**Cornwall Rugby Football Union Ltd**

**Promoting Rugby for One and All**

**Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll**

Minutes of Management Board Meeting, held on Wednesday 26th August 2020 at Camborne RFC.

**Present:** David Saunter, John Sumnall, Andy Richards, David Martin, Chris Lea, Bill Hooper, Georgina Finnegan, Tony Knightsbridge, Tom Magill, Ross Tucknott, Cozy Shrosbree and Bob Hubble

**Apologies for absence:** Terry Williams, Jonny Stephenson, Alan Milliner, James Instance and Chris Jewels.

**Minutes of last meeting:** All agreed that these were a true and accurate record and were duly signed by DS

**Welcome**: DS welcomed everyone to our first face-to-face meeting since lockdown.

**Matters arising:** Both DS & JS had spoken with Kelly Martin. Kelly confirmed that she is unable to carry on as our Data Officer. Decided that we should wait and see how the land lies before appointing anyone else.

DS asked if everyone had had a chance to look at Project Trelawny and congratulated BHub for the hard work put in to devise it.

DS checked everyone happy with the format of the clustering. TW to e-mail documentation on Trelawny to all Club Chairmen, Secretaries and Club Reps. MB members to arrange meetings with club rep from each of their cluster clubs to lay out the plan via the tick list, to be done asap. DS to speak with TW to sort out letter.

CL keen to launch Ready4Rugby as part of Project Trelawny within clusters when allowed to do so. RT will arrange Women & Girls fixtures.

Defibrillators: Dan Osbourne from Jay’s Own Charity has written to clubs to see if they want a defibrillator at their club. He is co-ordinating responses.

Diversity & Inclusion Lead: Applications close on 31st August. To date 4 candidates applied, although 1 has withdrawn and 1 unlikely to be considered. Panel to consider DS, GF & TW. JS pointed out that if none of the candidates were deemed suitable for the post we contact Cornwall Council Diversity Led to see if they can assist.

Mitsubishi Volunteer Awards: TM reported that there were 61 nominated. TM presented 3 possible presentation scenarios which meet covid restrictions. MB decided to do 3 presentations 2 x 20, 1 x 21 with North, Mid, West Cornwall split, Bodmin, Perranporth, Camborne. Needs to be completed by end of October to get £1000 funding. TM to send out invitations and co-ordinate.

Championship Review: DS spoke with Ed Griffiths and explained to committee what EG’s brief was. Looked like clubs would be split into 2 conferences, 13 clubs each 26 game season. Potential for Championship players to play county rugby??!! General discussion about how it might progress. Reticence from RFU about this committee however MB felt DS should be involved on committee as an Area 1 rep.

Future Competitions Structure: Final proposal to go to Council on 5th October. Looking to implement new structure 21/22 season. Much depends on how much of the 20/21 league season is completed. Second teams could be put in at the appropriate level and not have to start at the bottom of the league structure. Opt in or out for county and national cup competitions, clear commitment to county rugby. CL felt Cornwall cups could be incorporated into the new structure. Funding is still not clear.

Reports:

1. Treasurer: AR reported that current position show £6.5K deficit. AR chasing clubs for outstanding affiliation fees and handbook fees. We are continuing to refund affiliation fees for this season but we need to see that clubs have paid in the first instance. Felt clubs could not be afforded financial assistance if they have not paid their fees to the CRFU.

AR reported that it’s going to be a tough field going forward retaining and gaining new sponsors due to current economic climate. Looking to produce mid-term / long term forecast to help financial planning.

AR, GF & JI had a virtual meeting re sponsorship. Looking to get help from Kim Conchie on marketing our Cornwall RFU brand.

1. RFU Council Rep: No report from AM, but DS mentioned discussion with AM re Championship Review. Also, worryingly AM felt that we may not see any rugby until Christmas time at Community level. MB felt it was imperative that we can move to inter-club with Read4Rugby. TK hopeful we will hear something positive soon. RT feels that the RFU may well move to an upgraded version of the Ready4Rugby as another stage towards returning to the full game.
2. Governance & Finance: GF looking to hold Disciplinary Conference, seeking a venue.
3. Club Development & Volunteers: see TM’s report in Matters Arising.
4. Safeguarding: CS contacting clubs to see who needs to do the “In Touch Course”. Also checking to see where they are regarding their Safeguarding Officers. Also checking clubs risk assessments.
5. Youth & Education: TK felt that we had a big job trying to make sure everyone adheres to the covid restrictions. Emphasised the need for MB members to circulate around the clubs and watch what’s going on and make sure clubs are towing the line. Danger of complacency.
6. Game Development: DS reported that JS had assisted JI in getting a committee set up. Roger Cock, Daubroy Delahunty, new club development officer and new coach development office plus someone from youth and also ladies rugby. DS feels that in the new order of things this will be a key committee going forward.
7. Representative Rugby: CL reported that preparations for fixtures in-hand.
8. Competitions: Awaiting developments.
9. Discipline: Nothing to report at present.
10. RDO: See Confidential Matters.
11. Facilities: DM reported back about Pitch Aeration Scheme. Due to the weather it was a disaster. Invoices have been submitted from Penryn and Hayle but Liskeard-Looe still outstanding. Sandow’s very slow in getting invoices out. DM concerned about on-going finance for further schemes.

 Veor Holman RFC still outstanding for works done with the dugouts. DM reiterated that we have to be firmer with clubs that are not RFU Accredited. This could be addressed via Project Trelawny.

1. Rugby Safe: BHub had nothing further to report.
2. Women & Girls Rugby: RT expanded on X Girls Cup concept. RT wants to set up a web page to update results on the day. General feeling this should be on the CRFU website. JS felt we should contact Colin Higgins for the web designers and get RT to put idea to him.

Correspondence: TW has written to Jeff Blackett, RFU President, regarding dates to attend a committee meeting. DS has had further correspondence, date proposed 17/18 January 2021. Sunday/Monday. TW to reply we are happy to accommodate him on the Monday.

Veor Holman RFC is now officially recognised by the RFU.

TW has completed Club Audit and that the Payment for Player return had been completed with only now defunct Lanner not completing.

A.O.B.

JS updated the meeting about the CRFU Handbook, only 12 clubs out of 34 had submitted Officer contacts. JS had sent reminder e-mails to the outstanding clubs. If we can use Trelawny to push the handbook updates.

TM asked about the handbook going on-line. JS said there was still a need for a hard copy.

JS spoke with Ian Elford at Camelford. Appear to have a cash flow problem. DS will speak with them as they are in his cluster.

Update on the website, JS has got Colin Higgins to provide some usage data.

CS mentioned she has problems with her safeguarding e-mail, will revert back to personal e-mail.

BH reported that Tom Spiers (Truro RFC) had been named Trelawny’s Army Under 20 Player of the Year. Tom now with Ealing Trailfinders attending Brunel University. Presentation will be made when he is back in Cornwall, Colin Hatch liaising; will advise when it will take place.

DS, Need to make sure that we get the best contact details at clubs via Project Trelawny discussions to ensure our communications with clubs are robust.

Next MB meeting to be held on Wednesday 30th September 7pm at Bodmin RFC.

NB. There will be a virtual interim meeting on Wednesday 9th September 7pm.