



OXFORDSHIRE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

Executive Board Meeting – 12th January 2021

7.00pm – Virtual Zoom

Executive Board Meeting

Attendees:

Karen East (Secretary), Rob Walsh, Pete Bramley (Chairman) Gina Overton, Chris White, Doug Bosley, Jane & Paul Weaver, Philippe Perisegaele, Andrew Tacon (Treasurer)

Apologies: None.

Chairman: Pete Bramley

1. Approval of Minutes from December 2020 Meeting and Matters arising.

The minutes from the December 2020 were approved with no matters arising.

2. Chairman's update and roles

Chairs meeting was held on 11th Jan 2021. Clubs asked for general consistency on how clubs handle their memberships this year (should they carry over, refund members). We will see if clubs let us know what they plan and if not we could do a survey monkey so can guide a unified approach.

Roles within the CB. We plan to publicise all roles early with the profiles to advertise the role including the diversity and inclusion role we need to fill.

The Chair has been talking about looking at roles within the CB and getting them out early to let people know the roles of the board to allow others interested to express interest.

The Chair noted he is having discussions outside of committee, and that he is not prepared to discuss or air that information at this time. JB queried if these discussions were in relation to Discipline, the Chair repeated that he was not prepared to discuss this at this time. JB queried if the intention was to bring someone else into Discipline, the chair confirmed that yes he had intentions to bring someone in from a disciplinary and governance aspect.

DB expressed: "I think you are out of order Mr Chairman, not discussing with your board, not discussing with the people it concerns, and also ignoring one of the hardest working people in the county and pushing it to one side."

(Note. This was a direct comment to what Pete had been saying about bringing other people in without even discussing it with the committee or people it may effect).

Doug Bosley is very unhappy with the Chairman and the way Jenny Bosley's role is handled at the moment.

3. Updates from the board

Paul / Jane Weaver – no hope for competitions in the near future as it stands due to Covid. It could possibly be September if we are realistic. We are waiting for guidance from the RFU to see if the season is to be extended. Pitches and other sports also have to be a consideration but we hope some kind of cluster games / competitions may be able to happen.

If clubs had the festivals in 20/21 then the board agree they will get them in 21/22 if they have not been able to hold the event.

Philippe – all courses are postponed for the moment. Level 1 has started (online sessions monthly) but all in person days have been postponed. Oxford Brookes if any Level 2 funding. They come under England students union, not us for funding. Online elements however are freely available.

Rob – Last council meeting was preparing to go back to rugby. Everything at the last meeting is now gone. Clubs asked what's happening with international ticket allocations, allocations are fixed for 3 years. Clubs also asked about access to World Cup Tickets- this has nothing to do with the RFU. Clubs will need to look at the Rugby World Cup website.

Lion's tour – we think this is going ahead but we, as a CB, cannot access those tickets.

Doug - No update other than SW meeting coming up.

Chris – It doesn't look there will be inter counties girls rugby this season. We await guidance from the RFU.

Gina – Chatted with Dave Stubley. Mitsubishi Leadership Academy set up, nominees coming in for that. GO will be a mentor. Value the volunteer awards will still take place. Alan Barnett is the Oxfordshire finalist. There probably won't be a black tie event because of Covid but there will be an online event.

There will be a new volunteer event this year, it will be different. Diversity and Inclusion will be part of it, how clubs have been in the community during Covid may also be part of it. Still being finalised, it might be launched in March (later than usual).

Alix Teesdale (W&G) also discussed with Dave Stubley. Recommended that Chris speaks to Alix.

Project Union – expect an official launch around March (not confirmed).

Social media – plan a big splash for Sept season / pre-season events. Lots of clubs will be relying on this. We need to assist clubs with the social media too. RW warned that clubs must be careful what they put on social media. Suggestion we have regular update from Dave Larham for social media.

Andy - Treasurer – Not spending much but we have grant scheme still open. The money can be held until March. At the moment clubs can only have one grant each. AT / RW will find out if this money can be held for later or if the March spend deadline is still held and whether the criteria is likely to be relaxed.

Karen – mental health being pushed, January mental health webinar planned for clubs arranged by Karen, sorting Diversity and Inclusion role profile to push out and preparing for RFU council rep nominations, several AGP cancellations as expected for the foreseeable.

Jenny – safeguarding – all safeguarding officers have latest bulletin, DBS cancelled again because of face to face. A lot of clubs have still not done the safeguarding audit (Jenny chasing). It is an online audit.

4. Website

Website – board have been asked to have a look at the site and feedback to GO. Contacts needs to be clear, handbook probably not needed, PB noted that the updated organogram needs to be on site (pitchero one is out of date). Content should go to PW. Hope for it to launch in March (Clubs meeting). Domain likely to be Oxfordshirerfu. PP looking in to that, Karen can arrange payment.

Initial thoughts are the website looks really good.

5. AOB

PP. No cancelled fixtures because of the weather this year –all Covid related!