**Cornwall Rugby Football Union Ltd**

**Promoting Rugby for One and All**

**Avonsya Rugbi Onen Hag Oll**

This was the 16th of our virtual Management Board Meetings, held on Wednesday 6 January 2021, at 7pm, via Zoom.

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

**Guests on line:** Steve Grainger and Becca O’Neil (both RFU)

The chairman, David Saunter, opened the meeting and welcomed both our guests who were then invited to make a presentation to the MB which was followed by questions and answers.

Steve Grainger: he gave an overview of the current situation within the RFU. He set out the reasons for the cutbacks made last year. He also stated that the finances of the RFU, whilst not good, were not as bad as reported in the media. He confirmed that the RFU had no intention of getting rid of CB’s, in fact ties needed to be strengthened. We needed to work together with a clear focus. On the downside, there was as yet no decision on a start date for rugby.

He then fielded a number of robust questions from the MB.

Becca O’Neil: introduced herself to the MB and set out the parameters of her role and her background in rugby.

We then went on to the meeting proper, Steve Grainger left and Becca O’Neil remained to the end.

**Apologies for absence:** None

**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.

**Matters arising:** None

**Secretary:** The visit from Jeff Blackett had now been cancelled.

The NHS had contacted clubs to see if they were willing to allow their premises to be used for the continuation of the NHS Schools Immunisation Programme. Contact would be made direct to clubs.

**Finance and governance:** Georgina Finnegan brought up the subject of Torin Clarke’s insurance fees, which had been brought to our notice at the last meeting by Chris Lee. It was decided to hold off payment until it became clearer as to what was happening to the playing side for the rest of this season. David Saunter would contact Colin Hatch. Colin had also cancelled the booking for the Truro College training sessions. He will review in February.

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** Steve Murley had nothing to report.

**Youth and Education:** Tony Knightsbridge had nothing to report.

**Rugby Safe:** Bob Hubble reported that the First Aid courses had been postponed, possibly until March. The Rugby Safe get together had also been cancelled. GDPR - caution was required if people held multiple roles, as profile blurring may occur. Private email addresses should also be avoided.

**Ladies and Girls:** Ross Tucknott reported that a proposed meeting had been cancelled due to lockdown. There was a meeting scheduled next week with other CB’s, but he thought it unlikely any representative games would take place this season. David Saunter asked him if he could ascertain the situation with Exeter Chiefs regarding the centre of excellence for girls in Cornwall.

**Club development:** Tom Magill had nothing to report. Regarding the Mitsubishi Awards, it was decided to send awards to clubs for distribution to recipients.

**Competitions:** Chris Jewells hadnothing to report, but he expressed concern that if the rugby season were to be extended it would have an impact on player availability as many like to play cricket in the summer months.

**Facilities:** David Martin had nothing to report.

**Game development:** James Instance reported on the contact with Club Champions. He suggested that we give this very careful consideration as it would require an outlay of finance, £3,000. However, this would not become due until £5,000 had been raised. There were all sort of opportunities available to clubs, such as webinars. It might prove advantageous to invite them to our next meeting. Brand Cornwall was very strong at the moment.

**Safeguarding:** Cosette Shrosbree reported that the DBS checks had been postponed. Clubs would now have time to complete their safeguarding audits. (3 clubs left to complete).

**RFU Council Member:** Alan Milliner had nothing to report.

**Treasurer:** Andy Richards had nothing to add to his email circulated earlier in the week. The only income at the moment was from the DPP programme.

**Assistant secretary:** Bill Hooper had nothing to report. The website had been kept up to date.

**Chairman:** David Saunter suggested that we consider David Penberthy (Redruth) as a replacement for Chris Lee. He would make an approach over the next few days.

Mobile lighting: the set of lights we had purchased (10) were not being used very much. Could we consider whether or not to sell them if any club had a use for them. Bob Hubble suggested we consider renting them out, which would provide some income. Ideas on this subject would be welcome over the next few days.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 20 January, 7pm, via Zoom.

Meeting closed at 8.25 pm