

Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 13th September 2021 at A.G. Down, South Street

Present : Julian Hussey, Allan Staerck, Ayo Fraser, Louis Brown, Noel Gregory, Stuart Briggs, Sam Petchey, Guy Livingston, Kathy Briggs

1. Apologies : Simon Hussey, Peter Brook, Andrew Livingston, Kevin Hart, Charlie Crane, Mitch Waters, Dan Butler

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

Ayo has decided to keep the Veo camera for the time being. The alternative company was more expensive.

Allan will liaise with Peter and Kevin, St Johns, re running a first aid course. Proposed date of 16th October in the morning.

Julian has spoken to Ricky re the floodlights. Need to hire a cage so that Ricky can inspect them.

Allan circulated an article from Rugby World in which the RFU advise that every rugby club should have a defibrillator. The photo of the Juniors in their training tops will now be taken on Sunday 19th September and passed to Alistair Warren through Mark Banham.

4. Chairman's Report:

Great thanks to all the volunteers for a fantastic 10's tournament. Also the two subsequent matches against Trowbridge and Barnet Elizabethan were a great success. Many thanks to the excellent team from the Juniors for the BBQ at the 10's and to Guy for the other matches. Trowbridge were very grateful to be able to camp on the pitch which worked well. Something to bear in mind for future touring sides.

5. Treasurers Report:

Major expenditure this month although mainly balanced by incoming monies:

£5462 to the RFU for Autumn International tickets

£2857 to Akuma for hoodies, shorts, shirts etc

Mystic will need to be paid for producing the hoardings.

Still approx £62k in the bank, of which £11k in the current account.

Noel advised that at Junior registration on 5th Sept 30 had paid online via GMS and he is waiting for another 50-60.

To date 14 players have paid their subs, by bank transfer.

6. Secretary's Report:

Enquiries for Junior rugby training times and start dates have been passed on to Noel.

Still waiting to hear back from Howdens re players insurance.

7. VP's Report:

The final proof for the fixture books has been agreed with Creeds and they will be ready latest early next week. All paperwork including gift aid forms is ready to be posted to the VPs.

Weldmar are speaking to Rory to arrange a presentation and photo at the club in the near future. Good publicity for all involved.

8. Fixtures:

The Chard game on 18th September has been cancelled. The 1st league game will be advertised on the board on the roadside pitch.

Potential fixture against Portland has been pushed back to the New Year.

Agreed to arrange coaches for the following away fixtures:

2nd Oct – North Dorset

20th Nov – Wimborne

17th Dec (Fri evening) – Sherborne

15th Jan – Swans

29th Jan – Salisbury

12th Feb – East Dorset Dockers

9th April – Blandford

Gerald May's sponsorship will be used towards payment of one coach.

Stuart will contact Damory to discuss costs, also check whether if any matches are cancelled, the booking can roll over to the next fixture.

Regarding St John's coverage, Kevin Chappuis is interested in becoming a VP so would attend matches anyway.

Stuart Briggs

9. Coaching / Team Management / Captains Report:

Numbers at training have varied over the past few weeks due to a number of injuries, players away etc.

A senior squad meeting is to be held this Friday to discuss core values, aims and targets.

The kit order has gone in but will not be available for the start of the season as there is now a 5 week turnaround. We are still owed one set of free kit from Akuma.

Jaz has helped with the players registration on GMS.

Charlie Samways is trying to sort out dual registration with Taunton.

Ayo has culled the list of registered players down to approx 50.

This season we are allowed 5 subs with 8 interchanges.

For the first league game against Blandford on 25th September the Juniors will form a guard of honour.

10. Juniors and Colts Report:

Covid has affected all clubs and our numbers are down on normal with approx 80 registered so far. However a positive is that more have paid on line. We have 7 new members and 3 new coaches. We have opened up rugby tots.

John Simpson, a VP, was there last Sunday wanting to talk about positive mental health.

Noel will ask Peter to contact him.

Unfortunately the new pans bought for the induction hob have gone missing as well as various items from the condiments cupboard. Noel will change the lock on the condiments cupboard but we need to ensure that we have sole access to the kitchen. Allan will bring up urgently with Will that items have gone missing and that the kitchen should remain locked. Noel will contact Will Orza to check whether he is prepared to do food both Saturdays and Sundays.

Guy is concerned that the stainless steel is showing spots of rust. Sam will check it out.

If there is any news from the Juniors for the website, it should be sent to Tom.

Julian reported that sadly there will not be a Colts team this year. Some colts have gone to Sidmouth and the U17's have lost enthusiasm. 3 or 4 may train with the seniors on Weds.

Noel Gregory

Allan Staerck

Noel Gregory

Sam Petchey

11. Social Report:

The profit from the raffle from the last two games is just under £200.

The Barnet Elizabethans shirt will be kept for the VPs raffle.

12. Grounds Maintenance:

Sean has facilities for getting a tractor which he will use with our turf slicer to do both the football ground and our pitches. The hedges have been cut. Guy has put a new lock on the flag cupboard. The roadside flags will be moved to the green cabin for easier access. The pads will be kept on the posts. Louis suggested it would be more cost-effective to renovate the green cabin rather than replace it with a container.

Jesse has offered some plastic reinforcing material for the grass which can be used for pedestrian walkways on the roadside pitch. Louis will check that studs will not catch in it.

13. Business Development Report:

Emily Palmer has offered some old pub signs which could be used outside the clubhouse. She is keen to help and Palmers may be interested in a pitchside hoarding or other form of sponsorship.

Julian advised that two meetings have been held so far on the proposal to take over the clubhouse licence. Advice has been sought from the RFU who raised some points to which we are responding. Another meeting is arranged for Thurs 23rd Sept to which Will Thrower and Malcolm Heaver have been invited in order to discuss the 'Principle of Transfer'. The LC are keen to progress very quickly but we will not be rushed.

14. Club Development:

- a) Safeguarding – still looking
- b) School Liaison – Nadia has emailed all senior schools. Julian suggested we try to link up with sixth forms at Beaminster and Colfox re U16's and U17's. Louis and Ayo to arrange meetings.
- c) Publicity – good press coverage of the 10's tournament and two touring side matches. A mailshot will be sent to VPs and Sponsors re the first league match. The fixture list will be emailed to the Bridport News this week. Ayo will ask Tom to do fixture cards which will be handed out around town.
- d) Volunteers – Charlie Crane will be asked to clear out the boiler room.
- e) Development Plan – taken over by clubhouse proposal

15. Any Other Business:

- a) Louis advised that it is not possible for Charlie Samways to have dual registration but can perhaps be loaned to Bridport.
- b) Allan mentioned that the Brownies are interested in holding another session.
- c) Guy passed the plaque for our promotion to Allan. May need to re-arrange trophies/memorabilia in the clubhouse.
- d) Ayo suggested the hoardings be put up before the first league game. Louis/Allan/Stuart to liaise on date.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm, next meeting Monday 11th October 2021

Louis Brown /
Ayo Fraser