

CF10 RUGBY TRUST

FIFTY EIGHTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ON

THURSDAY 18 AUGUST 2022 COMMENCING AT 7PM

PRESENT

Board Directors: Lynn Glaister (Chair); Andy Baker (Secretary); Derek Redwood (Treasurer); Sally Carter (Minutes); Simon Baker; Andrew Bold; Andrew Collins; Simon Jones

Apologies: David Allen, Sion Williams, Viv Jones, Claire O'Shea

ITEM

- 1 Chair's introductory remarks and apologies for absence.

Lynn introduced the key themes – JSG meeting with the PRB, and WRU governance.

Apologies were noted.

- 2 Minutes of the Board meeting held on Tuesday 28 June 2022

A number of amendments to the minutes were suggested and agreed.

- 3 Matters Arising and Actions

All matters arising were on the agenda.

- 4 Cardiff Rugby

4.1 Meeting with Richard Holland

No meeting was held during this period due to RH being on holiday. Another meeting will be set up in the next few weeks.

4.2 JSG meeting held 18 July 2022

Minutes of the meeting were distributed.

Lynn and Andy reported back on the meeting between the JSG and the Regional Chairs.

Background:

Despite frequent requests for a meeting with Steve Phillips, it is a year since the WRU last agreed to meet with the JSG. David Buttress (Dragons) has stepped in and arranged this

initial meeting, with plans to continue to meet with the JSG at least twice a year going forward. These meetings are not intended to replace meetings with the WRU but allow for additional supporter engagement.

Three of the Regional chairs were present: Alan Jones (Cardiff), Simon Muderack (Scarlets) and David Buttress (Dragons), and the Ospreys sent Paul Whapham as representative for Nick Garcia who was unfortunately unwell.

- All the chairs were impressive and spoke well.
- They seemed to have a close working relationship and were united in their approach to the WRU.
- They were all positive about the URC. This was picked up on social media when the minutes came out and was seen by some as controversial.

Points arising:

Fixtures:

Andrew Bold raised the issue of fixtures – the meeting had hinted that there was going to be a considerable improvement in fixtures, but they are little better than in previous years. He pointed out that our domestic season at home ends on March 4th. In comparison Premiership clubs have home fixtures extending into May.

Andy Baker had raised the issue of double header fixtures at the CAC rugby section meeting. He was told that the URC insist on a 4-hour gap between games, but Andrew Collins pointed out that there isn't a 4-hour gap between matches as part of Judgement Day.

Andy Baker has produced a joint fixture list – everyone extended their thanks to him for doing this work.

Ticket Prices

Both Scarlets and Dragons have reduced ticket prices and released press releases talking about cost-of-living increases and helping supporters. How can they afford this, and will Cardiff do the same thing? Should this have been a joint initiative with a single statement released?

It was agreed that we should do a review of ticket prices, including season tickets, and compare the offer. It was also noted that we are the only club to include RFC matches in the season ticket.

4.3 Pre-Cardiff Rugby Board with David Allen

Notes were distributed

CF10 met with David on 29th June. He has agreed to meet all supporter groups before every Board meeting. Cardiff RFC and “Blues” supporters groups are about to have their AGMs and are looking to merge their controlling board – one board with two separate sections in a federal system.

CF10 have asked David to raise a wide range of issues including: new directors coming into the club, upgrades to the stadium, more communication needed from Alan Jones, arrangements for Summerfest, supporter places on club flights.

David has raised the issue of performance indicators and has asked us to consider how we can assess his performance. It was agreed that assessment should focus on the level of communication because his key role is to act as a conduit between supporters and the Board. A narrative KPI rather than a number makes far more sense, although numbers of meetings might also be a helpful stat to show engagement. Lynn will feed these points back to David.

The Minutes have been released from the Board meeting but a bulletin summary for supporters would be useful

Next meeting 5th October – any issues we wish to raise must be submitted to David in good time.

5 Working Groups

5.1 CRFC Heritage Committee

The last meeting of the Heritage Group focussed on the creation of a Museum Trust. David and Sarah Dow attended and gave an inspiring talk about their work at Swansea RFC (St Helens Archive)

Derek helped to draw up points to consider which Sally and David will turn into a position paper for presentation to CAC Management Committee.

There have been several donations, including a large collection of 500 programmes which Simon B will be adding to the database over the coming months.

Steve has conducted interviews with Jim Mills and Jean Ash which Simon is editing prior to release on the Museum website

5.2 Community Development

Nothing to report.

5.3 Communications

The Comms Group are delighted to welcome Mart back to Twitter and the Blog team. Paul McDonald has also joined the Twitter rota, which has taken the pressure off.

5.4 Sustainability

Claire will be our contact going forward.

6 Finance (DR)

It was reported that funds stood at £1,381.16 (Bank £1,312.37 and Paypal £68.79).

6.1 Zoom

Should we have our own Zoom account rather than relying on Andrew? It would cost £15 a month and might be a more professional approach.

It was agreed that this may be something to consider if we no longer have access to Andrew Collins' work account, but at present his company is very happy for us to use their account and it covers all our current needs.

7 Governance Action Plan

No changes

8 Other Identified Business

8.1 Summerfest

This year's Summerfest has been booked for a weekday – Thursday 1st September. Mike Brown has asked us if we are prepared to do talks in the Trophy Room as we have done in previous years.

Steve will be there and is happy to give talks about the collection. Sally will be there from 12.30 to help with talks, and Simon B also hopes to be able to attend. Andy B and Lynn will be there in support and will help to promote CF10 membership and sales of the CAP book.

Action: Simon B will supply a list of what's in the cases. He will take updated photos and pull together info to help with giving talks.

8.2 RFC Player Sponsorship

We have agreed to sponsor a player again. Steve is sponsoring Dan Fish this season and there was discussion about the possibility of CF10 taking over this sponsorship.

8.3 WRU situation

The Group discussed the current problems with the WRU: archaic governance structure, lack of communication with supporters and the inability to reach a financial settlement with the Pro Clubs.

A number of questions were posed: How do we need to react as a Trust? What do we do and what do we want to achieve? Is this separate from our actions through JSG or should we do this through all 4 regions?

- There was general agreement that we need to have a united approach, and that the WRU need to be targeted in a more coherent way. Lynn suggested calling a JSG strategy meeting to look in more detail at a joint approach.
- Prior to this we need the evidence that proves the WRU are failing the game across the board. We can't just be seen to be moaning without proper evidence of mismanagement and poor governance. We can push this into a political issue because the WRU are accountable to Welsh Govt, but they have been shrewd in

using funds to do community projects which meet government objectives.

- Simon J suggested the strategic use of FOIs to find out more. The WRU are in receipt of public money and must show that they are fit for purpose.
- We need time to think what CF10's strategy should be. It was agreed that this should be the key agenda item for the next meeting (or possibly call a special meeting to discuss), and that we should create a working group for people who are interested in this topic, to meet in early September.
- It was agreed that Steve will revisit Mart's blog to put out next week. It would be sensible to put out an immediate response, to back up the critical pieces being published on WOL this week. Steve will distribute the reworked blog to the whole group for approval before publication.
- It was agreed that we need to expand the Comms WhatsApp Group to include all Board members so that people don't miss out on discussions about things like publication of blogs etc.

Action: Simon will look more closely at the idea of using FOIs and report back.

Action: Lynn to approach JSG to call for a Strategy meeting to agree a joint approach

Action: Lynn and Andy to pull together a working group to look at our strategic approach to the current WRU situation.

Action: Steve to revisit and publish Mart's blog

Supporter Ambassadors – David mentioned that the Club are looking for supporter ambassadors and want help in recruiting them. It was agreed that this is probably more a Supporters Club issue, but we have asked for a job description so we can have a more informed discussion.

9 Date and time of next meeting

Proposed 15th September 2022 at 7pm (via Zoom)