

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 11th December 2023 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Allan Staerck, Guy Livingston, Ayo Fraser, Louis Browne, Kathy Briggs, Ross Duncan, Lloyd Vercoe, Timmy Edwards, Charlie Samways, Sam Petchey

1. Apologies: Simon Hussey, Pete Dacey, Peter Brook, George Hussey, Rob Sullivan

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

- Guy Ewart will get costing from Fowlers for a sander for the clubhouse floor. Work to be carried out at the end of the season.
- Lloyd has spoken to Will regarding recycling and will get price for a recycling bin. Cost possibly in region of £10/month though best option would be for collection only when it is full. Alternatively recycling could be taken away and recycled with home collections.
- The changing room ceilings have been dried out with the use of a dehumidifier and will be painted soon now they are dry.
- Lloyd has passed prices for three high tables to Ayo. Given the high delivery charge it was agreed to purchase 9 stools as well. Likely that Jim Jones may have some smaller furniture. Investment in new furniture needs to be made through BRFC Enterprises and plan needs to be drawn up of what is required.
- Quote for a defibrillator (£1287.59) and training for 32 people (£120) totals £1407.59 inc VAT. The Round Table have agreed to donate this money. In return they would like at least five of the LC staff to attend the training so there is always someone there who knows how to use it while the LC is open. They would also like a plaque near the defibrillator to say it was donated by Bridport Round Table. This was agreed.

4. Chairman's Report:

A difficult month affected by the weather. Julian and Guy attended a pre-match lunch at Lytchett. Key word there is volunteers as everything seems to be run by volunteers and works well.

They hold a very successful 7's tournament to which Bridport have been invited at all levels.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Current balance is £56,252.37.

Substantial expenditure this month including £2100 for 1st of three instalments of the LC invoice, invoices for the medical room and physio.

Three events this week, Thurs, Fri and Saturday should bring in good bar takings.

Sponsorship received from Will Scott of £2500 and also from West Bay Days.

Bank account switch nearly completed.

6. Secretary's Report:

Simon still improving.

Various emails received from the RFU which have been circulated as necessary.

7. VP's Report:

Total received to date £3927.

Two new VPs joined following the Past Captains lunch.

Peter will chase remaining 4/5 on his return from holiday.

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8. Fixtures:

Following postponement of last weekend's game this will now be played on Sat 20th January. This means there will be 5 games in a row starting on 6th January away to Blandford, 13th away to North Dorset 2's, 20th home game against Oaks, 27th home against Wimborne, 3rd Feb away to Puddletown in a friendly. Felt this should not be cancelled as they have already played us at home.

This weekend's home game against Wheatsheaf Cabin Crew has been confirmed for 2pm kick off.

Still waiting to hear if D&W will be running a plate for teams knocked out in the first two rounds of the Cup. If there is, next cup game would be 24th Feb.

9. Coaching / Team Management /Captains report:

Disappointing that the match had to be cancelled last weekend but felt that the pitch quality would not be good. Also several players carrying injuries and hopefully will be fit for this coming weekend.

Confirmed that it would be appreciated if the players could clear away the tables at the end of Sat evenings to make it easier for Lloyd on a Sunday.

Charlie mentioned that other clubs have sponsors for Man of the Match and match balls and knows a couple of people who are interested. Agreed this was a good idea. Palmers have offered a free barrel for this coming Saturday. Suggested they are asked to sponsor Man of the Match and perhaps provide some fizz for this.

10. Colts report:

Struggling with commitment. Some Colts are ready and playing for the Seniors but others are not so perhaps should play down in the New Year. Options to be discussed with Pete. If we had a 'second' team playing friendlies this would be a good opportunity for some of them to learn from older players who are no longer playing regularly for the first team.

11. Juniors report:

Aiming to raise £2500 at the social event on Saturday towards the French trip.

Thanks to Cameron for providing the Christmas tree.

Kit items all now displayed in the locked wall cupboard.

Need sanitary bins for all the changing rooms. Allan to speak to Will.

12. Social report:

40 tickets sold so far for New Years Eve.

Pub crawl planned for 23rd December.

Need to fix price for the Club dinner. It needs to breakeven and cannot be subsidised by bar profits. Will start advertising in the New Year.

13. Grounds Maintenance:

Despite weather conditions grass is starting to grow and pitch will be ready for Saturday.

The pitch will be slit again before the end of the season.

14. Business Development Report:

100 Club renewals are coming in but likely to lose some members. Probably need to do a campaign in the New Year. Kathy will send some forms to Lloyd to promote at the Junior evening this Saturday.

15. Club Development:

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KB/LV

- a) Safeguarding – heading in right direction. Niamh has done a number of courses. It is likely that we will be audited Jan/Feb. Emphasised that all committee members need to complete courses on Headcase awareness and Introduction to Safeguarding.
- b) School liaison – possibility of Tag Festival for older age groups to be investigated in New Year.
- c) Publicity – good article and photos in Bridport News on Lytchett match.
- d) Volunteers – always more needed.
- e) Development Plan – ongoing.

ALL

16. AOB:

- a) Email received re Age grade registration. Lloyd has recently completed a GMS course but stressed need to find a volunteer for this job next season. If nobody comes forward, suggested it may be necessary to add a small sum to the registration fee and pay someone.
- b) Charlie thought there may be volunteers willing to help but they are not aware who to approach to offer assistance. Louis suggested a Meet the Committee poster on the Noticeboard with details of who does what, details possibly accessed via a QR code. Details also to be available on the website. This should cover all the club officials listed in the fixture book. Photos to be sent to Louis.
- c) The green container is leaking badly and the kit is in a bad state. Roof to be covered with felt. Allan, Guy and Lloyd to liaise re necessary work.
- d) Guy has arranged bar coverage for the three events this week. Guy to advise our DPS Martin Huxter re event on New Years Eve.
Allan will send Guy/Gill details of event booked for May 2024.
- e) Allan to speak to Will re the stuck tap in the Ladies, the shower in the Referees changing room and the sink in Players changing room 1.
- f) Peter will collect the names for the Memorial board from Mystic on his return from holiday.
- g) BT Sport is not working. Allan to speak to Will.
- h) Email from John McHugh that last Saturday the clubhouse was unlocked, all the lights were on and radiators on full. The LC were aware that the match had been cancelled. He also mentioned that the floodlights are still on after training.

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Meeting closed at 9.00pm, next meeting Monday 8th January at 7pm