

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 9th September 2024 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Peter Brook, Allan Staerck, Simon Bareham, Louis Browne, Kathy Briggs, Charlie Samways, Lloyd Vercoe, Niamh Vercoe, Guy Livingston, James Keen, Nic Courtice

1. Apologies: Ayo Fraser, George Hussey, Pete Dacey, Rob Sullivan, Chris Wood, Timmy Edwards

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

- Allan and Guy still trying to source suitable sized brush heads for the boot scrubber.
- Peter confirmed that Nantes are happy to sponsor £200, likely on an on-going basis. Suggested this is used towards shirts for the Juniors French tour.
- The fixture books have been printed and will be sent out to VPs this week.
- Taj Mahal unable to sponsor the Past Captains lunch on 14th Sept but will do the Sponsors lunch on 1st February.
- Liz Beale had confirmed availability for both the Sponsors and VPs lunches but will now be asked to provide food for Past Captains lunch instead of the Sponsors lunch.
- Lloyd has ordered re-cycling bin and all set up to commence from Sunday.
- Many thanks to Simon for offering to write match reports. He is happy to do this when available.
- Shared calendar set up and working well.
- Lisa Adams may be able to help with strapping and details passed to Ayo.

AS/GL

4. Chairman's Report:

Julian, Peter and Ayo had a very productive meeting with Josh. Palmers are happy to sponsor the electronic scoreboard and continue sponsorship in some form after the initial 3-year period, one idea being as main front of shirt sponsor.

The LC to be consulted regarding a board outside "Welcome to the Palmers Brewery Ground".

Other areas of possible involvement with Palmers could include organising a Brewery tour for Junior parents and Wine and Cheese evening for the VPs.

AF

JH

5. Treasurer's Report:

Balance at 31st August - £70,469.52

Net movement in month - +£1,250.2 - driven by bar takings from 10s and others (circa £3,900)

Today's balance - £70,590.77

Bar Takings in August - £5,389.96

Bar Takings Year to Date (May - August) - £14,033.66

Major expenditure in month relates to kit order with VX3 for Colts, U16B and U16G, totalling £5,604.85 - majority of cost is covered by sponsors for the kit.

To date, we have 23 players who have paid membership / sponsored.

6. Secretary's Report:

Seniors have been registered for the Cup and awaiting confirmation.

Any other relevant communications have been forwarded as necessary.

7. VP's Report:

The fixture books have been printed and will be forwarded to the VPs this week.

PB

8. Fixtures:

No referee confirmed as yet for Saturday's match against East Dorset Dockers.

Will look to find friendly fixtures for 5th and 12th October.

9. Coaching / Team Management /Captains report:

Small drop in numbers for training in August.

The win at the 10's tournament was followed by losses in the pre-season friendlies at Honiton and Yeovil and unfortunately also in the first league game on Saturday at Weymouth. However despite the scoreline there are many positives to take from this performance and the team are looking forward to the game against East Dorset Dockers this Saturday.

A great win by the Colts against Weymouth last Sunday.

10. Junior's report:

James and Pete are having a handover meeting tomorrow.

Agreed social media needs to be looked at as too much potential duplication. Meeting to be held with relevant involved parties.

JK

James will circulate instructions on how to use Spond on a computer.

JK

Likely to be problems with access for high vehicles including ambulances and coaches once the LC have installed the new barrier to the main site. This will need to be monitored and all concerns raised with them.

The schools Tag Festival will take place on Sat 19th October 9-12.30 and all support welcome.

Junior meeting on 1st October, 7pm in the clubhouse. Guy to liaise with Kelly.

Process of clearing out started and old Akuma kit being sold off as no longer required.

Lloyd to discuss with Ayo who within the Junior section has keys to access the container.

LV/AF

The hedges now need to be cut down. LC responsible for this.

Also the bridge between the two pitches is totally overgrown and needs cutting back.

11. Social report:

Band booked for coming Sat 14th Sept and also 1st February.

Bands get booked up well in advance but our problem is that 2025 dates cannot be fixed as next season's fixtures are not known until June/July.

To increase clubhouse capacity two similar larger fire exits would be required, one at either end of the building.

Proposal by Lloyd, seconded by Nic to purchase a blue tooth speaker at £200. Agreed.

LV/NC

European rugby will be moving to Premier sports TV. Rob and Timmy to investigate potential costs in order to make decision on feasibility.

RS/TE

12. Grounds Maintenance:

Lines are now sorted and measured.

The lines need to be mowed so that they can be white-lined clearly.

Hoped that Derek will be back mowing this week.

13. Business Development Report:

The planners have requested a Flood Risk Assessment. Once this has been completed the Planning application will be re-submitted for approval.

14. Club Development:

a) Safeguarding – D&W are clamping down on U17's playing up. If required individual forms have to be submitted by Wed latest for permission to play the following Saturday. Play it Safe course organised for 21st October. All coaches and volunteers need to complete. RFU need to be made aware of any tour dates asap. James to check with Pete re the French tour.

JK

If a D&W club travels to another county for tournaments, D&W RFU have to be informed. The same situation if clubs travel to us.

b) School liaison – Tag Festival organised for 19th October.

c) Publicity – Simon agreed to write match reports when available.

d) Volunteers – thanks to Nic for volunteering to help with organising of social events.

15. AOB:

a) Julian commented that before the last Round Table meeting the caterers had to clean the kitchen and sweep the floors. The LC should have cleaned up after their use during the day.

LV

b) The LC owe £300 towards the kitchen cleaning bill. However agreed that Lloyd will talk to Will regarding use of the floor cleaner/polisher in lieu of payment.

c) Charlie queried if there are any non-alcoholic lagers available. Guy to investigate.

GL

d) Louis will be qualified to run referees/coaching courses next season.

e) Allan to chase Mystic for proof of the Sponsors club board.

AS

f) The LC will be asked to move the gravel bags when we require them.

g) Paul Conde had commented that he had read on-line that Sam was the club physio. Louis to check.

LB

h) Lloyd would like to install a bench inside the changing room entrance for use by the Juniors when changing boots on Sundays in order to keep the corridor tidier. Peter to ask Guy Ewart if he can help.

PB

i) Simon mentioned lack of communication regarding nearly empty minibus to Weymouth last Saturday. VPs need to be emailed rather than just rely on social media. Demand for future transport to be assessed and better communication lines set up.

j) Paul Conde advised that the First aid kits had been returned in very poor condition. Lloyd to discuss at Junior meeting.

LV

k) The defibrillator is now fully installed.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm, next meeting Monday 14th October at 6.30pm