

BPFC Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2016

Present: Dave Poppitt (DPop) in the Chair; Adrian Curtis (AC) Minutes; Dave Hanby (DH); Gillian Harrison (GH); Mark Lloyd (MkL); Rob Loveday (RL); Alan McGown (AMcG); Bryn Morgan (BM); Pippa Ranson (PR); Jim Rochford (JR); Bill Seddon (BS)

NB: AC has included some points under appropriate headings on the Agenda – not necessarily when they were actually mentioned!

1. **Apologies:** Christine Barber (CB); Matt Larsen (MLar); Alan Marsland (AMar); Dave Pilkington (DPil), Del Trotter (DT).

2. Matters arising from the Meeting on 19th May

Club Rules: BS reported that the review had begun and the working group (BS, RL, JR, MLar) hoped to bring proposals to the next Management Committee and, if approved, to a Special General Meeting. He sought advice as to whether certain roles and committees are still required. The necessity for a Social Committee, and someone to look after Sponsorship, were urgent. No one is at present arranging a Duty Officer rota. A Coaching (Rugby) Committee is in place (see below, item 6). Re refereeing, the RFU provide referees for first XV games and Barry Allen submits requests for other teams' league matches. In connection with the Bar, it was suggested that the newly formed company should be responsible, under the direction of the Management Committee. The newly formed Players Committee had been meeting, but it was stressed that it was important that that group send a representative to the Management Committee. BS also suggested that a change of rules regarding the role of the Executive had been inappropriate, and had not been implemented in practice. The Executive should be available to deal with emergencies between Management Committees. Membership of Management had hitherto been confined to certain officers and committee chairs, but it was important to be able to co-opt people with particular areas of knowledge or expertise. MkL noted that the Nominations Board for the recent AGM had been put up too late and that it should be available earlier in future.

3. Nat West Rugby Force Weekend

The necessity to raise £3k to maximise funding from Nat West was stressed, as was the importance of starting work on the specified projects. PR clarified some points regarding the Sponsorise scheme, and stressed the desirability to encourage sponsorship and donations, so that membership subscriptions could contribute to the general running of the club. Some invoices for banners had been sent out. PR stressed the importance of thanking sponsors at the end of the season.

4. New Zealand U20s

GH reported that the NZ team were very happy with the facilities provided by the club. (There had been concern over CCTV, but they had been assured that their training sessions had not been recorded!) DPop noted that the Welcome Evening had been very successful, greatly enjoyed in particular by some of the juniors who had attended. He thanked PT, GH and all who had helped.

5. Players Group

No report. It was reiterated that it was important for the group to report to Management.

6. Coaching and Playing Report and Budget

DPop reported that AMar had submitted a written report which included the following:

- BPFC will be in South Lancs/Cheshire next season
- John Clifford and Ronan O'Brien had agreed to become coaches and this had been welcomed by the players
- Pre-season training would begin on 5th July
- There would be a warm up game with Burnage at Park on 20th August at 1.00. The possibility that this might be a Family Day was being considered.
- There might also be a warm up game against Old Priorians (London level 6) on 12th August, subject to confirmation.
- Team managers, captains and physios were as reported at the previous meeting.
- The DOR managers, coaches and captains would constitute a Rugby Committee. A strong Team Management organisation was important and would function alongside the Players Group.
- Club membership has dropped and there continue to be a number of players and non-players using the club facilities without paying their subscriptions. A strong management structure will seek to address this and support DH, the Membership Secretary.
- AMar would seek to divide his time between senior and junior teams and would liaise with Youth management as to how this can best be achieved.

The playing budget submitted by AMar was agreed. There was some discussion over arrangements for the game in the Isle of Man.

7. Club Security – keys and car parking

GH reported on some security issues. She had discovered that the car park was being used last Saturday morning for a football tournament and that someone associated with this had indicated that he has a key to the main gates. A square has been cut into the Astro fence with bolt cutters. There is uncertainty as to who now has keys to the clubhouse building. Alan Hodgkinson is looking into reinstating CCTV. It was suggested that a secure key box and new locks for the external doors be purchased (GH to obtain a quotation) and that there should be a key recall and that alarm fobs should be reset.

8. Lacrosse

RL reported that the contract for the Lacrosse World Cup in 2018 was being finalized.

9. Finance

- JR reported that the profit on the dinner arranged by John Russell was expected to be about £12k. It was hoped that event might be repeated. John Russell had been elected Clubman of the Year in recognition of his efforts.

- Re a request by DT to use the Astro on Thursdays (see previous Minutes) it was noted that it is not available at the times requested because of other long standing bookings which brought in significant income. It was agreed that a block booking of the Astro on Wednesdays from 6.00-9.00 be made for the Minis and Juniors. DT's team could train on grass on Thursdays. RL would speak to Kevin O'Brien about shifting his session from Astro to grass.
- GH reported on a number of future booking, including the filming of the Club's main gates, Chorlton High School sports day (1st July), the 7s tournament (2nd July) and several other conferences and functions.
- Re the Bar, GH reported that a stock-take had been carried out on 7th June. The possibility of providing boxes of 'cask' beer was being considered. She and CB would be meeting representatives from Marstons. (It was noted that the length of the current arrangement with Heineken would need to be checked.) JR indicated that he would be meeting with DH to prepare bar accounts and a business plan.
- The new company would be up and running as soon as possible. JR suggested that consideration should be given to using an accounting firm to look at aspects of the finances, including book keeping.
- JR reported that it was possible that the Christie might disengage from their current use of the car park. There had been an enquiry from another potential user but this had not been followed up.
- Alan Speakman had agreed to look at budgeting.
- DPil had agreed to look into charitable status.

10. Youth

PR reported that BPFC had provided a guard of honour at Twickenham for the England-v-Wales game on 29th July, and mascots for the U20s World Cup. DPop agreed to write a piece about this for the website.

11. Ground

AMcG reported that Souters had drill-seeded pitches 2 and 3 as agreed, and also pitch 1. Mud on pitch 4 needed to be dug out, and top-soil and seed applied. A weed and feed would be needed for pitches 2 and 3. Some building up or digging out plus feeding would be needed for pitch 1. It was decided that, as previously agreed by the Management Committee, the new posts supplied by the RFU should be erected on pitch 2, a digger hired for the purposes, and Andy and Boz be asked to do thist.

AOB

- Contact had been received from an organisation (KKP Ltd) requesting a meeting with BPFC. DPop would meet their rep..
- BM asked about progress with the Ladies team. DH reported that at present this was limited to training on Sundays. It was noted that this was preliminary to the commencement of a 12 month development plan beginning in September.
- BS asked about links with MMU. It was reported that an opportunity for a meeting was being

sought. It was understood that MMU Women's team would stay at BPFC. ML indicated that Mark Goodman will be coaching MMU 2s and 3s. Plans were in hand for a stall at the Freshers' Fair.

Date of next meeting: 26th July at 7.00 (NB AC is not available so a minute taker will be needed.)