

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 13th February 2023 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Peter Brook, Ayo Fraser, Allan Staerck, Louis Brown, Stuart Briggs, Kathy Briggs

Julian welcomed Pete Dacey, Lewis Dunn and Sean Stewart to talk about junior tour finances on behalf of the U15's and U16's.

1. Apologies: Simon Hussey, Noel Gregory, Kevin Hart, Guy Livingston, Jed Gravelle, Dan Butler, Sam Petchey

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

- Malcolm Heaver had approached Julian regarding the donation to the pool grouting. It was proposed by Allan and seconded by Louis that we donate £250. All in favour.
- Julian has written to BBS and Advanced Card Bureau.
- Stuart has contacted Dorset Council regarding the brown sign. They were to contact their design team. Nothing further heard. Stuart to chase at the end of the month.
- Action re defibrillator still ongoing.
- Allan advised that the cleaning contract is £18.50 for two people, previously £15 before we took over the clubhouse. Agreed to be reviewed in the close season.
- Ayo has started the process to open a bank account with TSB.
- Peter met with Darren Batten on 16th January. A very amicable meeting and Palmers will advise us if they intend to re-route the water supply to discuss best route.
- Suggested the 100 Club winners are posted each month on a small blackboard.

4. Chairman's Report:

A fantastic day on 28th January, starting with the Past Captains lunch. Many thanks to the West Bay and Palmers for supplying additional bar stock at short notice. A tremendous effort from the U15's and U16's and their parents in fundraising on the day towards the French trip. All helps to raise awareness of the club.

At the Safeguarding course it was flagged up that too few ladies are involved with the club. This needs to be addressed. Allan will discuss with Malcolm the idea that a "Ladies" changing room sign be added to the Referee Changing room sign.

The RFU announcement re reducing tackle height was discussed at the recent Chairmen's Huddle meeting and John Constable quizzed on follow up. Gerald Burden is to circulate details to the clubs. If there is a consultation process, agreed Sam be nominated following his excellent letter detailing our comments/concerns.

The Juniors will need instructions on tackle rules for the French tour.

5. Treasurer's Report:

TSB account being opened.

Current balance is £51,074.17. Large Akuma invoice just paid.

Bar takings for Six Nations games to date approx £1,100.

Unfortunately our last home game was 28th January so need to maximise any opportunities for bar revenue over the coming weeks.

SB

AS

6. Secretary's Report:

Future bookings:

Saturday 4th March - Juniors tour fundraising curry and quiz night

Saturday 29th April - Hannah Marner 40th birthday party

Friday 1st September - Abbie Reynolds Wedding reception

Rachel to be advised re bar cover for all events.

Rachel would like to hold her 50th birthday party at the club in October. Agreed she should have the clubhouse FOC.

Email received from D&W re Dorset Club Development Drop In to be held at Swanage on Mon 6th March between 3-10pm. Allan will take up with D&W that we would expect them to visit us rather than us having to travel to see them at a specified time.

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7. VP's Report:

To date £4734 in donations from 66 VPs.

Menu for VPs lunch discussed.

U15's and U16's to be asked to help with serving.

8. Fixtures:

Match against Swanage & Wareham confirmed for Sat 18th February, kick off 2.30pm.

Nothing heard yet re Cup matches.

9. Coaching / Team Management / Captains report:

A struggle with players for the last two away matches but because of injuries, working away etc rather than players not wanting to travel. We could still finish 3rd in the league which would be a great achievement. Morale and spirit still good though numbers have dropped at training recently.

Jack Pellow and Kian Bentley went for U20 trials at D&W and both accepted.

10. Juniors report:

Julian advised that numbers were dropping for meals after Sunday matches and parents need to be encouraged to stay. Agreed that juniors prefer food such as sausage and chips rather than lasagne. Therefore the fryer needs to be replaced, cost approx £600. Lloyd to be asked to carry out work.

Lewis felt parents were not staying in the clubhouse as the bar was not open. Two U15's parents have expressed an interest in helping behind the bar. Stuart will train Pete and Lewis, who will then cascade down to parents with the target of two parents from each age group available to help.

Pete presented details of fund raising for the French tour. To date although the shirt sponsor has fallen through £12,681 has been raised so it is not necessary for parents to pay any extra. Projected further fund raising – Carwash 2, Wine tasting, 100 square raffle etc – could bring in a further £5000.

More baggage allowance will be required at a cost of approx £1000. Pete suggested the club purchase 15 kitbags to go in the hold which could then be utilised for future trips. Peter will approach Aidan Creedon.

Also asked if the club would pay for the tour shirts from Akuma, 60 @ £13 each.

The curry and quiz night on 4th March is now a thank you event to cover costs rather than extra fundraising. Rachel to be asked to cover the bar 7-11pm. Advise that it will be card only.

Emails to be sent to VPs re future events to increase awareness.

SB

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11. Social report:

Junior Presentation night will be on Friday 12th May. Agreed too costly to present all juniors with a 'trophy' and suggested a laminated certificate could be a better option. Also the presentation of a tie to certain age groups marks the progression to 'older' juniors and a sense of pride in the club.

Senior Presentation night to follow the same format as last year which was very successful. Peter to check with Liz re her availability for Sat 13th May.

PB

12. Grounds Maintenance:

Nothing to report.

13. Business Development Report:

Agreed the bar will be open from 12.30 on Super Saturday 18th March.

On Sat 25th Feb and Sat 11th March the bar will open at 1.45pm.

West Dorset Magazine will interview Stuart for an article on the club.

14. Club Development:

a) Safeguarding – following the recent course there may be someone interested in taking on the safeguarding role. Julie Boddington is very keen to get more females involved especially in coaching. Do D&W run a course on Coaching for Women?

b) School liaison – Tag Festival arranged for October. Pete will make contact with Woodruff, Colfox and Beaminster at the start of the school year in September to raise awareness.

c) Publicity - Good coverage in Bridport News and West Dorset Magazine. Stuart will also mention Jack and Kian in U20 squad in a future article.

d) Volunteers – hopefully forthcoming from the Junior section, the "future of the committee".

e) Development Plan – email re Dorset Club Development Drop in already discussed.

15. AOB:

a) Lewis will fix new valves to all the showers.

b) A reminder from Julian that there is a working microphone behind the bar.

c) Allan advised that there are several crates of glasses in the Undercroft. Agree to ask Busbys to sell them.

d) Phil Wright is keen to use the club logo for various items of casual wear. It was agreed that the club need to keep control of the logo. Allan to liaise with Phil.

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Meeting closed 9.05pm, next meeting Monday 13th March at 7pm