

## **BPFC Management Committee**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**Present:** Jim Rochford (JR) in the Chair; Barry Allen (BA); Adrian Curtis (AC) Minutes; Dave Hanby (DH); Alan Marsland (AMar); Bryn Morgan (BM); Bill Seddon (BS)

**Apologies:** Christine Barber; Gillian Harrison; Mark Lloyd; Rob Loveday; Alan McGown; Dave Poppitt; Pippa Ranson; Louise Sinclair; Del Trotter

*[NB AC has recorded some items under appropriate headings on the Agenda, rather than in the sequence in which they were discussed. In particular, matters relating to the Youth section have been recorded under heading 5.]*

#### **1. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Noted: Christine Barber and Gillian Harrison had sent their apologies.

#### **2. Matter Arising not covered by the agenda:**

The installation of an EPOS, or equivalent, system was under investigation.

#### **3. Finance (JR)**

- The Finance Committee had not yet met, but would do so in the near future.
- Audited accounts were expected before 7<sup>th</sup> December. He had met with the accountants, and accounts were being prepared covering the first 6 months' activity of the new company.
- Discussions were ongoing with the Council over the Club's lease. A suggested increase had been felt to be unacceptable but negotiations were continuing. He had also met Phil Clarke and Lee Preston, and was hopeful of a positive outcome.
- BA asked whether there was a contingency plan in case the negotiations were unsuccessful. JR indicated that there was no such plan but that key factors affecting the Club's finances were understood by those involved in the discussions.
- Attracting potential players from those living in the City Centre was a potential area for development.
- The establishment of the Ladies' section had brought new energy into the Club.
- There had been discussions with a professional organiser about arranging a Sportsman's Dinner, probably at the end of February.
- On 9<sup>th</sup> December there would be a Sponsors' Day and Players' Reunion, with a 250 Club draw after the match with LSH. AMar indicated that all was in hand regarding hosting representatives from Fairhome. It would be important to check arrangements to welcome other sponsors. BS stressed the importance of being clear who were guests and who were expected to pay for lunch.

#### **4. Director of Rugby's Report (AMar)**

- The 1<sup>st</sup> XV's narrow loss to Tyldesley the previous Saturday had been disappointing. After the match he had challenged the players regarding commitment to training and to availability. A problem had been that whereas good numbers were attending for fitness training on Tuesdays, the lack of attendances on Thursdays was making run-throughs and practice of moves difficult.
- There had been problems with water on the stadium pitch on Saturday morning, and special thanks were due to Dave Rodgers and others who had worked on the pitch. The correct protocols had been followed and a local referee had declared the pitch playable.

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XVs have struggled for numbers.
- The Ladies XV are having a very successful season.
- BS asked whether consideration should be given to videoing games, for the benefit of the players and coaches. This would require someone who knew what they were doing, and who understood the game, to operate the camera. (Some possibilities were mentioned.) DH suggested that the game could be shown in the Clubhouse after the match, and be available on You-Tube. It was agreed that this should be discussed with the coaches, and the purchase of a suitable camera be investigated.

5. **Minis and Youth:**

- In response to a question, JR confirmed that income from mini and junior subscriptions and sponsorship comes into the Club's accounts. Some income is used for dedicated purposes in connection with the running of the youth section.
- In terms of numbers, the use of the facility by the youth section often exceeds usage by the senior club.
- BM commented on the number of people, and range of ages, who had been at the Halloween/Fireworks event. Pippa Ranson was thanked for her role in arranging this.
- There were now teams at all levels (in one instance working jointly with Trafford Metrovick) with representation at County and England level.
- There had been considerable help from the RDOs in encouraging rugby in local schools. The transition from year 6 to 7 was an important focus for the retention of players.

6. **Ground:**

- The work recommended by the RFU agronomist had been carried out, but there were still problems. It would now be necessary to wait until the Spring, but it seemed likely that the drains need attention.
- The use of pitches was being managed correctly, with the agreed protocol being followed.

7. **Club House matters:** no report.

8. **Website:**

BA demonstrated a possible BPFC website ([broughtonparkfc.rfu.club](http://broughtonparkfc.rfu.club)) provided by the RFU FSI. Unlike Pitchero, this was free of charge, and did not have intrusive adverts. Potentially it would facilitate online payments of membership and 250 Club subscriptions, and for tickets for events. All present were impressed, and felt this to be an improvement on the Pitchero site, and could appropriately be adopted. It was agreed that the Youth Section be consulted before a final decision was taken.

9. **AOB**

- BS asked whether plans were in hand to hold a Finance AGM. JR indicated that the accounts should be ready to enable this to take place in February or March.
- BS intended to stand down from involvement in the 250 Club. He had had some discussion with Tom Mortimer over co-ordinating use of social media in running the 250 Club, and suggested that a small group might meet to take this forward. Suggestions for membership of the group were Pippa Ranson, Dave Rodgers Jnr, and Ashlea Trueman.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00 p.m.