

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bridport Rugby Football Club
Held on 10th June 2024 at the Rugby Pavilion**

Present: Julian Hussey, Allan Staerck, Peter Brook, Ayo Fraser, Louis Browne, Kathy Briggs, Lloyd Vercoe, Ross Duncan, Sam Petchey, Guy Livingston, Rob Sullivan, Timmy Edwards, Chris Wood

1. Apologies: Simon Hussey, Pete Dacey, George Hussey, Charlie Samways, Niamh Vercoe, James Keen

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

Julian still to speak to Richard Balson.

4. Chairman's Report:

Nothing to report. Other issues will be covered later in the meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Current balance is £70,543.87 which includes the legacy from the Matthews estate which is to be ringfenced for the club development.

All outstanding payments for the dinner have been settled.

Having problems contacting Simon Hartley re finalising the accounts.

Interim figures indicate that the bar made a profit of £20k, with a club loss of £2k, so a net profit of £18k. These figures will change a little after stock accounting and depreciation have been taken into account.

No further club bookings until 29th June.

6. Secretary's Report:

Chris was welcomed to the meeting.

Various emails received from the RFU.

Louis will attend the RFU AGM.

Player payment declaration needs to be submitted by 30th June.

7. VP's Report:

Nothing to report.

8. Fixtures:

10's tournament – 6 teams confirmed so far, Wheatsheaf, Blandford, Wimborne, Weymouth and two from Puddletown. We will probably enter two teams and Timmy possibly one.

Louis to contact Allan Haggerty as a referee.

Warm up game away against Honiton arranged for 10th August, kick off tbc.

Hoping for a home game on 24th August.

League fixtures should be released on 12th June.

9. Coaching / Team Management / Captains report:

Senior team meeting held on 22nd May with 30 players attending.

Very good input from all. Topics covered included feedback on the player questionnaire, league fixtures, new season kit. It was proposed that individual players try to find their own sponsorship.

JH

Unanimous decision that Charlie should continue as Captain next season.

Summer touch sessions started last week with over 40 players of all ages and it is hoped numbers will continue to grow.

It has been decided to hold two training sessions a week, Tues and Thurs, starting on Tues 9th July. Due to work commitments Ross will sadly be stepping down though he will continue to be involved as part of the coaching set-up. The committee wished to record their thanks and appreciation to Ross for all his hard work and efforts over the past seasons.

Ayo will oversee coaching in future with the help of Wes, as attack and backs coach, together with Timmy and Rory.

Ross will take a strapping course so he can help with that and also First Aid for matches. Ayo has approached Sam to return as physio. She cannot commit to every weekend but may be able to get a bank of people to help cover.

Ayo's email regarding the GPS units was discussed. It is now proposed to get 8 units, to be rotated between forwards and backs, and to be used by the Colts on Sundays. These cost £10 per unit/month, so £960/year plus a one-off cost of vests at £12 each. Ayo proposed and Timmy seconded a one season trial which was carried.

The container needs to be replaced. A quote from Heaver Bros for a 20x8 container, including transport and special locks totals £3520. Agreed Guy, Louis and Ayo to investigate best options and size.

The Woodman have agreed to sponsor an away kit. Proposals from VX3 re designs were discussed.

The scrummaging machine needs an overhaul. Gill has offered to repair the pads, offer accepted.

The boot scrubber needs new brushes. Allan and Guy to action.

GL/LB/AF

AS/GL

10. Junior's report:

- Schools Tag Festival arranged for 19th October. Lloyd will send details to schools. Dave Bolwell to be asked if he could present the prizes again.
- After discussion it was agreed that the entire right side of the floodlights should be replaced with LED lights. Lloyd and Louis to arrange.
- This Saturday the roadside pitch will be used for car parking for the Food Festival from 9-3pm. Junior coaches to cover hourly shifts and juniors to shake buckets for donations to club funds.

LV/LB

11. Social report:

The two summer international matches against New Zealand will be shown in the clubhouse, kick off 8.05am. Agreed we will provide food and run the bar inhouse.

The Sponsorship draw will take place on Friday 5th July.

Timmy suggested that Prohibition, the burger and pizza van, provide food for the 10's tournament. They will donate £150 to the club and will not be allowed to sell drinks. Timmy and Guy to investigate booking a band for the evening.

TE/GL

12. Grounds Maintenance:

Pitches have been mowed again and will be marked up tomorrow.

Darren has agreed that the drainage pipe across the pitch should be re-routed. Louis will obtain a price for it to be moved to run behind the hoardings and then into the ditch.

LB

13. Business Development Report:

Nothing to report.

14. Club Development:

- a) Safeguarding – all going ok.
- b) School liaison – arrangements for Tag Festival in hand.
- c) Publicity – report on the Club dinner in Bridport News and West Dorset Magazine.
- d) Volunteers – Julian thanked Chris who will be taking over as Secretary at the AGM. He also thanked all who have been on the committee this year, especially Sam, Timmy and Oz who will not be standing next year.
- e) Development Plan – architect has been chased for an update on the planning application.

16. AOB:

- a) Fireworks booked for Sat 2nd November. This is a break weekend for the league. England are playing New Zealand in the Autumn Internationals that afternoon so hopefully good attendance for that.
- b) The LC appeared to have held a football session on the pitch last Tuesday. Need to be aware in case it happens regularly.
- c) The Round Table held their first meeting in the Clubhouse last Tuesday. They would like to put a plaque on the wall outside. Agreed.
- d) Due to an RFU error in not noting the change of email contact we were left with a very short window to apply for Autumn International tickets. This has now been rectified.
- e) Sam has managed to get Sky to reduce their quote for the summer internationals from £417+VAT to £350+VAT. Agreed to go ahead.
- f) Louis had attended the AGM of the Referees Society. A new Chairman has been elected. Match fees will be increased next year.
There will be a four-week block for referees' appointments.
- g) Allan queried the whereabouts of the red and blue shirts as they are missing.
- h) Lloyd queried whether we could change from Kronenbourg for next season. Guy will get prices for Cruz Campo and Moretti in order to make decision.
- i) The defibrillator needs to be installed asap. Lloyd to liaise with Paul. Training can follow.
- j) Oz suggested a social day with Tuilagi lager. Lloyd to check with Jim Jones re position with Palmers.
- k) Guy queried timings for music for bookings. These should be stipulated on the licence. Guy to check with Martin Huxter.
- l) Agreed that shirt sponsorship will remain the same for next season. Julian will write a letter which Kathy will email to all sponsors. May need to be followed up by telephone if lack of responses.
- m) Allan to check with Will if Wipeout World have been booked again this summer.
- n) Peter advised the wooden pavilion needs repainting this summer.

GL

LV

LV

GL

JH/KB

AS

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm, next meeting Monday 8th July at 6.30pm