**“Promoting Rugby for One and All”**

**“Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll”**

Minutes of the Management Board Meeting

Wednesday 24th January 2024, 7pm via Zoom

**Present:** Andy Reed**,** David Saunter, Jane Bell, Ashley Shopland, Bill Hooper, Kevin Thomas, Tanya Thomas, Tony Knightsbridge, Alan Milliner, Daubroy Delahunty, Lee Maher, Tom Magill, Paul Hayes, Reggie Gough (from 7:40pm), Cozy Shrosbree, Steve Murley, Joanne Holden & Nicola McCombe (RFU).

Via Zoom: All

**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:** Regarding the new CRFU laptop, SM has made the purchase and will handover to JB in the next week.

**Confidential Items under Item 7:**

1. **Reports;**

**Executive:** Executive has not met.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Report sent out.

A.S. Low level spend of our budget, looking at past 3 years, a third is spent in first half of the season and 2 thirds in the 2nd half, if we up the spend a bit we should come within our £90,000 budget.

The bigger Jewsons invoice not settled as yet, but will chase in the coming weeks.

K.T. Rep rugby will start making a dent in the budget.

L.M. Advised that he will need to spend monies on medals and trophies for the youth and senior’s competitions etc.

D.D. Would like additional shields for ‘Coaches of the Year’ etc, L.M. will add them to his order.

**RFU Council Rep:** AM had circulated his report detailing his activities over the last month.

Been on a call with the RFU, protection for the community game, although we will wait and see.

D.S. Mentioned contacting Holmans, as the goal posts are being taken down. No luck so far.

A.M. Reiterated that mediation seems pointless as Veor-Holmans relationship is poor.

D.S. Veor’s home game situation is very difficult, as is looking for another ground.

**Finance & Governance:** Report submitted.

* CRFU Finance Policy is being developed for processes and procedures.
* Minor amendment to rules and sub rules. The definition on a quorum at an AGM, will change from a number to a ratio.
* Records management. The documents storage will be kept for another 12 months, discussion on how we continue with archived paperwork and how long it needs to be kept. Cloud storage would be an option. Document management back end, one place accessible by MB.

**Club Development & Volunteers:** Report submitted.

T**.**M. Bodmin had requested another £500, they have already had 2 inputs.

D.S. Wasn’t aware of this request, all agreed that if they need it, they have monies in the next financial year. D.S. to take back to club.

D.S. Need to look at the Tender Doc again for county hosting clubs.

T.M. St Austell may want to submit a tender for larger events, if they have the volunteers.

**Safeguarding:** Report submitted.

C.S. Lanyards would be a good idea for all CRFU personnel. All agreed.

D.S. Asked Nicola what the RFU could supply i.e Lanyard holders.

N.M. Will check what she can find in her garage.

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

D.D. Please can everyone push the Coaching Co-Ordinators meeting. 12th Feb @ Bodmin and 19th Feb @ Redruth. Letter being sent. 2 rugby balls given per club attending.

* We have supplied 2 x packs of equipment to Falmouth & St Austell.
* Club Conference will be held on the 6th July 24, location tbc. What needs to be covered, Neil Smith will do a session and D.D. has reached out to the CRRS.
* Looking to hold joint courses ie Line Out/Scrum, it has been done before in other Devon, we need to fit around us and not the RFU’s window of courses offered.
* On the hunt for historical items for the 28th Feb county match. Would like to celebrate the county.

T.K. Clarification of course costs again.

A.S. The first £30 is 100% refundable. Over and above is 50% refundable.

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

**Representative Rugby:** KT had sent in a up and coming fixtures report.

Thanked Mr Miller!!, as the Men’s fixtures now include an unexpected away trip to Surrey rather than a quick trip to Somerset, which will incur additional travel expenses.

* Colin Hatch will vacate his position as U20s Team Manager at the end of the season, a great servant to the CRFU, can the Nominations Committee offer a suitable recognition.
* Trevor Spargo will also be recognised. B.H. confirmed.
* Jason Leonard U20s, eligibility criteria has been amended in the RFU regs, this is what we wanted.

D.S. Can the MB get to as many games as possible, we may be stretched in places but hopefully between us we can get every game covered.

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

* 24th Mar, Cornwall Cup @ Truro RFC, chase clubs to sign up.
* 21st Apr @ Bodmin RFC for the new Women’s Tamar Cup.

D.S. Offered himself and Lee for refereeing services.

L.M. Suggested that Jo join the competitions meetings, so dates/venues don’t clash etc. 28th April, U16s finals for both boys and girls @ Newquay.

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

* Unfortunately, our 10-team league will not be able to proceed next season. The Merit table is not functioning. 12 team leagues next season unless Devon comes on board.
* Requesting help for Colt’s presentation @ Launceston on Sat. S.M. offered to help.
* Super Cup, revised based on league basis, looks like it will be Camborne v Launceston, but Camborne may not be able to play due to other priorities. Any ideas on how to rejuvenate this cup? D.S. This is part of our Tribute sponsorship, and we need to honour it in some format. Perhaps St Austell may be interested.

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

R.G. Met with ‘Cornwall Enterprise’ who would like to fund a course (level 3) for 28 people, advanced first aid, awaiting more info.

Bob Hubble’s company is offering a 50/50 split on cost to provide inflatable shelters for injured players, while they are waiting for an ambulance.

D.S. we need to be mindful of costs.

R.G. will send out further information.

S.M. Chris Ashwin @ St Austell has a contact to pass to Reggie, in regard to the new headgear that is being trialled by the RFU. R.G. happy for the introduction.

C.S. Concerned that the NHS don’t seem to be singing off the same hymn sheet with regard to concussion. Can the RFU influence the NHS county trusts.

N.M. Proactive app and GRAS is our best tool.

R.G. 21 day return to play works, we need to be robust and don’t deviate from our procedures.

Much discussion on parent’s attitudes to concussion and club volunteers being challenged.

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

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

Paul has managed to contact John Dunstan, so we can move forward with the disciplinary audit.

**Commercial Development:**

T.T. Confirmed Ann’s Pasty sponsorship across all the Champ matches. Pasty trailer to games, after costs, the remaining takings given to CRFU.

All sponsors feel they are not getting much for their investment. T.T. has advised we will be rectifying this with more engagement, social platform and our brand etc.

Each sponsor will get a numbered playing shirt. £100 has been secured from Kelsall Steel towards the pre match buffet for Navy dignitaries and sponsors at the Cornwall v Navy game.

Invited to a business lunch with ‘Wildnet’ to see if we can work together.

T.T. Would like to invite the Cornwall 90/91 team to the Senior Men’s home match on the 1st Jun, along with the sponsors there would be a pre match reception. Having spoken to Ocean BMW they are willing to sponsor to the tune of £1000. They would share on their social media and newsletter. £350 restaurant voucher on offer as well.

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

Highlighted various activities for women/girls rugby specifically.

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

* Saltash/Wadebridge have sent through touring forms.

**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 21st February 2024 / Chair – David Saunter*