**“Promoting Rugby for One and All”**

**“Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll”**

Minutes of the Management Board Meeting

Wednesday 21st Aug 2024, 7pm @ Camborne RFC

**Present:** Steve Murley, Ashley Shopland, Kevin Thomas, Tanya Thomas, Tony Knightsbridge, Lee Maher, Paul Hayes, Daubroy Delahunty, Bill Hooper, Joanne Holden, Cozette Shrosbree.

**Welcome:** Chairman Steve Murley welcomed everyone.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Andy Reed, Jane Bell, Alan Milliner, Reggie Gough & Nicola McCombe.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** All agreed that these were a true and accurate record. Proposed by TK & 2nd by Lee Maher. Signed off by chairman.
3. **Matters arising:**

* AS raised, that at last meeting point raised regarding level of insurance cover for players should they require an MRI scan or suchlike. AS did get a quote which worked out at 50% more than our current policy, and it was per player!!! AS also pointed out that the RFU do a similar policy to the SW Mutual we currently have.

AS felt that rather than look at the cost of an MRI scan on an individual basis, we could perhaps set a ceiling on how much we would offer towards the cost.

To be reviewed at next MB meeting.

1. **Confidential items under Item 7:**
2. **Key Concerns from MB Committees:**

**Executive:**

* MB members attended Sandy Park meeting, main item Community Game Future. Number of proposals RFU have worked on. Key take away, looking to set up a Regional Development Body, which would sit between RFU and CBs.

The new body would have certain responsibilities, such as growing the game regionally, raising funds to be distributed to CBs. Managing devolved RFU funding for growth.

SM happy for MB members to see the plans but should not at present be shared outside the MB. SM feels that the RFU will press ahead with this, he has asked to be involved.

AS added that the funding to set this up is in place from a pot of money set-aside from a previous TV deal.

RFU Council to approve in November with view to implementation July 2025.

* Adverts to go out soon for the Diversity & Inclusion and Club Development roles.

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

* Two main action points, need to set a budget for the new season. Using last season as a baseline and then adjusting various internal budgets for the income we know is coming in. As an example, Representative Rugby, we have 2 home games across the 3 Championships this season, so less travel and more income should lead to a bigger profit for season 24/25.

Core grant from RFU increased by 10%, whilst Representative Rugby grant has gone from £6k – £8k. Y/E funding to come from RFU due September.

* RFU Innovation Fund - 2 areas targeted, Referee recruitment and deployment and player retention. CBs have until 30 August to submit plans to attract level of funding of between £2k-£10k. LM to speak with Steve Avenell re referees.

SM feels we should go out to the clubs offering a cash incentive from the pot for their plans to help retain players. MB members to put thinking caps on.

LM added that there was a coaching day planned for Sunday 6 October, range of courses for coaches and referees.

LM looking for some funding to give participants some items.

* On-line ticketing, AS looking at this option with a company called FanBase.
* Annual Accounts are being prepared for Financial AGM

**RFU Council Rep:** Nothing additional to add.

**Finance & Governance:** PH reported back from Committee meeting held previous week.

* Discipline, search on to replace John Dunstan as Chair. Already a couple of expressions of interest lodged. Idea is to get a successor elect in place to shadow John for remainder of season.
* TT has joined the F&G due to her role.
* The committee want to look at the current website to see how it can evolve, make it more relevant and user friendly.
* CRFU Handbooks, look at the costings of the handbook, need to review how much we charge per book and how many clubs require. Also possible need to increase Vice-Presidents subscriptions to help cover costs.
* BH added that the process to find a President Elect ahead of the 2025 AGM has started and Nominations Committee will be grateful for any suggestions.

**Club Development & Volunteers:** Awaiting vacancy to be filled.

**Commercial Development:**

* James Haskell dinner great success at Penventon Hotel, 150 people attended, unfortunately Kelsall Steel pulled out at the last minute, despite that the night made £2.5k profit. Good feedback. TT feels we should look to make it a bi-annual event, a year when we only have one senior game at home. TT also looking to collaborate with Wooden Spoon.
* SM thanked TT for her hard work during last season and also Penventon dinner and making these events a great success.

**Competitions:**

* LM reported that need to get clubs going re Adult Player Registration (mandatory this season). Otherwise leagues and Cup completions in place.

**Discipline:**

* Discipline training taking place at Taunton RFC on September 4th, various panel members from Cornwall will be attending. There may be some travel claims submitted

**Game Development:**

* DD advertising the development Day on 6th October, information sent to clubs. Training courses live, awaiting Reggie to finalise First Aid courses.
* Recent coaching session with Cornish Pirates went very well. Another one in the planning stage. Neil Smith has also said he will go to clubs that attend to deliver a coaching session.
* Coach of the Year Award to be set up in conjunction the Cornish Pirates and a Community Day.
* Little interaction with both Bude and Launceston clubs.

**Inclusivity & Diversity:** Awaiting vacancy to be filled.

**Representative Rugby:**

* KT has been conducting interviews to fill the post of Team Manager of Cornwall Under 20s. Shortlist of 3, which ended up with LJ Collick, a coach at Helston is the recommendation. He has previously been involved with Cornwall Under 18 and has been an Assistant Team Manager with the Springboks.

MB approved of the nomination and confirmed the appointment.

* KT has been in discussion with Royal Navy regarding a creditable warm up game ahead of County Championship. Potential to play Easter weekend or mid-week the following week.

SM & JH asked if it might be possible to also have a game with RN Women, possibly a double-header.

* County finals weekend at Twickenham 21/22 June.

**Rugby Safe:**

* Reggie had spoken with SM looking to expand his reach from a purely RugbySafe angle. He would like to set up a separate committee under the label of Player Welfare. It would take on subjects such as Mental Health. SM would like to go back to Reggie and ask him to submit Terms of Reference so we can have a look at it.

**Safeguarding:**

* DBS updating needed, clubs to carry out.

**Women’s Lead:**

* JH reported that Dave Saunter had volunteered to take over the management of Cornwall Women’s team. Claire Thompson to carry on with match day role.
* JH to chat with Rachel Miller regarding dates for Women’s season and Cornwall Cup date.

**Youth & Education:**

* TK still having issues with club’s not notifying and obtaining CRFU approval for rugby camps. The onus to be on the club to notify and seek permission.

1. **CRFU MB – Way of Working - Discussion:**

* Due to time restraints SM decided to send this out post meeting via email.
* Reports to be circulated prior to meeting and only necessary points raised at MB, so we have time to deal with more urgent matters.
* Also re-launch of Project Trelawny.

1. **Correspondence – JB/BH:** Various items of correspondence had been passed on by JB.

* SM had written to both Dicky Evans and Dickon Moon to congratulate them on their awards, knighthood for Sir Dicky and Dickon being made a bard of the Cornish Gorsedh at Callington on Sept 7th. Sir Dicky had graciously replied thanking the MB for their good wishes. AS pointed out that Kim Conchie, a former President at Falmouth RFC had also been made a bard.
* Memo from RFU advising that Camelford RFC have not met the criteria in Reg 3.3.1 (d) for two consecutive seasons and that they will have their RFU voting membership and privileges terminated.
* Email from MRJ Hospitality. Can JB reply to Michael Judd asking for further details of what is proposed?
* Letter from Bill Hussey, President of Camborne RFC, contents noted, we are happy to assist if required.
* Two emails from John Sumnall, first regarding Vice-Presidents. MB happy with John’s proposals of advising us. We confirm Tim Nicholls, Peter Spence and Tony Penrose. PH felt that VP nominations for VPs could come via F&G.
* Secondly, John concerned about proceedings at the AGM. Lack of information on why the recipients of awards had been awarded them. Also lack of Q&A session at the end. All noted, MB felt that club’s forum proper forum for Q&A sessions. Request that both Colin Hatch and Prof Pat Foster be invited to the Financial AGM so they may collect their awards then. Agreed by MB.

1. **AOB**

* LM questioned whether we could have a more central venue for meetings rather than Camborne & Bodmin. MB feel that present system is OK with a Zoom option. Discussion about need for more tech to enable better participation at Zoom meetings.
* LM, County gazebo, Lee had got some quotes £1.4k for top draw gazebo. LM to circulate details, agreement to proceed or not can be gauged.
* BH mentioned Trelawny’s Army AGM on Wednesday 18th September at St. Austell Brewery Visitor Centre. 7:45 pm. SM & LM will be attending.

Meeting closed: 9:10pm.

**Dates for your diary:**

Next MB Meeting: **Wednesday 25th September, 7pm @ Bodmin RFC**

Signed off: Steve Murley

New Chair: Steve Murley Date: Wednesday 25th Sept 2024