**Cornwall Rugby Football Union Ltd**

**Promoting Rugby for One and All**

**Avonsya Rugby Rag Onen Hag Oll**

This was the 7th of our Virtual Management Board Meetings, held on Wednesday 12 August 2020 at 7pm, via Microsoft Teams.

**Present on line:** John Sumnall, David Saunter, Andy Richards, David Martin, Ross Tucknott, Tony Knightsbridge, James Instance, Georgina Finnegan, Chris Lea, Chris Jewells, Alan Milliner, Bill Hooper, Bob Hubble and Terry Williams.

**Apologies for absence:** Tom Magill

**Minutes of last meeting:** All agreed that these were a true and accurate record. The secretary would hold a copy on file with a notation to the effect that due to Covid-19 the Chairman could not sign them in the normal way.

**Kelly Martin:** David Saunter had left 2 messages for her without response. Andy Richards had heard that she was living in Plymouth.

**Correspondence:** The secretary to write inviting Jeff Blackett to one of our MB Meetings. We had received his available dates, and he was looking to visit on a Friday, which would mean moving the day/date of our meeting, which was felt to be acceptable.

**Treasurers Report:** Andy Richards had contacted St Austell Brewery, and Mark was still furloughed and his future uncertain.

SW Mutual – their invoice had not yet been paid, but was not due until October.

It was decided that if Affiliation Fees were not paid then those clubs could not expect support from the CRFU. Those fees will be paid back as decided at a previous meeting, but still needed to be paid in the first instance. John Sumnall had emailed clubs regarding entries for the Handbook.

**RFU Council Representative:** Alan Milliner reported from the RFU as follows:

The RFU was looking at clustering clubs, with shared resources to reduce costs.

There was a possibility that there would be some kind of means testing for CB’s in the future. This was a cause for alarm and needed careful monitoring. Bob Hubble asked where did CRFU fit into the “wealth” category. Andy Richards felt that we would probably be considered as wealthy, but we needed to be careful.

AS a CB we should take the lead. Consideration should be given to arrange or create a sub-committee to raise funds for Cornwall. Two to three people should be sufficient. The CRFU is a strong brand in the county and we could be of benefit to clubs. This would be a big piece of work.

He had had spoken with Mike Brooks (Devon), prior to lockdown, concerning joint work – opportunities, matches, funding. Working together as opposed to separately.

The Championship Review with Ed Griffiths was this coming weekend. David Saunter added that he believed it to be more of a listening exercise.

The game was now moving from level B to level C, which would highlight the level of scrutiny. Lots of hoops to jump through, we had to ensure that it was 100% safeto play.

**Facilities:** David Martin prior to his report raised the question of clusters of clubs, and asked Alan Milliner if there was any suggestion as to size. This had not been specified, but it was felt that this idea could be good in Cornwall. For instance it could help clubs such as Redruth Albany and Stithians. As we have 28 clubs, clusters of 4 would seem to work out well. This was then discussed amongst the Board. David Saunter stated that he would look into it, but could foresee there being 1 senior club with 3 lesser clubs.

He was also able to say that on the facilities front, Helston had had some groundwork done. He was waiting to see if Hayle and Liskeard Looe had had work done. Tony Knightsbridge was able to say that Liskeard Looe were awaiting a reply to an email from Sandow’s.

**Youth and Education:** nothing to report.

**Competitions:** Chris Jewells had little to report other than there was a possibility of some kind of inter club touch rugby competition. He would follow up with more information.

**Governance and finance:** Georgina Finnegan advised the meeting that she was to organise a Disciplinary Conference, probably via Zoom, in mid-September.

**Any other business:**

Bob Hubble mentioned the RFU Webinar for Return to Rugby Roadmap: stage C. It was important that we adhered to the guidelines set out by the RFU. He brought up the possibility of sponsors to fund a position left by the redundancy of our 3 personnel. This would need to be looked into.

David Saunter stated that he would get the Operation Trelawny paper out over the weekend.

James Instance started a discussion about “Cornwall” as being a big brand that we should get into. He felt it would be necessary to go out and get the right people who knew what they were doing to get this started. David Saunter asked him if he would set the ball rolling.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 26 August 2020, at 7pm at Camborne RFC.