

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 13th October 2025 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Allan Staerck, Peter Brook, Simon Bareham, Ayo Fraser, Louis Browne, Guy Livingston, Kathy Briggs, Lloyd Vercoe, Jim Jones, Chris Wood, James Keen, Wayne Munro

1. Apologies: Niamh Vercoe, Charlie Samways, George Hussey

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

- B/f - Lloyd will cost floodlights for the end of clubhouse but we need to be mindful of expenditure given substantial outlay on proposed development.
- Peter has collected the Respect the Officials signs from Mystic and Louis will put them in place this week.
- The posts and rope to mark out the roadside pitch for pitch distancing were found in the boiler room and will be moved to the container.
- Change of dates for lunches:
Sat 28th February – VPs lunch
Sat 21st March – Sponsors lunch
Sat 24th January – Past Captains' lunch - unchanged
Kathy will email dates to VPs.
- Agreed that some more expensive wines should be sourced through Palmers but only for sale by the bottle.
- The French visit is proposed for the weekend of 11th April but accommodation could be a problem so may have to find an alternative date. Lloyd's brother-in-law happy to reschedule their visit if it does coincide.

4. Chairman's Report:

Julian, Peter, Ayo and Lloyd had met with the LC. The problem with the Referee's changing room was discussed and the door will be moved to avoid activating the alarm. We will have access to their CCTV and they were updated on our plans. The play park area was removed as they are planning to instal two padel courts at the front of the building. We do need to work together with the LC and take advantage of their plans where possible. In general a very collaborative meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Balance end of September - £68,545.09

Current balance - £71,373.25

Bar takings to end Sept - £37,498.40

YTD - £38,243.35

Sept - £9,885.05

Disappointing that Bournemouth pulled out of the fixture on 4th October as consequently no bar sales that day though good takings on the Sunday. Need to push future events.

The Autumn Internationals will all be shown in November on TNT Sports.

6. Secretary's Report:

D&W advised about conflict of interest with Tribute and Palmers.

Club Safeguarding Audit needs to be completed by October 24th.

LV

KB

Annual First Aid risk assessment completed.
Current membership including Colts – 145.

7. VP's Report:

To date £3325 received from VPs.

8. Fixtures:

Frustration at Bournemouth's extremely late cancellation on the Saturday morning, especially since on Friday evening their team sheet indicated 20 players available.

9. Coaching report:

Mixed availability for training with lower numbers generally on Tuesdays. When the clocks change will consider 1 session/week alternating between Tues and Thurs.
Very good performance at Puddletown on Saturday but unfortunately Charlie will be out this coming Saturday. The Colts are playing on Sunday so will not be available for Saturday. However it was felt that where cover is lacking for key positions playing for the Seniors should be a priority

10. Team Management report:

Team is building together well and bonding with the Colts who are also travelling on the bus. Transport has now been booked for the whole season.
Charlie has proved a very inspirational captain. Generally felt that the team has moved up to another level this season.

11. Captain's report:

Seems that 5 players sponsorship is still outstanding. Wayne to liaise with Sarah.

12. Junior's report:

Numbers looking good apart from one age group. Hopefully might get some interest from the Tag tournament this Saturday. Some Years 3&4 will also be attending for a taster session.

Need to get a date in the diary asap for the End of Season awards and proposed the same format as last year as it was so successful. Given a possible conflict on Sat 2nd May with the proposed Seniors tour, agreed to go for Sat 9th May.

CCTV is to be installed, initially 2 cameras behind the bar and 1 over the front door and will be extended over time.

The Tag tournament this Saturday will be a busy day with 14 schools attending. Bar will be open from 12pm.

Update given on the medical incident yesterday. The Dockers coach had sent a message to Lloyd thanking the club for their support and prompt attention.

James confirmed the Age group website has been updated.

Need to encourage use of ProActiv. James and Paul Conde will liaise on a date for First Aid course to ensure all age groups have sufficient cover.

James proposed and Chris seconded that coaches be given kit vouchers rather than money/kit. All in agreement.

James now has details of approx 3/4 possible caterers with food vans.

Message passed on from Oaks coach praising our pitches and clubhouse and how much they enjoy coming to Bridport.

13. Social report:

WM

JK

Bingo night to be organised in the near future.

The Oktoberfest has been re-arranged for this Saturday.

Fireworks night: risk assessments all completed and will be sent to Will. The council will be putting up some banners and Charlie is promoting on social media. Jim has organised the outside bar.

Hope to organise a Summer camp.

Agreed Xmas party to be held on Sat 20th December after the home game against Dorchester.

Guy Wyndham advised that the Seniors were planning a tour to Penzance leaving Friday 1st and returning Sunday 3rd May. This would include watching a game at Cornish Pirates, tickets £50 with hospitality. Open to all with deposit required soon to confirm numbers.

14. Grounds Maintenance:

Peter has thanked Stuart King for mowing the pitches.

Sean will do the white lines on Wed. A new machine has been obtained from HuckNets, partly from their sponsorship and also a contribution of £100 from Guy for which he was thanked.

15. Business Development Report

The new till system is now installed and up and running so the Dojo contracts will be cancelled.

Jim will organise training as required.

Tenders have been sent out re the proposed clubhouse development. To date two returned.

16. Club Development:

a) Safeguarding – the updated Safeguarding documents had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Peter proposed and Chris seconded that these be approved and adopted. All in agreement.

b) Tag festival – Sat 18th October

c) Article by Ethan Staddon praising his early days at Bridport published in the Bridport News. Oktoberfest party and Fireworks night to be promoted on social media.

d) Push for volunteers this weekend.

Lewis has offered to hold a meeting re GMS. James to organise date.

JK

17. AOB:

a) Peter to thank Mark Vercoe for moving the scoreboard from the clubhouse to the roadside pitch.

b) Following on from the Red Roses success need to do a big push for girls representation. Some enquiries received re forming a womens team. Suggestions needed re possible coach.

c) Louis to set up a Disciplinary committee to meet virtually on a Tues evening as this is last opportunity to submit to D&W meeting on the Thursday. Player representation would be welcome though possible clash with training appreciated.

Meeting closed at 7.50 pm, next meeting Monday 10th November at 6.00 pm
