

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 8th September 2025 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Allan Staerck, Peter Brook, Ayo Fraser, Louis Browne, Kathy Briggs, Lloyd Vercoe, Niamh Vercoe, Jim Jones, Chris Wood, Charlie Samways, James Keen, Wayne Munro

1. Apologies: Simon Bareham, Guy Livingston, George Hussey

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

The minutes were approved, proposed by Allan and seconded by Lloyd. 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.
- James has contacted people with food vans but will chase up for responses.
- Mystic will send proof for the 'Respect the Match Officials' sign this week. Peter to action.
- BBQ cover has been made. Suggested this is moved to the changing room corridor as it will be easier to move outside from there.

4. Chairman's Report:

A brilliant start to the season last Saturday and good to see most Weymouth players staying after the match. We need to build on this momentum going forward through the season.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Balance end of August - £60,699.88

Current balance - £63,758.33

Major outgoings connected with the site development project.

Good bar takings on Saturday with £2700 taken on the till and also some cash sales.

YTD bar takings - £30,798.30 which is up on the same period last year though this figure does include the end of season awards day.

The kit shop also took over £1k on Sunday.

Many thanks to Sarah for her hard work in organising the raffle each Saturday. This clears over £100 profit each time.

6. Secretary's Report:

Attached together with Membership Secretary's report.

Confirmed that Guy is registered as our Nominated League Contact.

Tribute is sponsoring the SW Leagues this year. Chris will advise D&W that we cannot promote Tribute in publicity and on social media due to conflict of interests with Palmers.

7. VP's Report:

The fixture books have been received and being distributed. Some will be available behind the bar.

To date £735 received with 5 new VPS and two more potential, mainly as a result of showing the Lions matches in the clubhouse. This is before letters have been sent out to current VPs which will be done this week.

Agreed that under Membership Fees, Full time Students or Apprentices will be deleted in next season's fixture book.

James to investigate whether it is possible to link registration and payment as one process on

LV

JK

PB

JK

GMS.

8. Fixtures:

It was the correct decision to call off the 10's tournament because of the ground conditions. The future of the 10's needs to be discussed as teams always seem to drop out after agreeing to play. This year we dropped from 8 to 4 clubs. Agreed it would be more beneficial in future to use the day for a full 15's game.

The game against Crewkerne went very well but unfortunately the game against Chard was called off due to a lack of player numbers, probably as it was the last week of the holidays. A great result against Weymouth with good numbers available and some players not being selected.

This weekend we are away to East Dorset Dockers. Awaiting confirmation but assume 3pm kick off. No referee appointed yet but it is home team's responsibility to supply one if one is not appointed.

The RFU website says we have a game away to Minehead Barbarians on 20th September in the RFU community cup (Papa John's Cup) but did not think we had entered. Chris confirmed the RFU directive indicated that all clubs would be entered into the cup regardless. D&W subsequently sent communication saying clubs could opt out by 1st August but email only received well after this date and no further information received.

9. Coaching report:

Training numbers last week were excellent at 30 with 28 available for the match. If all players were consistently available for each match, we could do extremely well in the league. The players have benefitted from the Hurt Locker sessions over the summer and are considerably fitter at the start of this season.

10. Team Management report:

Full report for next meeting.

11. Captain's report:

25 players have been sponsored to date. Only 10 have paid so need chasing.
Good to have picture on Saturday of two sponsors with the team.

12. Junior's report:

Pre-season risk assessments are being carried out. No apparent non-compliance.
RFU First Aid guidance has changed. Paul Conde has agreed to run a one-day course for 12 at £17.50 each. Agreed to choose a free Saturday and provide light refreshments.
U15's upwards play on full size pitches and the roadside pitch should be marked out for pitch distancing. We have the rope and Allan will search for the posts.
School Tag Festival fixed for 18th October.
Junior meeting to be held on Monday 29th September at 6.30pm.

13. Social report:

3-4 core events to be organised each year.
Bonfire Night Sat 1st November – arrangements in hand. Car park will be closed after 2pm to set up.
Other possible events to include another Cheese and Wine evening, an interactive race night, Bingo every other month, outdoor cinema at end of season – afternoon children, evening adults.
Sat 24th January – Past Captains' lunch)
Sat 28th February – Sponsors' Buffet lunch) - Wayne to organise

CS

AS

Sat 21st March – VP's lunch – Peter to organise

14. Grounds Maintenance:

Derek mowed the pitches today. Under the hoardings needs to be strimmed and it has been pointed out that the hoardings themselves need a clean.

15. Business Development Report

The contract for the tills expires at the end of September. Jim has negotiated contract for new ones which will provide much greater functionality.

The new standalone Wi-Fi for the bar will be installed shortly. This will provide better coverage for use at outside events.

16. Club Development:

- a) Safeguarding – Ali is stepping down. Need to recruit further officers.
- b) School tag festival – 18th October
- c) Hopefully match reports in local papers.
- d) Several volunteers have come forward to help with Juniors.

17. AOB:

- a) All committee members need to ensure they have DBS clearance. If not, then contact Charlie English.
- b) Martin Huxter has suggested the area alongside the window could be used as a skittle alley. Apparently there is a shortage of skittle alleys in the area.
- c) A request has been made for some better wine to be available by the bottle.
- d) Allan commented that the referee had to use Changing room 3 on Saturday as the Referee's changing room was locked. Apparently it cannot be used as the LC is closed.
- e) Lloyd's brother-in-law would like to visit on Sat 11th April with a party of around 40. Agreed they can use the roadside pitch.
- f) Agreed to start meetings at 6pm in future.

Meeting closed at 7.00 pm, next meeting Monday 13th October at 6.00 pm