

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

Present: Julian Hussey, Peter Brook, Noel Gregory, Ayo Fraser, Allan Staerck, Louis Brown, Simon Hussey, Guy Livingston, Lewis Dunn, Stuart Briggs, Kathy Briggs

1. Apologies: Kevin Hart, Jed Gravelle, Dan Butler, Sam Petchey

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

- Dorset Council will assess the brown sign and revert with proposals and costings. Hopefully this will avoid the need for planning permission.
- Malcolm and Will have no objection to a "Ladies" changing room sign. Allan will speak to Will about where the sign should be placed and where to have it made.
- Allan, Peter and Stuart met with Ben Smith and Scott Sturdy of D&W last week. A good discussion took place covering topics including Volunteers, Sports funding, fixture arrangements etc.
- Sunday bar opening is going well though need for more parents to help.
- Aidan Creedon has kindly given the club 15 travel bags. Bridport Banners are putting 'BRFC' and our badge on each one.
- Liz is available to cater for the Senior Presentation night on Sat 13th May and will provide a three course meal, cost tba.
- Busbys are not interested in selling glasses but Allan has managed to sell some for £60 which will go towards the French tour.
- Allan has asked the company in Weymouth to make up some casual jumpers with the club logo.

AS

4. Chairman's Report:

Communications from Will regarding potential works in the kitchen and what we can and cannot do. Agreed further discussion required on potential re-organisation and any works to be carried out in the close season.

Rachel Oaten, Kitson & Trotman, has asked if we are IHT exempt with HMRC in connection with the legacy from Di Matthews. Ayo to check with Simon Hartley and respond to Rachel.

AF

5. Treasurer's Report:

Current balance is £54,536.36 which includes donations for the tour and bar takings. The final deposit for accommodation for the tour and Akuma invoice paid.

Fund raising for the French tour has raised considerably more than required. However extra costs include increasing the hold baggage from 15 to 25 bags. The tour polo shirts cost £1786.40.

TSB have rejected our application to open a bank account. Suggested Ayo, Julian and Stuart arrange a meeting with the Manager to discuss. Ayo will also approach Barclays again.

The year end for both companies is 30th April so need to ensure that all outstanding bills are presented before then.

AF

6. Secretary's Report:

Sarah Stanford has sent a cheque for £50 to the club as a thank you for someone (Lloyd Vercoe) helping her husband when he fell.

Clubhouse bookings:

Sunday 7 th May – Guy Wyndham daughter’s christening party Stuart will talk to Rachel re best date for her 50 th birthday party In October – Friday 20 th is a World Cup semi-final, so possibly Fri 13 th or Fri 27 th October.	SB
Sat 15 th July – Bridport Barracudas Gala 3.00-6.30. Stuart to check with Rachel if she is happy for us to do the bar as on previous occasion it was very quiet.	SB
Friday 1 st September – Abbie Reynolds Wedding reception. She cannot bring her own champagne but can either buy from Palmers and pay corkage or we buy direct from Palmers for her. Simon to discuss with her.	SH
Sunday 30 th April – U13’s touring side. Charlie English is looking at other fixtures. Email from Everything Dorset re promotional video – No interest Richard Sloan, Chair of Motor neurone Association, has asked to do a bucket collection. Suggested once next year’s Junior fixtures are known, they come along one Sunday.	SH
Bridport Ladies Circle are proposing a Fun run on Sunday 14 th May to raise money for their own charities. As this is a very busy weekend with both Junior and Senior Presentation nights, they will be asked to propose a different date.	SH
Kelly Heath would like to use the clubhouse for different events to raise £4,600 towards her trek to Madagascar. All proceeds are for Weldmar. Simon will ask her for potential dates. Email sent today to Julian, Simon and Ayo from RFU re Club Health check.	SH

7. VP’s Report:

Total donations £4774 from 67 VPs.
Arrangements all in hand for the VPs lunch. Agreed there would be a small raffle. Four U15’s to be asked to help serve the lunch with tips split between them and Liz’s team.
A touring side will be playing at 10.30 but are aware they must vacate by 12.00 latest.
Potential match between Chairman’s team and President’s team, ko 3pm.

8. Fixtures:

Still waiting to hear re Cup matches.
The Brown Bowler will now be pre-season not 1st April.

9. Coaching / Team Management / Captains report:

A disappointing end to the league season. If more players had been available, we could have pushed to finish second. Several long-term injuries to regular players have had a detrimental effect this season as we do not have massive depth to the squad. However the team is to be complimented on its performance as despite lack of availability they have shown great resilience and determination.

Ayo announced that he is stepping down from his role as Coach. He has been approached by Bath Academy to coach developing U14’s and U15’s players. He would like to take on a Director of Rugby role overseeing both senior and junior coaching. He recommended that Ross take over as Senior coach. Guy proposed this, seconded by Stuart, all in favour. Stuart will write an article on Ayo to put in the paper during the close season.

AF/SB

10. Juniors report:

Noel wanted to record his sincere thanks to Ayo for his commitment over the past years. His achievements together with those of Jesse and Louis prove that for a small club Bridport has great potential.

Bridport Round Table, JB Plant and Morrish & Banham have provided sponsorship for the girls’ shirts. Akuma will provide these for £725 for 18 shirts ready for two matches in April and May. Discussion on where the individual logos should be placed. Noel will amend the design. Agreed any surplus funds should be used for an Age group banner – Bridport Junior Girls.

NG

Problems have arisen with replacing the fryer. Will has advised that there would be a huge increase in insurance costs, possibly £10k, because of potential fire risks as there is no suppression system in the kitchen. A sub-committee should look at the whole topic of kitchen re-organisation over the summer.

There is a briefing meeting on the tour tomorrow, Tues 14th.

Noel has a future meeting with Morrisons when collection pre-Easter and at Christmas will be discussed.

There is a strong possibility that Ben Cohen will come to the Junior Presentation night. Noel will email around proposals as what he could do.

The U10's will be playing at Twickenham at half time when Bath play Quins at Twickenham. They will all wear proper club kit as representatives of BRFC.

The U15's have only lost once this season and are playing at home in the D&W Championship Cup Final against Supermarine on Sun 26th March, ko 12.00. Lewis will send Stuart details to put in the Bridport News.

NG

LD/SB

11. Social report:

Junior and Senior Presentation nights are on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th May respectively.

Palmers will organise a Brewery tour for the club. Peter will speak to Dan re arrangements for a tour in the morning followed by a BBQ for senior players and possibly coaches.

The Curry and quiz night was very successful raising £1000 towards the French tour.

PB

12. Grounds Maintenance:

Allan has talked to Simon Childs about loaning him the mower in the Undercroft. All agreed.

13. Business Development Report:

To date bar takings for the Six Nations are approx £2800, with a profit of £700.

The bar will open at 12.00 on Super Saturday.

The raffle draw for the World Cup Tickets and Exeter shirt will be done around 4.30pm before the England game.

14. Club Development:

- a) Safeguarding – should have someone in place next year.
- b) School liaison – Jesse now in charge.
- c) Publicity – continuing good coverage.
- d) Volunteers – more to be encouraged.
- e) Development Plan – meeting held with Ben Smith and Scott Sturdy.

15. AOB:

a) Agreed there will be no games on Mothering Sunday.

b) Allan suggested a thank you present to Zara for her hard work in the kitchen as she is off to university. This is already in hand at the Junior Presentation night.

c) Louis is planning to organise 'Referees nights', maybe one session/month, open to parents and coaches once the tackle height question has been sorted. Sam and Louis are attending the Tackle Height forum at Exeter Saracens on behalf of the club. Any queries on this to be sent to Sam or Louis.

d) Stuart mentioned the possible use of the pavilion for a wake on Friday 17th March.

e) Julian advised there had been no contact from Will regarding the recent refurbishment of the toilets. It is hoped that we will not be expected to pay towards it.

Meeting closed 9.55pm, next meeting Tuesday 11th April at 7pm

