**“Promoting Rugby for One and All”**

**“Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll”**

Minutes of the Management Board Meeting

Wednesday 22nd Nov 23, 7pm @ Bodmin RFC.

**Present:** David Saunter, Jane Bell, Andy Reed, Kevin Thomas, Tony Knightsbridge, Alan Milliner, Daubroy Delahunty, Lee Maher, Tom Magill, Ashley Shopland, Reggie Gough & Joanne Holden.

Via Zoom: Bill Hooper, Steve Murley & Nicola McCombe

**Welcome:** Chairman Dave Saunter welcomed everyone.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** All agreed that these were a true and accurate record. Signed off by chairman.
3. **Matters arising:** None

**Confidential Items under Item 7:**

1. **Reports;**

**Executive:** Executive has not met.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

A.S. emphasised items in submitted report, monies to spend £75,000.

Redruth Albany has had their loan request paid. A.S. will visit once works complete.

The Targeted Funding Action Plan should free up £4300, we need to spend, to get it again next season.

A ‘Financial Policy’ is in progress to help with CRFU procedures. The CRFU needs to have processes in place with regard to handling of all finances. We need transparency and additional signatory safeguards to assist with the policy.

All agreed this is a sensible course of action.

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has now been sent all backdated accounts including the current one, which is ahead of the required time.

A.M. thanked Ashley for his efficiency, perhaps a treasurer’s template could be produced for club use.

**RFU Council Rep:** AM had circulating his report detailing his activities over the last month. Alan had met with James Gregory who is an alternative education provider, he is looking for a Cornish venue/sports club to partner with him. It could be an income opportunity for interested parties.

CRFU would not endorse but happy to facilitate if required.

J.H. Further information from James would be sensible, we could then pass on to clubs.

**Finance & Governance:** As per submitted report, the recommended nominations were agreed by the board, as was the recommendation to cover 100% of courses costs up to £30.

A.S. MB to set budgets at start of season (Local Plan) ahead of the new financial year.

All agreed.

**Club Development & Volunteers:** Report submitted, MB colleagues to distribute outstanding volunteer certificates/gifts which T.M. had left over from the volunteers event.

**Safeguarding:** No report.

**Game Development:** DD had sent in a report.

D.D Confirming approval to be able to provide start up team packs (balls etc)

Meeting to arrange courses for 2024. 4 courses have unfortunately been cancelled. Considerations for CRFU posters to be in clubhouses re up and coming courses.

D.D. unable to touch base with Truro College re a coaching conference in July, T.K. to give a contact. D.S. suggested Callywith as well.

**Youth & Education:** TK had sent a report.

**Representative Rugby:** KT had sent in a report.

Much frustration with regard to RFU fixtures, these come out late and this delays travel arrangements. Monies need to be agreed for budget.

Discussion re the U20s ‘Jason Leonard’ Cup. Ongoing issues as last year. D.S. has spoken to a RFU contact and expressed our concerns, some counties may not enter this season.

A.M. mentioned proposals via Council agenda, which we will not support. Alan will act on CRFU behalf along with Colin Hatch’s comments.

D.S. to send another letter to Dr Tim Miller. N.M. mentioned that Tim is not communicating with CB’s – Champs committees are the issue, keep pushing.

K.T. Tamar Cup will be @ Devonport RFC, Wed 27th March 24. Also in communications with the Royal Engineers Corp, who are looking for a fixture.

**Women’s Rugby Representative:** J.H. had submitted her report.

Looking at a weekend event for a Cornwall Cup.

**Competitions:** Report submitted**.**

L.M. re Papa Johns, 14 x Cornwall clubs have entered. Reminder to be sent.

**Rugby Safe:** R.G.submitted his report.

R.G. would like to form a ‘Player Welfare’ committee, this would allow a continued contact while he is on secondment within the county. – All agreed.

PHICIS payments, clarification that these are paid by the CRFU at a set rate and not hourly:

* Per Training session @ £50
* Per Match @ £80

Fuel is not covered unless in exceptional circumstances.

R.G. asked N.M about the disconnect between clubs and schools etc. N.M. It should be parental responsibility to inform club/schools if there is an injury. Educating should be key.

S.M. St Austell trying a 2 prong approach, asking schools to advise clubs if an injury.

**Diversity & Inclusion:** No report. Apologies for lack of recent input.

S**.**M. speaking to Chloe Harris from the Brandon Trust, possible event with the CRFU.

**Discipline:** B.H. submitted a report.

There was a Red card issued which the Ref after the match, changed his mind, 2 heads had clashed but felt it should have been a Yellow.

Awaiting confirmation of the Red card being rescinded.

**Nicola/RFU:** N.M. had sent a report for our county.

Highlighted various activities for women/girls rugby specifically.

**Correspondence:** J.B. advised that:

* some clubs were requesting information on course reimbursement
* as mentioned above, Tamar Cup had been confirmed
* requests for CB passes to hospitality area at England home games (confirmed that we will have 10 x passes per game-open to all volunteers)
* Hon Sec copied in on Papa John’s / County Champs info

**Discussion Items:**

1. *Commercial development*

D.S. advised that he, along with Ashley and Steve had met with Tanya Thomas who has kindly taken up the new role of ‘Commercial Developer’. Tanya will work alongside Ashley and Tom.

1. *Succession Planning*

D.S. reconfirmed that he will be stepping down as Chair at the next AGM. After speaking to our own Steve Murley, he very much hopes that Steve will take over the role, carrying on the CRFU direction that we are following. Subject to the necessary Executive Board procedures.

**AOB:**

A.S. we hold CRFU pins for distribution, blazer badges are low so we will need to order some more.

Bill Hooper presented with his badge (virtually) for his 5 year service as Ass Hon Sec.

D.D. highlighted ‘Team of the Month’. Dennis Preece organises this.

A.M. despite his best efforts at mitigation, Veor no longer partner and play at Holmans. All ‘Home’ fixtures will be played away. D.S. advised that Bodmin have offered their pitch.

Alan also reconfirmed the shocking vandalism, suffered by Truro in their brand new changing rooms. Social Media has played its part in trying to find the culprit, the Police are involved.

 A.R. the Presidents email address is 98% full, excessive amounts of emails coming through.

 S.M. struggled while attending the meeting via Zoom, can we organise a better system?

J.B. advised that her personal laptop was 5 years old and despite the microphone attachment, doesn’t work well.

A.R/D.S agreed that we should have a dedicated CRFU laptop. Steve, Ashley and Jane to source including a 360 camera.

Meeting closed: 8:50 pm.

*Approved: via Zoom, Wed 24th January 2024 / Chair – David Saunter*