**“Promoting Rugby for One and All”**

**“Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll”**

Minutes of the Management Board Meeting

Wednesday 24th April 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, Paul Hayes, Reggie Gough, Joanne Holden & Nicola McCombe (RFU).

Via Zoom: All

**Welcome:** Chairman Dave Saunter welcomed everyone and thanked us all for Zooming again as A30 had closures.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Steve Murley, Tom Magill, Cozy Shrosbree & Lee Maher.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** All agreed that these were a true and accurate record. Signed off virtually by chairman.
3. **Matters arising:** None in relation to last minutes. A note on the agenda was moved to AOB.
4. **Reports:**

**Executive:** D.S. advised the Executive had met and AS had set out a local plan idea which is mentioned in his report. We had agreed this would set us ahead of the game.

John Sumnall wants to step down as handbook editor after 15 years, JB’s husband Rob has offered his services and is now in contact with John for a handover.

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

A.S. has quickly realised that the limited spending in the first half of the year, is now made up for by all the hotel/coach expenses that have come in!

We should break even at the end of the year, which considering 1 Senior Men’s home game and 6 away games, is quite an achievement.

* RFU to pay monies due, in the next few days.
* Discussed ‘Local Plan’ for what we are trying to achieve within county rugby. Looking at a 3 Year rolling plan. Looking to have brief meetings with each section of the MB to discuss budget requirements and ideas on how we can use monies productively.

**RFU Council Rep:** A.M. had not submitted a report but highlighted some points:

* Sorting out key points from the Council meeting
* Met with Veor (2nd attempt) re new site meeting and with Camborne Deputy Mayor, James Ball, ex rugby player and very enthusiastic for this facility, wanting Veor to remain in his parish. Builders going in within the month at Wheal Gherry, there were concerns re arsenic, as a mining area, but new pavilion will be put on the contaminated area, so playing areas are clear and safe. However, it will be a shared with football so there will be some other considerations. Communications with RFU. Looking positive for a playing base for Veor.

P.H. How are they going to approach the start of next season? A.M. Veor are looking at a contingency plan as the new site will not be ready.

A.S. will they need support? A.M. once it is confirmed that a rugby pitch can be fitted in, then netting will be important. D.S. Veor have their rugby posts so that will be one less expense.

**Finance & Governance:** P.H. Apologised that no report had been submitted.

* Discipline Audit has now been completed and submitted to the RFU.
* John Dunstan will step down at the end of next season, as Discipline Lead and Chair. We now need to start a succession plan.
* Rob Bell will be invited onto the F&G committee as Handbook Editor.
* Meeting soon with John re his concerns on due process not being followed by the CRFU. Will update after meeting.
* F&G will meet in the next few weeks as we lead up to the AGM.

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

Via J.B:

* T.M asked how many MB would be attending the Honda Volunteers/Women’s match on the 12th May. Looking at 7, Dave and Alan happy to present any awards.
* T.M for catering purposes looking for sponsor numbers. T.T. advised Atlantic Reach should be in attendance. D.S. to call Tom to check everything in place.

**Safeguarding:** No report submitted.

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

D.D. Clubs Coaching Conference proposal needs approval (as per report) so it can be put in place for the 6th July. It will help to support clubs and upskill coaches and volunteers and is something we have wanted to do for some time.

J.B. Queried the need to pay for accommodation for the service providers. D.D. has advised we would want more local coaches to run the day and not from over 100 miles away.

A.S. Were clubs happy with the conference design? D.D. yes there is lots of interest and if we showcase what the CRFU can offer, we can build on it for future events.

D.S Venue? D.D. Truro School has all the facilities including parking. K.T. has kindly donated 40 pasties from Anns Pasties for lunch. Cost of venue will be approx. £500 which is separate from the providers costs.

D.S. Wayne Reed can now offer scrum and line out courses as one. Will that be included? D.D. no, we are looking to run that on the 5th Oct as part of the Club Development Day, which St Austell are hoping to host. D.D. spoken to Reggie so we can try to organise a First Aid course. Also looking to run a Referee course and perhaps a Safeguarding course.

D.S. We need to push these events as they need to be a success.

D.D. Cornish Pirates happy to do some targeted coaching sessions, Jun/Aug. D.S. suggested a larger event after August to capture more people. D.S. will also speak to D.D. about coaching awards.

**Youth & Education:** No report submitted.

* Age Grade festivals are well underway.
* U17s campaign starts with training on the 28th Apr. Family Wall updated.
* U16s DPP very successful and the RFU have given our budget an uplift to £10,000.
* 2 issues where coaches and clubs seem to not be understanding rules and regs. Softly softly approach at the moment, with education rather than sanctions.

D.S Congratulations on the Colts final, great day. U15s also went well. T.K. looking forward to U16s finals, 4 boys and 3 girls matches @ Newquay.

D.S. Requested Issy (photographer) to take some photos. J.H. to message.

A.S. Shame we can’t use our sponsor for pasties on the day, but as T.K. pointed out no one able to collect from Penzance.

T.K. Thanks for Andy Reed for his presentations, the boys appreciated it, and we are lucky to have him as President, with all his credentials.

**Representative Rugby:** Apologised for lack of report.

* Game against Royal Navy was a success, so we have been approached for a U23s match later in the year. We will progress that, watch this space.
* Men’s squad for this season will be announced shortly. Selection starting to get more difficult, because matches are being played later, player availability can be limited due to other commitments. Just to be aware.

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

* Last Women & Girls forum was held straight after the Cornwall Cup, which was great as we had a lot of feedback. Very positive, bigger and better next year. Over 100 women playing rugby in Cornwall. Forums will split so Women’s and Girls can more focus on their own areas. But will work closely with Tony and Cosy.
* Tamar Cup was unfortunately cancelled, Devon was unable to agree alternative dates.
* Are sponsors attending the Women’s home match? T.T. will recheck but looks like it will be Atlantic Reach. J.H. we want to promote Women’s rugby more. The players children have been invited to attend so we can promote mum’s who play rugby.
* Thanks to Ashley as all the coaches and hotels are now booked for the away games. Enquiries are being made re evening meal as the hotel are asking if we will dine there.
* If anyone would like to come on the coach to the Somerset match, let Jo know.
* Spoken to Rachel from the RFU about branding, we could do with CRFU flags etc to promote ourselves when running events. J.H. happy to look at costings and report back.

D.S. Jane has pull up banners that could be used. Also would be nice if J.H. or Verity could come and introduce themselves to the Honda Volunteers and explain the day.

* Wayne Reed has nominated J.H. as an England Rugby Developer helping Wayne deliver courses, which hopefully mean becoming a courses lead. Attended a course at Launceston. D.S. great news that Jo has taken this on.

A.R. Is there a plan to advertise on Radio Cornwall? J.H. Already in place.

K.T. Kit is now available for the Women.

D.S. We need to get team sheets and a small blurb from Chair/President for programme.

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

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

* Big thanks to Bill for getting the rugby safe page updated on the website.
* Concerns about first aid around the county. For next season, as a board we need a strategy for increasing the first aider numbers. T.K, I thought we agreed that each age group should have a first aider? D.S. Happy to do some leg work and visit clubs on Sundays to check out who needs what. R.G. change the club culture. N.M. data should be correct on GMS so reports can be run and used.
* Henrietta has confirmed cover for the U17s.

J.B. Do we need to recruit more medical personnel? R.G. we have 4 established personnel. Although we have lost 1 person and 1 may or may not return, we are still in a better position than previously.

Reggie then left the meeting for work commitments.

**Diversity & Inclusion:** No report submitted.

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

* About 30 adult cases this season, slightly more than last year but better than some counties.
* Most cases straight forward. 1 outstanding case, unregistered player who got a red card. RFU Competitions committee had to be informed.
* F&G looking for a suitable replacement for John Dunstan.

**Commercial Development:** T.T. No report submitted.

* Onsite visit with Redruth with regards to the 1st Jun home game. 2nd visit early May, we will be asking Tom to kindly chair the meeting.
* 1st Jun preparations going well, Trelawny’s Army and Ann’s Pasty’s will have retail outlets. Tribute events team will bring interactive games to keep people busy. Area set aside for D.D.’s memorabilia. A discussion re no cars on site with the exception of teams, staff, disabled, coaches etc. This will keep traffic flow to a minimum.
* Large marquee has been booked, as we have approx 120 people for pre match including 1991 squad with partners, sponsors, VPs and MB. Anns Pasties will provide a buffet and this will be covered by our new sponsor BMW.
* Security organised for marquee so interested parties do not gate crash. A runner is also organised to assist.
* If there is anyone else, we need to invite, please let T.T. know so the lanyards can be organised.
* We will be taking over the Tribute lounge for paying guests £20 per person including match ticket, pasty, access to private bar and toilet. Sold 52 tickets already. If anyone has family or friends who would like to make use of this, please let us know.
* To keep our sponsors on board a dinner event has been booked for the 17th Aug @ The Penventon Hotel, with Nigel Owens as our after dinner speaker. £50 per head, we have 15 tables of 10, spoken to sponsors and has already sold 10 tables.
* Hopley’s have been contacted and they will be sponsoring the Men’s after match shirts.
* Lodge and Thomas are not able to fully commit but can give us ‘Gift Aid’ to be paid to our account.

Reconfirm the £20 for Tribute Lounge ticket breakdown is £10 gate entry to match, £5 for pasty and £5 for use of facility.

J.B. Advised SWAST booked with a RRV & 2 paramedics for the day, do we need to book crowd doctor? D.S. Await meeting with Tom as he has a good organisation timeline of the day.

**Nicola/RFU:**

* Payment of Players ongoing, will expect a flurry of declarations towards the deadline.
* Adult Player Registration, roll out of information and webinars May/Jun.
* CB National call updated on changes to the pathways, especially in the girl’s game.
* Discussion re clustering in the boys/girl’s game.
* Will forward an updated funding spreadsheet for CB.

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

* Wadebridge sent a thank you email, for being able to host the recent cup match. All agreed it was a great success and well attended.

**AOB:**

J.B. Zoom meetings are recorded but deleted on completion of minutes.

T.T. Spoke to A.S. re website and selling tickets and what the web designer offers, whether there is a tender opportunity. This may cause a discussion at the next F&G meeting.

Ross from Pirates has helped with some media stuff. Is it possible to offer some renumeration as it has helped with being proactive.

B.H. Josie Plant from Perranporth got her 1st Cap for England’s U20s.

D.D. Been approached by a coach who wants support in doing a Level 3 coaching course, at this time more experience will be required but happy to support his development.

Is it possible to get some access to GMS to view reports. T.K. will look into it, as he has full access.

T.K. Although we pay 50% of coaching courses, we as a county would not benefit from a Level 3 coach. However, we need Level 3 First Aiders. D.S. we need to make sure that our wording states that if we pay towards higher level coaching courses, then we expect that the person would work for the county as well. Its an investment after all.

J.H. Is there an ambulance booked for the Women’s game? J.B. not at present but will organise.

Issy happy to come down to Newquay U16s and take photos. T.K. has asked the question re permission for photos, no objections from parents so far.

J.H. £300 x 2, £550 x 4 Flags, but will look further into.

Meeting closed: 8:53 pm.

**Dates for your diary:**

Next MB Meeting: **Wed 12th Jun, 7pm @ Bodmin**

Annual General Meeting**: Wed 26th Jun, 7pm @ Camborne RFC**

Signed off:

Chair: David Saunter Date: 12th Jun 2024