

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 12th July 2021
at A. G. Down, 66 South Street**

Present: Kevin Hart, Louis Browne, Allan Staerck, Noel Gregory, Peter Brook, Guy Livingston
Drew Livingston, Ayo Fraser, Julian and Karen Hussey

Apologies: Simon Hussey, Stuart & Kathy Briggs, Dan Butler

Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were approved (proposed: Allan, seconded: Guy).
All in favour

Matters Arising

None

Treasurer's Report

Account set up: still ongoing
Mitsubishi: Ayo has provided details required
Kevin Chappuis: Allan has contacted him. He is happy to do again would like to be given
possible dates. Allan to liaise with Noel.

Fixtures / Fundraising for Tours / Tens Tournament

Drew has a signed Exeter Chiefs Shirt and two pictures of Jason Leonard for auction. He will give
a list of sponsors to Rory, who will contact them regarding raffle donations.

Car Park / CCTV

Louis has spoken to Ricky – currently on back burner until he has sufficient time.
Noel delayed meeting as no feedback from his people but will follow up and tie in with electricity
lights etc.

Heat blankets

Louis has contacted the company and passed details on to manufacturer.

Treasurer's Report

About £6,300 in our account taking into consideration some sponsorship monies (approx. £1,500).
Natwest account opening on hold.
Cheque from closing the Nationwide will be paid into Barclays and split into a separate account
when the Natwest Accounts has been opened.
Some new bills in hand to settle.
Good news – Barclays fully up and running (even mobile banking!)

Secretary's Report- not available

Simon has been forwarding on all emails from D&W to relevant people. Nothing of note
Data cleanse email sent from the RFU – KH asked committee to go through registered players
(see attached list).

D&W emails have included: CCD Courses - Allan to book
 Dorset & Wilts Management Restructuring
 D&W virtual AGM – no takers to attend

VPs

Peter stated that there we no further monies in to report.

Usually at this time of year we would be looking forward to the AGM, fixtures would be prepared and the Fixture Book ready for sending out.

It has been suggested that Peter send the Fixture Book by email but he would rather not as he feels that VPs expect a written communication.

It was agreed that such correspondence would ask VPs to collect their FB from the club house. Discussion took place to have a lunch in the spring, BBQ etc. PB and JH will meet to discuss events and report back to the committee.

Fixtures

Tens Tournament

Eight teams on board. Query over payment from Crewkerne

Nine clubs were interested but Wheatsheaf did not pay their deposit so Kevin has explained that they will be first reserve and tabled the confirmation for eight. Fee waived for Rory's charity team. Kevin has notified Gerald Burden (D&W) officially. His only concern was that, if there are under 18s in any of the teams, safeguarding must be in place. There will not be any, as legally not entitled to play until after Christmas. Kevin will send an email reminding teams that under 18s are not eligible to play, after clarifying this with Gerald.

St. John Ambulance will be in attendance.

Council being chased regarding land for camping. Second option not ideal (Eype Down). Guy to investigate Melplash.

Blandford have the trophy, have had it engraved and will bring it on the day

Dorset & Wilts Seniors Male Competition – 31st July

Level 7 and below are eligible to take part if there is enough interest

Ayo felt it had not worked well for us in the past, would like to play games at weekends preferring to leave these free to arrange friendlies.

Julian felt we might be in situation where we do not have games for social 15 and this could provide matches.

Drew and Ayo will canvas opinion from First team

Discussion took place regarding distances, buses, costs and the guarantee of fixtures.

Ayo checked that Kevin has submitted the date we are unavailable – Kevin has and has received an acknowledgement.

Coaching / Team Management

Ayo reported a good first session with over 30 players, including six or eight Colts.

This was followed by watching the Chiefs play on Saturday, which resulted in Covid striking the team!

Ayo is looking to start again this week (Thursday) due to The Lions Game. Training will then continue on Wednesdays.

Allan asked if anyone had attended the Lineout coaching course – no one had.

Noel stated that Jesse has a good link with coaches in the Junior Section and that it had been a good year for recruiting helpers; with seven or eight who now need to attend the course. Noel asked if the contact for courses could be both Jesse and Allan so that we can capture their enthusiasm better than we have in the past. Allan will email relevant person to include Jesse and liaise with him as to which courses are required

Captain's Report

Drew reported on a couple of new players and believes another will be joining them.

Ayo is aware of another player.

All have previous experience (and even some from Dorchester !)

New Rules

Louis brought attention to the new tackle height rules (lowered to top of arm pit for adults too).

Julian asked if Louis could be available for a session to go through this.

Loui felt the main situation where issues may arise will be the head contact process. He will try and find the video for circulating. This will be for adult and junior players and applies to all matches, including friendlies.

Ayo asked if Louis could come down and give input on technicalities, breakdowns etc.

Julian felt younger players would take more notice of Louis due to his age.

Juniors and Colts

Noel reported that three Colts (including the captain) have gone to Sidmouth. Reasons: first team players are coaching them there, they have four coaches to squad and, in one case, being attached to the academy was felt to be beneficial to their progression.

Noel has been saddened by this and contacted all parents. Two families did not want their child to move but the player made the decision. Noel has made it clear that they would all be very welcome back.

At the Junior Committee meeting it was suggested that the juniors be responsible for the Tens BBQ to integrate them with players (thanks to Noel and Jesse). Noel thinks there will be around ten parents who will be able to assist

Matirx from D&W looking good

The outlook is looking positive.

Defibrillator

Noel had carried out some investigations: Kevin Chappuis estimated the cost at £1,300 to include one pair of pads (5 year shelf life, single use)

Discussion took place about viability, access (if only in Club House), age of spectators and the need to have two on site, as there is one in the LC.

Julian suggested a sub committee (Allan, Peter, NG) to discuss further with the LC regarding access / siting outside etc. and report back

Noel to liaise with Will.

Photograph

Peter asked if there could be a Junior photoshoot with the Electric Palace shirts, as requested by Alasdair Warren, to obtain publicity. Noel will organise this for early September.

Club House Availability

Lateral testing has finished. The bar needs remedial checking by the LC before use.

24th July – LC could be available (under pressure!) if we are to have Sky and what to watch this. Following discussion about channels, highlights and subscriptions, it was agreed that there is no point having the Clubhouse to watch The Lions Tour.

NG would like to build a good relationship with Will.

Allan was concerned about cleanliness, as the whole area needs deep cleaning.

It was agreed to ask for the Club House from the week commencing 2nd August.

Social

Dan is away for the weekend when the juniors are running the Tens Tournament BBQ.

Grounds Maintenance

Guy reported all in hand. The only problem he has encountered is that the grass keeps growing!

Shaun drives past regularly and checks that lines do not need redoing,

Noel reminded Ayo that he has all the equipment.

All pitches, corners etc. are in place,

Two gates installed. Top end gate ordered.

Inner lower corral gate invoice NG has given to Ayo.

Discussion took place over the arrangements for payment/share between us and LC. Julian believes the fence is down to the LC, the bottom gate 50/50 with a query over responsibility for the cost of the other gate.

Future meeting to be set up with Will – Ayo asked for this to be brought forward and will arrange.

Guy lead a discussion about the third gap – we need to look at something to prevent muddiness.

Meeting felt that mats were a waste of time. Louis suggested digging out, filling properly and then Astro Turf. He will provide an estimate for this.

Guy also reported on the following:-

Gutter on club house roof pours down the middle and on to the pitch.

Downpipe by changing room is blocked which does not go into the drain and runs on to the pitch.

Downpipe round by cage – gutter is blocked and floods out over pitch.

These seem to be recurring problems – Allan will liaise with Carlos.

Business Development

Julian had received an email from Stuart with sponsorship update and a meeting is being held next week to catchup and see who needs chasing.

We now have a hoarding from Mystic Signs to put up.

Drew asked if it would be it worth saving a spot to use for the Club to advertise (open to all etc.)

Discussion : could it go in a different place, something by gates, visual, underneath existing fixture board, you can advertise here ?

Interest shown in shirt fronts, back, sleeves, hoodies, hoardings etc. so great support for the Club.

Club Development

Safeguarding: Noel has two recruits, Jo is excellent.

Second person is not responding to any attempts to contact so decision taken not to pursue.

Ayo to speak to him directly.

We need to find someone from junior section

School liaison is ongoing

Development Plan – in progress

Any Other Business

Guy : reminded the meeting we interest had been expressed about playing Portland prisoners.

Kevin – worth pursuing again and will do so via D&W.

AGM

Noel – we need to know what our current constitution commits us to. Simon Peck raised the fact that our current one stipulates the need for three ex officio. Committee to consider this before AGM. Julian proposed date of Friday 13th August 7pm. Allan to confirm with LC.

Notification to be given via GMS, email (e.g, VPs and committee) and share as much as possible. Elections to be discussed. Ayo suggested that Coach should be an appointment not an election, as should first and second team captain.

Constitution: Discussion took place regarding changes. Committee needs to decide what we want to achieve before making changes and, when decided, to call an EGM to make approved changes.

Floodlights

Louis asked that, having spoken to Allan and Noel about the report, could he have a copy to see what the deficit is. Noel will forward (once washed). Louis is assessing draw / lux with Ricky. Interim and long term solutions discussed.

Gym

Following discussion, a vote was taken to purchase all the existing equipment, which was unanimous.

Allan kindly agreed to the £3,000 being paid over three years.

Peter wished it to be minuted that the club is very grateful for all Allan for the use and generosity.

Ayo wished to record that there will be other equipment needed to purchase in the future

Allan and Ayo to catch up on handover

Proximity of Dead Ball Line and Fence

Louis queried measurement.

Allan has measured 2.8m to 3m with a 6m dead ball line at the moment (Louis says minimum 6m).

Louis will check.

Letter to Chris Loader regarding Lodgers

Peter (and Noel) have received a reply. A bill went through at committee stage – going to House of Lords for tougher rules.

Family Involvement

Drew is going to create a survey, starting with player's partners, to build more engagement and then with parents to gauge enthusiasm for Inner Warriors, to encourage women's involvement.

Subscriptions

Discussion took place regarding level of subs

£5 match fees

£65 per person

Julian is also keen to attract spectators, coaches

University Students = £10 registration + match fees only – Kit on match days

Instalment option will be available

Next meeting

Bridport Leisure Centre Monday 9th

Meeting closed at 21.28.

Minutes taken by Karen Hussey