



**MINUTES OF THE OXFORDSHIRE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6TH
DECEMBER AT 7.30PM (HOLIDAY INN, PEARTREE)**

Present: Chris Skaife, Karen East, Jenny Bosley, Doug Bosley, Vincent Murphy, Colin Baldwin, Rob Walsh, Dave Larham, Andy Rolfe, Kevin Robinson

Opening comments

Fire at High Wycombe rugby yesterday – extensive damage, believed to be an electrical fault at this stage.

PFR update – Chris had a meeting with the area manager, very positive. Not received quarter 4 yet – Chris chasing. Schools can move forward with plans in PFR and Chris will send a cursory note to Adam White etc. Vincent also trying to meet / speak with Adam White.

Identification of ORFU priorities – Colin / Chris met and identified areas.

- Look at structure / recruitment within CB / Exec board / Sub committees
- U14s recruitment / retention of players
- Officials recruitment / retention / availability.

We need to confirm *ORFU workforce / coaches*. Waiting for senior set up but Dave has list for all of this. Kevin – attended regional playing pathway academy meeting, he added that they are looking at the academy coaches. Kevin question why Dave is also looking at this. Dave confirmed that this is because they are checking the DBS because we host them in the county. Chris added we are making sure that if they are operating in our county that things are in place – we should check they are suitably cleared. Rob added that's it is surely better to belt and brace than assume someone else has done it.

1 – Feedback from the RFU Council Member (following the RFU Council Meeting on Friday 2nd December 2016).

Paul Costello added the Eng v Aus. Reports back are that he was well looked after and had nice presentation. Paul Partletts son sang the anthem as mascot. Good social media coverage from clubs.

Exec needs to keep building list of volunteer names for putting forward. There are lots of things small to large that can be presented. Email any suggestions to Karen and she can build a list.

Six Nations have bonus point systems – didn't know about this previously.

Chris Kelly asked about FA child abuse issues at the meeting. Apparently safeguarding are happy with the rugby – not expecting anything to come out.

East stand at Twickenham development – will have a big wrap around section. Museum will be above shop. It will look better. Costing approx. 70 million. TEL Compass putting in 25 million. Board approved the spend. Expansion is happening to bring in external contractors hospitality not primarily for more seats.

Payment of players – only voted on principles. The amount of money (caps) will come later (April). accepted that amounts noted so far are not agreeable. Updates will follow. Clubs will have consultation and it won't come in until season 18/19.

CAP – Compensation Advisory Panel. Designed to decide who is eligible for compensation has been scrapped.

AGM for Council is 2nd June at 5pm – London.

Some problems with AG pitches but seems to only be the older ones. It's being looked in to – community still identifying sites. Pilot is at Aylesbury.

2 – Presidential Succession Plan

Need to discuss who the next 'Andy' will be. Executive needs to think about this. Should be a Senior VP and a Junior VP Nominations come from committee of ex-presidents. Need to come up with nominations soon. Colin will call a meeting and come up with a plan to bring to the February meeting.

3- CB Exec

Chris provided a handout.

Succession planning – good requirement for that.

Structure – need exec views and options to drive Oxfordshire forward.

Vince – exec meetings at other clubs is not always welcome but sending committee to their meetings is occasionally a good idea.

David Winpenny – can't do Tuesday meetings. See if can attend any meetings so we can engage with him.

March – club reps meeting at GAB, February have a Monday meeting so Dave Winpenny can attend.

April – Holiday Inn.

Executive Action – please look at ideas and actions to bring to next meetings. Added benefit to invite Pete Bramley from Feb. Well respected and may sit on the committee at some point.

AOB

GAB – David Hipkiss requests permission to run the U7/U8s tag festival at GAB. Kevin indicated that junior comp host manager (Bethan Dennick) invited clubs to host so clubs liaise with her. Karen will contact Bethan to advise GAB interested. Chris will forward on Dave's email.

7s – Support for Sevens festival at Abingdon / Witney – Dave (Larham) – can we keep this active to see if we can partner / support it. Idea good in principle. Rob added that for people who cannot commit to 15s then they may commit to 7s. Vincent advised we have to be careful about financially supporting – we need to see evidence that it will make people turn up. Dave will gather some info to see if this can progress. Chris added that it is a good opportunity to get some recruitment while having fun. We have to assume 7s will become bigger over the years.

Kevin – funding and facilities met. Put forward that Jason and Kevin come to meeting to present where are (February) – all agreed. Karen will invite Jason and Kevin.

Doug – Banbury shield - all agreed Banbury should keep shield for next season.

Andy – U20s now training at Didcot. Andy said we should have an exec meeting there to look at ground. January meeting agreed to be held there.

Kevin - Outstanding issues – Management board, Wasps – Value Volunteers programme, Fishes could be used as an entertainment venue.

Meeting closes 8.55pm