

# **CF10 RUGBY TRUST**

## **SIXTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **HELD IN PERSON AT CARDIFF ARMS PARK**

#### **THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2022 COMMENCING AT 7PM**

#### PRESENT

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

Observers: Viv Jones

Apologies: Simon Jones, David Allen, Steve Coombs

#### ITEM

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

Lynn introduced the key themes and welcomed the Group back to our first in person meeting since covid.

Apologies were noted.

- 2 Minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 13 October 2022

Minutes were agreed, with a few minor changes noted.

- 3 Matters Arising and Actions

All matters arising were on the agenda.

- 4 External meetings

4.1 Richard Holland - 19 October 2022 and 3 November 2022

Lynn, Andy and Sally attended a meeting with Richard Holland on the 19<sup>th</sup> October. David Allen and Mike Brown were also present, and Rhys Blumberg joined us online. Notes have been sent around to the Group.

A second meeting took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November with Lynn and Andy which mostly looked at the financial situation.

The Clubs feel they need to sign the current six-year deal that is on the table because their financial situation is critical, and they are in survival mode. The WRU are constantly modelling different scenarios, and there is still some mistrust between the clubs themselves, but they hope to sign the deal in January. The deal is far from perfect and will

still involve the Clubs taking on the debt from previous years. The WRU also want the clubs to guarantee that debt through the backing of benefactors, even though this was something they had previously discouraged.

CF10 will always retain independence from the Club but are supportive of their stance against the current financial situation with the WRU. Lynn and Andy asked if there are things CF10 are doing that might hurt negotiations with WRU, or if there are things we can do to help. Richard still wants us to continue to call for an EGM but has warned against rocking the boat before the agreement is signed because the financial situation is critical.

#### 4.2 Future Working (Supporter Advisor) – 15 November 2022

David has called a meeting for next week with Rhys Blumberg and the wider supporter groups.

The Supporters Clubs are having problems filling coaches for away matches and there is a need to address their changing role. Cardiff RFC's Supporters Club has become much more involved in community work. Their members are more visible on match days and have organised a number of successful social events. This could be a good example to follow. Andy will represent CF10, even though this is not really our remit.

#### 4.3 Geraint John

Geraint John has offered to meet with us. We have agreed to meet but no date has yet been fixed. This should be a CF10 meeting with Geraint and not involve the Club.

### 5 Cardiff Rugby

#### 5.1 WRU/PRB Agreement

See discussion minuted under 7.4

#### 5.2 Ground Redevelopment

No progress has been made since our last meeting. Richard has pointed out that if things are not resolved urgently then they will have to consider alternative arrangements. Do we need an active campaign to put pressure on CAC? Ideally this should come from Cardiff Rugby Club and we would be happy to back any such campaign. It was agreed that we need to chase this up with CAC Management, and it was also suggested that we could consider enlisting the journalist Steffan Thomas if we feel that we need external pressure. Simon B suggested that we could raise this issue as a question at the Heritage meeting next week. Both Simon Down and Clive Davies will be present, and we could ask the question from the point of view of the refurbishment of the Museum space.

**Action** - Andy to follow up with Cardiff Athletic Club.

**Action** – Simon B and Sally to raise the issue at the Heritage meeting.

### 6 Strategic Review

Due to the fullness of the current agenda, discussion about the strategic review will be carried over to the next meeting.

## 7 Working Groups

### 7.1 CRFC Heritage Committee

Simon reported back about plans for refurbishing the current Museum space. We are proposing boarding up the windows to create display panels, putting storage cupboards under the existing cases, and adding additional glass cabinets in the corner of the room. Simon is preparing costings for discussion at the next meeting and, if agreed, they will then be taken to CAC Management Committee.

David met with Keith Morgan to discuss the idea of creating a CIC to manage the heritage collections. Keith was reasonably positive about the idea but felt the ownership of the collection will be a major stumbling block. He has asked for some time to study the details of the proposal before inviting members of the Heritage Group to present the proposal to the CAC Management Committee.

The first Dementia Session will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November at CAP.

### 7.2 Communications

Steve has taken over the running of the Comms group, coordinating blogs and Twitter. There are things that need to be changed with the structure of Comms and this will be addressed within the strategic review.

It was agreed that we need more direct communication with the members and more regular newsletters. It is important to keep members informed about the wide scope of the work we are doing, from representing the supporters to Cardiff Rugby Club to the work of the Heritage Group. We should aim to collate and publish a monthly newsletter. Andrew C suggested creating a standard template to make it easier to have a quick turnaround, with a brief discussion at the end of every meeting to agree content for that month's newsletter. He has offered to pull these items together if people are able to send them to him immediately following the meeting. This week we need to publish something about David's Q&A and the availability of tickets for the CAC dinner.

Andy B asked the Group if we should create a CF10 Wikipedia page. There was general agreement that this was a good idea and something we should look at in more detail.

**Action:** Lynn to discuss the future of the newsletter with Claire

**Action:** Andy to ask Steve to arrange for a newsletter to go out within the next few days.

### 7.3 Sustainability (stalled – with CR)

### 7.4 WRU

A Blog piece has been published about the WRU and the failed attempt to appoint an independent chair. Another piece on governance has been written by Huw and is awaiting publication.

Whilst we have been asked not to rock the boat before the deal is signed off in January, this does not stop us from preparing the ground for a reaction following the completion of the deal. This should include gathering the support of the other members of the JSG,

gathering support with local politicians, and preparing blogs and opinion pieces so that we are ready for a prolonged and targeted campaign in January after the deal is signed. The Six Nations could be the perfect time to launch such a campaign. Interest will be more focused on rugby after the end of the football world cup, and if Wales are not playing well, it will strengthen our position that things need to change at the highest level.

We need to coordinate our Blogs so that we follow critical pieces with detailed ideas about how we change and what needs to be done. The next blog from Huw takes that approach, and he will work with Steffan Thomas, with whom he has a good relationship, in order to publish something jointly. This is likely to be published pre-January but we will pass it to David before publication to ensure that it doesn't cause problems for the Club.

## 8 Finance (DR)

The accounts are still with the independent reviewer.

It was reported that funds are unchanged from the last meeting, where they stood at £1,323.84 (Bank £1,252.37 and Paypal £71.47).

Derek has gone through the details of the 145-page WRU accounts. The accounts are intermingled with a huge amount of text. The WRUs involvement in a wide range of projects and subsidiaries makes for a complex portfolio in which the words are more interesting than the actual figures. Their overall plan is that retaining much of the CVC money and spending it on capital projects will create greater long-term returns which will make up for the future decrease in the revenue generated by the Six Nations. Derek pointed out that many of the annual financial comparisons are with the year of covid but we really need to compare back to pre-covid days to get a more realistic idea of progress. Derek is happy to discuss his findings in more detail and this may be useful information as part of the campaign of blogs planned for the new year.

## 9 Action Plan

Andy is pulling together a spreadsheet covering all our planned and ongoing projects and aims. This will become a project management tool which gives us a list of things we need to do with target dates and outcomes, and allows us to categorise the work and explore pinch points in our timelines.

The Group agreed with Andy's suggestion of making this spreadsheet shareable so we can all take ownership.

**Action:** Andy to explore software suitable for creating and sharing the action plan.

## 10 Other Identified Business

### 10.1 AGM 2023

- The Gareth Edwards room has been booked for the 16<sup>th</sup> March.
- Lynn will formerly confirm that James Stafford will be there as a guest speaker, focusing on Cardiff related stories from his book. It would be good if we could use some illustrations from his book to help advertise his appearance.
- We will also include a short Q&A with David

- The statutory items will all be confirmed by Andy
- It was agreed that we do not need a complex audio set up

#### 10.2 Supporter Advisor Q&A 24 November

- David wants CF10 to facilitate this meeting on Zoom and Lynn has agreed to chair and introduce.
- Andy B and Andrew C will discuss the best way to facilitate the zoom set-up and any additional functionality required.
- The event will be advertised through the Supporter Groups and through Cardiff Rugby, and we will notify our supporters through a newsletter to be sent out shortly.

#### 10.3 CAC Centenary dinner

Andy proposed inviting Huw and paying for his ticket as a thank you for his service to CF10. This was agreed. There are still tickets available on the CF10 table and these will be offered to the wider membership.

#### 11 Date, time, and format of next meeting

15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7pm (virtual)