

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 13th July 2026 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Peter Brook, Simon Bareham, Allan Staerck, Ayo Fraser, Guy Livingston, Kathy Briggs, Lloyd Vercoe, Pete Dacey, James Keen, Phoebe Goodfellow, Libby Rogers

1. Apologies: Niamh Vercoe, Louis Browne, Chris Wood, George Hussey, Jim Jones, Sarah Samways

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

The minutes were approved.

3. Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere):

- Rabbit problem ongoing. Update next meeting.
- Tom Gamwell happy to continue with updating website. Lou to provide booking schedule and look at linking Facebook with the website.
- Lloyd to contact Pete Wyrill at Hillarys and ABC for quotes for blackout blinds.
- Julian and Lloyd not yet met to discuss basic costings for 60th anniversary event.
- Guy still to obtain details of blazers from Barton and pass to Chris.
- Guy has contacted Nick Hodge but no response to date.
- Pete confirmed Exeter Rugby Camp day going ahead. Only assistance required from our side is use of changing rooms.
- Final Ladies session this week but will start again in the new season.
- AGM papers circulated on GMS and emailed to VPs.

4. Chairman's Report:

Many thanks to Lloyd and Mark for setting up the robot mower. Also to Lloyd for his ongoing work in the kitchen and boiler room.

The AGM is this Friday 17th July. Reports to be prepared in advance.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Balance end of May - £75,449.81. Sponsorship monies now being received. Massive thanks to Sarah for her work on this with over 100 sponsors for the shirt draw.

Current balance - £80,554.27

The accounts show that BRFC was in a good position at year end with a strong balance sheet and profit of £4.5k. Income was down on the previous year as this included the Matthews legacy and fund raising for the French tour. However expenses have been better controlled. BRFC Enterprises show £11k profit against £2k last year.

Assets have increased as the extension costs have been moved from the club to Enterprises. The profit margins on the bar have increased considerably.

Subscriptions for Sky and in particular Premier Sport to be cut back as not cost effective.

As usage of gas and water are now metered the contracts will need to be re-negotiated with the LC.

Bar end June - £25k

Bar to date - £26k

Next VAT return due for May-July.

Noted that BRFC Enterprises are presented at the AGM purely for information and transparency, not for discussion.

6. Secretary's Report:

JJ/LV

LE

LV

JH/LV

GL

Nothing of note to report this month and all (not many) D&W emails forwarded on. The AGM details have been circulated. The mailing list needs to be updated via GMS to remove all those who are no longer members. This will then give a clearer outlook on the club membership as a whole. Assistance required please to sort this.

CW

7. VP's Report:

Peter will write to the VPs after the AGM regarding donations and that the Committee has suggested a minimum donation of £100 this year although it is appreciated that many already give more than this. He will include the fixture book and bar card (individually named in indelible ink) with his letter. He will also mention the ongoing need for volunteers. He will also remind VPs that to be eligible to apply for International tickets donations must be received before entering the ballot. Jasmine to be asked for relevant dates. Also suggested that a 'Volunteers Day' is organised with a list of jobs to be undertaken with the bar open and a BBQ.

PB

8. Fixtures:

Next seasons fixtures are now available online. Our first game is away at Wheatsheaf Cabin Crew.

Jon and George trying to organise some pre-season friendlies.

9. Coaching / Team Management / Captain's reports:

Coaching now started with reasonable numbers. Feedback so far positive.

Agreed that the bar could be opened after training as long as Nathan or Cam are happy to volunteer as will not pay for bar staff.

The Colts have started training sessions with Crewkerne, alternating between there and Bridport. Number are building.

Nomination of next season's Captain to be endorsed at the AGM.

10. Juniors report:

Phoebe and Libby were welcomed to the meeting as they are taking over the Minis from James next season. James will retain his Rugbysafe role.

Already agreed that Junior subscription fees will remain the same next season. Registration and payment will be linked on GMS.

Bar discount cards will be available behind the bar at £25.

Extra till to be installed in the kitchen. When there are no matches this can be programmed so that payments go to Enterprises.

Jim has organised plastic cups. Agreed a deposit of £1 to be kept separately as cash behind the bar rather than go through the till.

Price increases will be looked at over the summer. With the same level of sales, prices will need to increase to cover VAT. Next season there will also be increased bar staff costs as previously many volunteers providing free labour.

The kitchen extraction requires professional cleaning. Jim will organise as part of the brewery schedule. Possibility that fire suppression may be required in the kitchen.

Schools have been emailed re the Tag festival.

Poster to be sent to Junior coaches to advertise recruitment.

Noel is standing down from Tiny Tots. Cam is looking to take over and Josh (Palmers) has offered to help.

Ladies Rugby Fit:

Last session this week, with 37 members in the group, and will start again in September.

Hoping to hold a social session over the summer

Girls: U16's – will combine with Dorchester and Weymouth again as Dorset Warriors as not sufficient numbers for a Bridport team.

No U12's

19th September – Guides and Brownies session from 10-12 before the first senior home game.

11. Social report:

Nothing to report.

12. Grounds Maintenance:

Pitches not requiring to be cut at present so the robot mower is on sleep mode.

13. Business Development Report:

Julian will give an update on the current situation at the AGM.

14. Club Development:

- a) Safeguarding – nothing to report.
- b) School liaison – nothing to report.
- c) Publicity – suggested an article in the Bridport News and West Dorset Magazine re the new coach.

15. AOB:

- a) Update on the Bricks will be given at the AGM.
- b) Bridport Folk Festival have asked to use the roadside pitch for parking from 24-26 July. However as the road will be closed due to bridge works at Palmers, so lengthy diversions, this will not be practical.
- c) Jesse Johnson is stepping down as Coaching Co-ordinator. Lloyd will email asking for a replacement.
- d) Lloyd advised all should be aware that the Rugby club now has its own fire alarm.
- e) Ayo showed mock up of suggested supporters jersey. Agreed club should purchase a few for sale to members rather than individuals purchasing direct from the website. Embroidery option on name on the back to be investigated.

Meeting closed at 8.05 pm, next meeting Monday 10th August at 6.00 pm

LV

AF