

BREDON STAR R.F.C. Ltd. est. 1991
Incorporating
Bredon Star Junior Rugby

(Affiliated to the Rugby Football Union, North Midlands RFU
and Worcestershire & Herefordshire RFU)



Minutes of AGM
Friday, 14th September 2018
@ Clubhouse @ 7.00pm

Attendees:

Kevin Falvey	Dave Newcombe	Meryl Falvey
Tommy Spry	Adrian Bawdon	Siân Gittins
Steve Jenkins	Claire Dickinson	Adam Gallagher
Darren Gamble	Keith Atkins	Gemma Greenwood
Steph Gamble	Brad Cooper	Nick Harwood
Meg Wilson	Sam Verrells	Dan Swain
Steve Buffin	Alice Walker	Karen Walker
Dave Walker		

1. Appoint Chairman for the Meeting

DN stated that tonight he would hand over the meeting to KF.

2. Apologies for absence

Sean Style, Al Green, Kieran Matty, Russ Collins, Ian Fenney, Tom Llewellyn, Stef Lasota, Andrew Dickinson, Keith Christian, Phil Ball, Pierre Molyneux, Scott Jameson

3. Approval of the minutes of the last AGM held on 24th September 2017

Published on the website. Approved unanimously.

4. Matters Arising - If not addressed elsewhere in the minutes

None

5. Club Chairman's Report on the Club's Development throughout the 2017/18 season

Kevin Falvey thanked everyone for attending the AGM.

KF thanked the Junior Section Chairman – Scott Jameson, the junior coaches and committee, who have once again had a very successful season both on and off the field.

The Junior Dinner was yet again one of the highlights of our social calendar and the junior tours proved to be very successful if not very demanding!!

Both Club sections are working very well together although attendance at committee meetings could be better! A number of senior players continue to help with coaching within the junior setup.

At Bredon ,we continued to use the services of Kathy as our Sunday morning caterer and Kathy will continue to prepare the food for after matches at both sites.

However, Lindsay and her team are standing down at Westmancote, as their children now move to the Bredon site. We are therefore looking for a solution at Westmancote going forward. Please consider this role and / or spread the word.

Alan Davies, Gemma and Adrian all prepared the Senior players food for after matches on a Saturday last season. As no one has come forward to help service this food, Adrian has come up with the Masterchef competition and already has a number of entrants, including Al Ayers.

We have said a big goodbye to Jemma Diamond as our Clubhouse manager and to Rachel Oliver as one of our bar staff. Gemma Greenwood continue, so we do have vacancies for bar staff and the role of clubhouse manager is still vacant. Please speak to Adrian if you are interested or know someone who may wish to know more about the role.

Our 3 year Samurai merchandising deal has concluded and after meeting 5 potential suppliers it has been decided that for the next 3 years we will be using Macron.

Macron are based in Gloucester and have a shop there where a lot of their embroidery work etc. is undertaken.

We can go there to try out the clothing and also collect orders as necessary.

One of the key criteria we set the suppliers was to provide a wide cost range of products. i.e. a Hoodie at £30 and one at £15 as an example. Therefore we would like ALL club clothing to be purchased through them, including the oneoff items for tours. Please see Scott, Kieran or myself for specific details, but the club shop is now open on our website and Jared Wilson, the Macron Sales Manager will be with us at the Mini / Junior Registration Day on Sunday.

It is good to see players and supports alike wearing club colours on match days and while out and about in general. It is good advertising for the Club.

KF thanked all of the club's sponsors.

A number of new sponsors have signed up for this season and some existing sponsors have taken on additional commitments to the club. We are very grateful for this commitment to local grassroots rugby.

Last season we were again able to host Varsity match between Prince Henry's High School and Tewkesbury School. This event was very well received by the schools and will again take place on Wednesday, 17th October this year.

We did not hold a Vice President's & Sponsors day lunch last season, but we are planning a Player's Reunion Lunch to be held on Saturday, 4th November.

From the senior playing side, this last season was again very hard work for Kieran and Sam.

We continued in Gloucester 1 finishing 8th.

Winning 8 games, drawing 1 and losing 4 by 1 score.

The toughest league we have played in. This season will not be any easier.

However with a number of senior players retiring it is great to see the young guns who have come through our junior section stepping up. And starting with a hard fought win at Southmead last week.

Thanks go to Ross Coombes for his captaincy last season, supported by Daniel Swain who now takes on the role for the coming season.

It would be very remiss of me to not mention MERYL. Apart from her very stressful role as International Ticket Secretary, she also washes the Senior Rugby Shirts. On behalf of the Players, a very big thank you.

Thanks has to go also to our wonderful Ladies Team, who continue to improve and demonstrate what can be achieved with hardwork and commitment. A very special thank you to their coaching staff.

We completed the netting solution at the Eckington road end of the pitch.

And installed a new draining solution in the bottom corner of the main pitch.

This winter will tell us how that is working.

Our next big project is to look at improving our changing rooms.

A big thankyou goes out to the clubs unofficial sponsors and volunteers who contribute in so many unseen ways, again too many to mention, but you know who you are!

In addition, Our Landlords :-

- Adrian Darby – Westmancote Site
- Bredon Cricket Club – for use of their facilities each Sunday
- Bredon Parish Council – Bredon Site

Finally, A BIG Thankyou to ALL of the clubs players, coaches, supporters and the Club Executive Committee without whos commitment this club wouldn't exit.

6. Junior Section Chairman's Report on the Junior Club's 2017/18 season

Good evening fellow coaches, committee's, members and parents of the Junior section

Firstly, may I offer my apologies for my absence at this important meeting. David, Kevin and Adrian have my full decision making delegation in relation to the decisions required and Kevin will vote for me in my absence having been already briefed and informed.

Well what can I say, yet another staggeringly successful season for the Junior element of Bredon Star RFC both on and off the pitch. It always gives me immense pride to hear the comments of other chairman, parents and supporters in relation to what a great club and what a great impression Bredon leave on our opponents and visiting teams. Success can be measured easily in junior rugby – for me that is the record, the testament that was shown through our Junior membership breaking the 230 player mark this last year. People want to be a part of this club. Representation from those training at U6 with Siân Gittins right through to the sterling efforts that Boyd Hargreaves and Kieran Matty made to ensure the u16/17 lads got decent training and game time demonstrates that. I don't think we have ever had quite such a substantial impact on the health and well being of so many young children.

It isn't all about winning but when you do it puts a smile on everyone's' face. For the 2nd year running Jay and his team and u10 players won a fair play award at the GRFU, Alex and Steve with the u11's and 12's had multiple successes and Nick coached the u7's to tag greatness. Without blowing my own trumpet the Chairman's team of the year was the u14's - achieving Plate Cup final status in both Gloucestershire and North Mids was no mean feat, losing one and winning the other a moment of real pleasure – the boys at each final were a credit to their parents, themselves and this club and the support the club showed with current, ex and future players supporting them, alongside old stalwarts and coaches passed was testament to what we want to achieve at Bredon – inclusive, passionate and support of a sport that brings this together. The Junior Chairman's choice of player at the end of season dinner I believe reflected that. Isaac was sadly afflicted by a stroke in October and his resilience, his courage and his desire to return to playing beyond words. The way the rugby community came together at such a time was immense and know that for him and his family it will live long in a deserved and poignant memory – I know one day, he will be back on a pitch with an oval ball in hand – and it won't be too long!!

Financially the Juniors are in good shape but that is reliant on huge levels of volunteering and personal time I do not see coming through the teams today. Westmancote catering through Lindsay Barton generated a substantial surplus, the raffle too but with rising costs imposed on us by the cricket club and if honest, a lack of belief without my efforts to shore it up that they can be repeated, we have sadly been forced to raise the Junior subscriptions to £75 for the first child and £65 thereafter. It is with a heavy heart such substantial cost increases have to be borne, the solution is more people to step up, more people to share the workload and more people to take some accountability for the running of the Junior section. Please engage your teams, generate support and let's keep the momentum going that takes this club to higher planes and the next level.

Rest assured, the club has my unwavering commitment to it as a whole and the Juniors especially. When the current 1st team captain Dan Swain and his mates turn up to cheer us on, or offer support to train you know you are in a club that cares and wishes the best for all. I remain heavily dependent and thankful for the support of the Seniors committee and the efforts and time of both the Junior and Social committee. Keith Atkins as Vice Chair is an immense support and provides that extra capacity when we need it most.

I often however close my eyes and pray for the time another says 'I will do that'. This is a great club, it has an enviable reputation for the coaching quality, parental support, financial liquidity and prowess on the pitch. If you are there in the room tonight and feel that you could spare just 1 hour a week for a season, please do contact me.

It is a pride I share with you all, Junior rugby is alive and kicking in Bredon and to all those involved at whatever level in the Junior section I thank you for supporting me and the kids throughout this last season. I have every confidence the 2018/19 will be even better and I look forward to sharing the success, the stories, the moments and a beer with you over the months to come

7. Financial Report and Presentation of Accounts (Chair of Finance)

General Introduction

- 2 completely separate sets of accounts; Bredon Star RFC Ltd and its trading subsidiary, The Star Inn @ Bredon Ltd
- Detailed Income and Expenditure records that I maintain are modified by our accountants prior to submission to FCA and Companies House, to produce Balance Sheets etc that include such items as Depreciation (things wear out) and Amortisation (eg spreading the benefit of grant income); all of this not to be confused with actual available cash
- Two companies are used to maximize the potential with regard to maintaining CASC status (Bredon Star RFC Ltd) which is important in Corporation Tax and Business Rates terms; and avoiding the requirement for 1 or both of the companies needing to be VAT Registered
- They are 2 serious corporate entities that legally require structured and disciplined financial management
- Not going to talk in too much numbers detail, if you are really interested you can talk to me off line; but will take the opportunity to talk a little about how are finances are organized.

Bredon Star RFC Ltd

- 4 principal areas of activity
 1. Junior and Senior Rugby (Gents and Ladies)
 2. Clubhouse and Improvements
 3. Events
 4. Major Projects

Junior and Senior Ruby

- Obviously what the Club is all about and the reason why we exist
- Detailed Budgets are produced and agreed to balance planned income and expenditure; against which our financial performance is monitored and regulated accordingly. We do not wait until the end of the year and count the beans that are left in the tin!
- Everything from player subs to pitch maintenance to physiotherapy to training grounds to rent, to catering costs to utilities to insurance to raffle income etc etc. This list is large
- Headline performance summary:

Junior

- 231 financially accounted for players; the most ever (massive thanks yet again to Meg Wilson)
- Minor none planned expenditure only occurred as a result of a budget surplus

- Significant increased Cricket Club rent
- Heavy reliance on catering income from both Westmancote and Bredon (massive thanks to Lindsay Barton)
- Overall modest surplus of approx £4k (I will explain the importance of this a little later on)

Senior

- Costs in excess of £16k to fund Senior Rugby
- Total financial reliance on income generated from International Ticket sponsorship and Player contribution
- Difficulties with the latter resulted in the freezing of all none essential expenditure at Christmas (steps taken in the new season to avoid this)
- Overall modest surplus of £3.5 k

Clubhouse and General Improvements

- Included such things as; Clubhouse satellite TV, waste removal, licenses, general repairs, telephone and internet, replacement none playing equipment etc
- Costs approx £5k – this year it will be more – you will note that we have completed Clubhouse decoration works
- Needs to be funded by surplus delivered in the Junior and Senior Budgets; ie they are day to day activities and form part of the overall cost of running the Club. If we failed to do this we would need to eat into our reserve just to stand still. They are managed separately and that's why they are reported separately; but in effect they are part of the Junior and Senior expenditure budgets.

Events

- Senior and Junior events (not Junior Dinner)
- Massive thanks to Daz and his Events Team for all of their hard work
- Some events generate a surplus, but others not (ie they are planned merely for participation and enjoyment). The Senior presentation evening is managed this way.
- Monies are ring fenced to allow the Events Team to plan as they wish
- Fund currently stands at approx £1400

Major Projects

- Expensive but essential ball netting solution cost the Club approx £7k; despite being supported by the RFU (£4k Grant)
- Pitch drainage and restoration works costing approx £14k was entirely funded from Wychavon Section 106 monies and didn't cost the Club a penny!

The Star Inn @ Bredon Ltd

- Reduced Turnover of approx £35k
- With the honeymoon over, it's been a tough trading year and big thanks to outgoing Manager (Jemma) and Gemma for all of their hard work
- Reduced Margin for high 50's to 46% (change in trading format)
- Working hard to improve both of these measures in this new financial year
- Generated overall profit of approx £5k which was wholly donated to Bredon Star RFC Ltd

A. Summary

- Strictly in Income and Expenditure terms, beans in vs beans out, Bredon Star RFC made a loss of approx £3k
- This is modified by the donation of the modest £5k profits donated by the Star Inn @ Bredon
- However, when depreciation and amortization etc are taken into account, the Bredon Star RFC Balance sheet reduced by approx £5271
- In cash terms however, the summary of the multiple banks accounts for both companies, petty cash and stocks remained largely static at just over £60k
- Given that we will never sell the businesses, cash clearly remains extremely important; not only does it provide the means to re invest as our assets (clubhouse etc) deteriorate but also provides our war chest for the Clubs future growth and development. A seriously declining Balance Sheet would however impact on our Credit Rating which might be important one day
- Importantly, neither company has a Corporation Tax liability
- The Club has no debts (North Mids loan entirely paid off)
- Our VAT registration avoidance plans have worked which means neither company needs to become VAT registered
- And our CASC status is maintained (no Corp tax and no rates)
- More of the same needed, day to day activities need to continue to wash their financial face and the greatest opportunity to generate funds for the future is the Clubhouse which we all need to find ways of exploiting more. It should be our cash cow!

8. To consider as a special resolution any additional or alteration to the Rules of the Club duly proposed in accordance with Rule 9.5

In accordance with Rule 9.5; the following motions were requested to appear on the Agenda of this meeting:-

That the Officers of the Club for the year 2018 -19 should be modified so as to include the roles of; Chairman, President, Junior Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

Proposed: Meryl Falvey Seconded : Kieran Matty

Supported Unanimously

9. To consider a resolution disapplying the provision of the Act relating to the obligation to appoint Auditors

Proposed: David Newcombe Seconded : Kevin Falvey

Supported Unanimously

10. To elect the Officers for the ensuing year

So the officers standing again this year are:-

President - Dave Newcombe

Immediate Past President - N/A (as this does not come into effect until Dave stands down).

Secretary - Suzie Matty

Treasurer - Adrian Bawdon

Club Chaiman - Kevin Falvey

Junior Section Club Chairman - Scott Jameson

Proposed: Meryl Falvey Seconded : Siân Gittins

Supported Unanimously

11. Election of Committee Members

The Club Officers together with :-

Keith Atkins, Daz Gamble, Kieran Matty, Sam Verralls, Al Green, Steve Jenkins and James Howard.

All the above have indicated their willingness to stand and were formally proposed by

Proposed: Adam Gallagher Seconded : Gemma Greenwood

Supported Unanimously

If anyone would like to stand for the committee, particularly someone or two from the Ladies section, then please see me and I can explain the roles we are looking to fill.

12. To confirm the Election Honorary Vice Presidents (made by the Committee during the preceding year)

No Vice Presidents Elected this year.

13. To confirm the election of Honorary Members (made by the Committee during the preceding year)

Confirmation of ALL Club Coaches in 2017/18 season and our Staff and Non International Ticket Sponsors being elected as Honorary Members of the Club.

Proposed: Dave Newcombe Seconded: Kevin Falvey

Unanimously supported

14. To consider any other business of which due notice shall have been given

None todate.

15. Any Other Business (on which no voting shall be allowed)

Nothing raised.

16. Date of next AGM - Friday, 13th September 2019.

KF closed the meeting by saying - This Club – Bredon Star – is thriving, yes we need more players and will continue to strive to improve our facilities, but I must ask that we all strive to give more support and commitment for the off field events we hold. This is your club and if we want it open more often and / or longer, then we need to use it!!

Once again - Thank you all for coming. I hope you will all stay for the Gloucester game!!