

BPFC Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March 2017

Present: Dave Poppitt (DPop) in the Chair; Barry Allen (BA); Adrian Curtis (AC) Minutes; Rob Loveday (RL); Alan Marsland (AMar); Bryn Morgan (BM); Pippa Ranson (PR).

Apologies: Christine Barber; Gillian Harrison (GH); Mark Lloyd (ML); Alan McGown; Jim Rochford; Bill Seddon (BS).

NB The meeting was not quorate but provided an opportunity for some reports or updates.

[Some matters discussed have been inserted by AC under appropriate headings or under AOB]

Further to a "Point of Order" which had been raised by BS, it was noted that the meeting had been arranged for the week after the Lancs Trophy Semi-final, so that the date for the Club Dinner could be discussed in light of the result. That game had been postponed due to a waterlogged pitch and re-scheduled for March 18th. It had been decided to re-arrange the date of the Dinner, provisionally for April 28th.

1. **Matters Arising from Previous Meeting** - Nothing not on the agenda.
2. **Operations Manager**

GH is working on updating the website. The Facebook page is up and running. (PR noted that there is another Facebook page which needs to be removed.)

3. **Youth**

- PR reported that a 'Happy Sundays' event is to be held on March 19th. Consideration was being given to whether more pitch-space will be required.
- The possibility of using pitch 5 for parking had been raised. It was agreed that it was likely that the pitch would be too wet, even though this would mean loss of income.
- Arrangements for the tour to Fleetwood are in hand.
- The possibility of splitting U12s and U13s is being considered.
- DBS checks need to be completed prior to a safeguarding audit. RL noted that the completion of the online application was not straightforward. It would be preferable to arrange for this to be done at the Club with GH's assistance.
- Most coaches have been on the appropriate training courses. More coaches are needed. AMar suggested that some players or former players might be willing to become involved.

4. **Crabbies Sponsorship**

The equipment had arrived prior to a publicity session being arranged.

5. **Annual Dinner**

(See above for date.) Suggestions were made as to who might be invited to sit at the top table. The players had indicated a preference for a three-course meal.

6. **Union Cup 2019**

A preliminary meeting had been held and a bid to hold the Cup at Park was being submitted.

7. City Trees

The Club is happy to co-operate with the Council with regard to planting trees in appropriate place in the vicinity of the Club.

8. Hough End Security

AMar reported on a meeting which had discussed ways of securing Hough End against incursions by travellers. Some plans related to the area around the Leisure Centre. Steps to ensure gate security were going ahead. With regard to areas closer to BPFC, the Council did not appear willing to accept responsibility but were happy for the Club to take action by erecting a barrier and installing wooden stumps. There might be some matching funding. It was agreed to obtain a price for the erection of a barrier across the access road, between the ATC huts and the car park entrance (RL to obtain a quotation) and for the installing of stumps (PR to look into obtaining telegraph-pole stumps). It was noted that it would be necessary to identify appropriate key-holders for the barrier, and a protocol for locking/unlocking.

9. Coaching and Playing

AMar reported that Blackburn had suggested switching the Lancs Trophy semi-final to their ground, but that Park players had already been stood down. It was unlikely that it would be possible to play any home games on March 4th.

It was hoped that the Ladies XV would be deemed to have had enough qualifying games for them to join an RFU league next season, and the possibility of more players joining Park was noted.

Arrangements for the Lady players to be registered and pay a subscription next season would need to be in place. BM asked whether there is any RFU funding available to promote the Ladies' game.

10. Membership

AMar noted that a number of players have still not paid subscriptions. This needs to be rectified for next season.

11. Ground

The award of a Nat West Rugby Force grant of £2k was welcomed. Keith Kent would visit the Club on May 8th to advise on work needed on the pitches. PR stressed the need to take appropriate action in light of the advice to show how the funding is being used.

12. Finance - No report.

13. Sponsors Dinner

It was understood that ML was trying to obtain the data base from John Russell.

A.O.B.

- DPop is to meet Mike Perkins to discuss the match programme.
- AMar had represented Park at a meeting with Chorlton Traders earlier that evening. Their magazine 'Open Up' provided possibilities for publicity. It was important for the club to be represented at these meetings.
- AMar expressed disappointment that there had not been more Park members at Ron Greenall's funeral. It was planned to request a minute's silence at Oswestry and at the next home match. It would be appropriate to invite Ron's family to attend the next home game.

- DPop would be present when a sponsored cycle ride by the son of a former player (Mike Smythe) visited Park.
- Payment of money owed to the groundsmen was in hand.
- The report which DPop had prepared after the special meeting about Club Finances in December had not yet been discussed. It was hoped that JR would be able to arrange a follow-up meeting in the near future.
- PR requested that 'First Aid' be an item on the next agenda.

Future meetings:

Tuesday March 21st, Thursday April 20th, Tuesday May 16th, Thursday June 22nd, all at 7.00 p.m.