler, Sam Petchey

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

- Ayo is still trying to arrange a meeting with Simon Hartley re the year end accounts when our IHT exemption will also be checked.
- Julian has had no response from NatWest re opening an account.
- Booking link is now on the LC website.
- Bar tills have been updated with the new prices.
- The clubhouse will need to be tidied on Sunday morning for the Ladies Circle following the Senior Awards dinner on Saturday.

AF

4. Chairman's Report:

As always many thanks to all those who have helped out during the past month.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Year end closing bank balance £50,902.65 plus approx £250 cash in hand. Last year the balance was £58,755.97 but there has been much upfront investment in the bar this year. As of today current balance £51,910.80. Meeting with Simon Hartley to be arranged to finalise the accounts for the AGM in June/July as we need to be well prepared for all questions. Three weeks' notice of the AGM needs to be given. Invoice received from the LC re shared costs which totals £10,450.49. It is thought bar staff costs of approx £1000 can be claimed back. JH/AF/SB to meet to discuss invoice in detail. Switchover of bank account to be discussed with Barclays.

JH/AF/SB

6. Secretary's Report:

Sat 29th July 2pm-12am enquiry from Darren Poole for 120 people with disco and possible live singer, pulled pork or pizza van. Would like kitchen and clubhouse. Awaiting response. Agreed that music should finish by 11.30pm, last orders at 11.30pm and vacate by midnight.

Sat 23rd September – Powerstock Bellringers have requested a prize for a draw after a tractor run in aid of work on the church bells. Agreed not relevant.

Membership enquiry from Germany for father and son with access to international tickets. Visit a couple of times a year. Father born in Bridport and son plays U14 in Germany. Agreed VP membership best and should contact Peter.

D&W AGM is on Wed 19th July at Salisbury RFC.

John Burgess from D&W and Swanage & Wareham has passed away.

Donations of £203 via BACS and some cheques awaited from Wakelys in memory of Charles Rowan.

Enquiry from Rachele Pearce re clubhouse but form incorrect so cannot contact her.

RFU AGM Fri 16th June – 1 person can attend from club plus any number by zoom. Louis will attend on our behalf.

Sat 10th June – enquiry from Melissa Foster for 60th birthday with DJ 7-11-30pm. That date OK. Stuart will email Rachel re availability.

SH

SH

SH/PB

SB

Simon hopes to keep up with bookings after surgery next week but may need to ask for help if it becomes too much.

Ross advised that he has a team of approx 25 for his events business and may be able to help out with bar staff if needed.

7. VP's Report:

Nothing to report.

8. Fixtures:

Kevin has offered to help with organising the Tens tournament but has heard nothing from Sam.

Mark Perkin may be interested in becoming Fixture secretary. Kevin to contact.

Maesteg will not be touring on Sat 20th May as not got permission.

SP

KH

9. Coaching / Team Management / Captains report:

Ross feels there was great positivity to be taken from last season. Typically we suffer a slump after Xmas for various reasons which shouldn't be an issue but is. Good that some players who were undecided have now committed for next season.

Captain for next season to be discussed amongst players. Jed will not be continuing.

Peter congratulated Ross on his work in the scrummage this season. Heads did not drop in matches even when opponents went ahead.

10. Juniors report:

Junior Awards dinner on Friday 12th May. Ben Cohen will be giving the awards. Liz is providing the catering.

It seems there are problems potentially with GMS. We have 200 juniors but the numbers don't tally with re-registration which has a knock-on effect on finances as some money missing. This needs tightening up.

Although Noel is stepping down as Junior Rugby Chairman he will always help when available and will continue as a VP and support the 100 Club.

Mark Banham has found another lady to help with the girls. The Tag Festival will be used for recruitment.

Three U7's were at D&W trials over the weekend.

NG

11. Social report:

All are welcome at the Junior Awards dinner on Friday especially the Senior players. Noel was asked to do a report for the Bridport News.

Senior Awards dinner – 52 attending, timing 6.30 for 7pm.

Jim Jones is providing a keg of Dorset Pale to be sold on Friday but as a complimentary welcome drink on Saturday.

Discussion took place regarding Clubman of the Year award and also Brett Chant Supporters Player of the Year.

NG

12. Grounds Maintenance:

Due to weather pitches need mowing frequently. Guy is working with Sean to get the pitch slit using the council tractor. Realignment of white lines in hand for the coming season.

13. Business Development Report:

Turnover at the bar has done very well since we took over the running.

John Greig will make a donation to the club following the successful party last Saturday.

The kitchen was professionally cleaned today. A machine to steam clean the bar and cellar

floor can be hired for £50. Guy offered to do this himself.
Stuart asked the kitchen cleaning company for a quote to clean the clubhouse. As this is cleaned on a Sunday, double time is charged. Quote £80-100. Queried whether the cleaning could be done early Monday instead. Stuart will advise our cleaners when they are not required. Guy to enquire with Ukrainians re kitchen cleaning costs.
Allan advised the boiler room needs clearing out again.

GL

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14. Club Development:

- a) Safeguarding – to be followed up after Kevin’s discussion with Mark Perkin.
- b) School liaison – Lloyd and Niamh Vercoe covering.
- c) Publicity – try to stagger articles throughout the summer. West Dorset Magazine to publish an interview with Stuart. Ask Andrew Livingston if possible to get a report in Rugby World on the girls rugby.
- d) Volunteers – hopefully Mark Perkin will take on Fixtures.
- e) Development Plan – ongoing.

15. AOB:

- a) Sponsor Draw and Sponsorship for the coming year was discussed. Agreed to keep the shirt draw prices the same. Suggested the draw takes place at the July committee meeting so shirts can be ready for beginning of season. Other ideas for sponsorship included match day sponsorship for man of the match, ball etc. Ideas to be emailed around to committee. Renewal invoices for advertising hoardings to be sent out on 1st July.
- b) The clubhouse boards are still to be updated. Stuart to chase Mystic.
- c) Ben Stevens will take over the Twinning programme. Morrisons have agreed two days at Xmas for collecting. The U14’s and U15’s to visit France in April 2025.
- d) Allan advised that several of the tour bags had just been thrown into the Undercroft which needs tidying. Several are missing and will be chased up for return.
- e) Louis confirmed that a recent disciplinary case taken to the RFU was now closed and thanks given to him for his outstanding work on this.
He will do presentations across the club from seniors downwards on the new Tackle height rules. Open to everyone, committee, parents etc.
He will also plan a session on disciplinary issues to highlight what the different procedures are for BRFC, D&W and the RFU.
- f) Ross thanked the committee for allowing the raffle in aid of his charity walk this weekend. He is also grateful for putting faith in him going forward with the coaching.
- g) Allan now has the sign for the Female Changing rooms.
Our tent has been loaned long term to the LC on the understanding they store it.
The LC are happy for the slope to go in down to the Undercroft.
The conversion of the First Aid room needs to go forward asap. Guy will price up cladding.
- h) Guy suggested that those going on tour should staff parking for the Food Festival to gain money for fundraising.
- i) Many thanks to Guy, Peter and Stuart for their hard work in running the bar for John Greig’s party.
- j) The condiment cupboard needs better lighting. Lloyd to investigate.

ALL

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Meeting closed 8.45pm, next meeting Monday 12th June at 7pm