



OXFORDSHIRE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED
Executive Board Meeting – 8th June 2021
7.00pm – Virtual Zoom

Executive Board Meeting

Attendees:

Karen East, Pete Bramley, Doug Bosley, Andrew Tacon, Rob Walsh, Jane & Paul Weaver, Jamie M-T, Jenny Bosley, Gina Overton

Guest: Doug Humphries

Apologies: Jamie Goddard, Philippe Peirsegaele, Chris White

Chairman: *Pete Bramley*

1. Minutes from May 2021

Doug Humphries was welcomed as guest. Doug will take over as secretary from KE in July.

2. Approval of minutes from May 2021 and matters arising

Minutes are approved. (Proposed PW, Seconded JW)

No matters arising

3. RFU Representative update (RW)

The RFU AGM is on Friday of this week. Ring fencing the premiership for another 2 years is up for discussion at the AGM, there will still be promotion (expanded to 14).

Signed red roses shirt (ladies signed and authenticated). 1974 victories lions in South Africa photo received for the Didcot charity auction. Rob suggested we get these framed and donated to Didcot to include in charity auction, ORFU to cover the cost of framing. This was carried forward.

(Proposed: GO and Seconded DB)

4. Diversity and Inclusion update (JM & GO)

GO and JM have been speaking to lots of people including Granville Williams (Oxfordshire region) and RFU diversity and inclusion sub committee members.

Need to speak to the right people as an inclusion group sub committee for Oxfordshire D&I. We had planned for survey but are changing thoughts surrounding the approach of this as feel might only get information we already know. Looking at audit type survey. The information cannot be obtained from GMS so this is the best way to do D&I audit for the county. It will be called a survey and will be sent via survey monkey. The language used within it will be important. Once we have the information we can move forwards.

Oxfordshire County Council has had people reaching out to them for wheelchair rugby. GO having conversations with them.

Moved away from thinking about policy, as people may not read it. JM has written a draft statement, which will be refined for the county (will go on web etc.)

5. Finance update

AT financial year just below break even. £1,600 has been put aside for risk management scheme – waiting for HQ to confirm how that's being paid out.

First view of budget sent out by AT to board members ahead of the meeting. Safeguarding will need some budget. We will need to run a couple of courses at a rugby club.

DB won't have confirmed detail until October. There is room in the budget for this. There is not a financial constraint not to have senior rugby.

Sponsorship has not been factored in to any budgets, as sponsorship is not yet confirmed. (Chris White has made contact with Nicola Barlow who hopes to work with us from a sponsorship prospective).

6. Website update

The new website is live, no feedback from anyone. Old website now points to new website. The transition has gone well. GO will post a link of the website on Facebook.

7. Volunteer recognition update

GO has given the 5 names agreed in May to the Mitsubishi awards coordinator. We need to distribute the lock up volunteer gifts when Covid allows. GO will organise.

8. AGM roles / challenges update

President – Stuart Mount (Ex Wallingford and referee) has been put forward to challenge the president role. Pete Bramley would also like to stand. RW noted that Pete has not had a fair chance in the role this year.

Dave Walkendon and Al Awcock have been put forward to challenge the Chair of Development Rugby role. PP is currently in the role. PB / RW will speak with PP.

9. Age grade calendar update

PW / JW the age grade calendar is out. Kevin Robinson has been very helpful sorting this out. Had meeting with Chris W so now in a position where know number of girls in the county that are playing. Still finalising boy's teams. PW/ JW are going to run the girls competition (Chris W happy for them to do this but ORFU will remain as representative for ORFU).

There are some quite small girls teams so may do some barbarian teams. All planned, just need to confirm it. Only about 64 girls playing rugby in the county in these ages but growing.

Have been approached by OBB for girls. Looking at dates for that.

JW one of the objectives is to get boys and girls to have the same comparable competitions – we are getting closer to this, which is positive.

10. W&G Update

CW circulated a report ahead of the meeting.

As a CB we support the use of St Edwards for starting girls rugby. (Proposed KE, Seconded GO)

Chris White – the board needs more information surrounding what the overall proposal is for regarding ex serviceman's rehabilitation charity. CW to look in to this.

11. Safeguarding

JB age grade season finished 31st May – now in summer calendar. Safeguarding meeting coming up and meeting with Becca O'Neill coming up.

Two camps requested which JB is arranging.

12. Update from any other areas not covered - None

13. AOB

PB received email from Becca O'Neill regarding a volunteer award. Pair of tickets for summer series available to give to a volunteer. DL has put forward Sarah Blizzard.

Summer series: Decision to give 2 to Neve Partlett parents / 2 to Bicester families (bereaved families). KE will organise (all board in favour – Proposed PB, Seconded RW)

PB Bicester sports association and Bicester rugby club. Vacant possession now by Value Retail. BSA appealing decision for refusal of new sports complex at Chesterton. County have been asked to support this appeal. We have to take a neutral stance as a CB and we have to be transparent. As a CB we have not got involved with this in the past and will not on this occasion. The board is in agreement of this stance.

DH Public Health England – 15 of the kites (Chinnor) tested positive Covid – none of the away team tested positive. We think the virus was spread after the game as oppose to during. The amended Covid rules seem to be preventing the transfer.

Meeting ends 20:45