

# CF10 ARMS PARK RUGBY TRUST

## MINUTES OF FORTIETH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD

### VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ON

### THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 7PM

#### PRESENT

Board Directors: David Allen (Chair); Simon Baker; Andrew Bold; Sally Carter; Andrew Collins; Steve Coombs; Lynn Glaister; Huw Jones (Secretary); Derek Redwood (Treasurer);

Observers: Andy Baker; Martin Hughes; Simon Jones; Claire O'Shea; Sion Williams;

#### Apologies:

ITEM		ACTION
1	Chair's introductory remarks and apologies for absence DA welcomed CO'S to her first meeting of the Board, as an observer. There were no apologies for absence.	
2	Minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 24 September 2020 AGREED	
3	Matters Arising and Actions All matters arising were either on the agenda or identified actions had been completed.	
4	Cardiff Blues DA reported that after a short period of strained relationships, CF10 is now meeting frequently with Cardiff Blues CEO Richard Holland and Mike Brown, Head of Communications and Marketing. We have also been meeting informally with non-executive director Andrew Williams. Discussions with all parties have been constructive and we get the feeling that the views of CF10 are valued. The Board felt it was important to position ourselves as the body that advises CBL on the importance of consulting/involving supporters not just consulting CF10.  4.1 Meeting with Richard Holland: 5 October 2020 The discussion had mainly focused on the re-branding of Cardiff Blues (expanded on below). As there were still many queries about the financial position of the Regions, RH had suggested a meeting between Regional CEOs and Joint Supporters Group representatives. DA agreed to float the idea with JSG reps. DA also reported that he was seeking to coordinate a meeting of various Cardiff rugby supporters groups. CBL also agreed that a photographic record of the current Arms Park could be	

	<p>undertaken in order to retain its history for the museum. This would best be undertaken around January when the pitch would most like have been repaired.</p> <p>The notes of the meeting would be sent to members</p> <p>4.2 Meeting with Andrew Williams: 14 October 2020 The meetings with AW mainly focused on governance issues and re-branding. AW had emphasised that his main interest was how the re-branding would benefit the business and how it could be used to build a culture of excellence. It was important that the change also helped to benefit the relationship with CAC.</p> <p>4.3 Meeting with Richard Holland: 21 October 2020 LG reported on the meeting. She felt that there had been a genuine desire to engage with CF10. Discussion had primarily focused on the re-branding which had been floated at the Q&amp;A. RH reported that he was fully aware of the views of supporters and didn't see the need for a formal consultation. A decision would need to be made by the Board in the next week or so in order to advise Macron about the club colours and revised logo for the 2021/22 season. CF10 emphasised that although the logo and team colours were clearly very important, it was essential to ensure that the rebranding drove a culture of excellence throughout the company/club using Cardiff's heritage/history as the 'Greatest' rugby club to do so. It was recognised that although kit designs would not be available for many months it was important to make an announcement about the branding sooner rather than later. In order not to raise too many expectations this should be accompanied by a timeline setting out what would happen when. This could be set out on the website and updated as appropriate. The Board agreed that a statement should be issued in support of the new branding when it was announced. DR suggested that we investigate the possibility of formally changing our official name, 'Cardiff Blues Rugby Supporters Society Limited', following the CBL re-branding. CBL were also considering undertaking a survey of supporters to ascertain their interest in a share offer. It was suggested to them that a survey may be better after the launch of the new branding in order to capitalise on support/enthusiasm of fans.</p>	<p>HJ/AC</p> <p>DA/HJ</p> <p>DR</p>
5	<p>Cardiff RFC</p> <p>It was felt that the proposed change in branding, adopting the heritage/culture of Cardiff along with an agreed strategy for Cardiff rugby will help to remove most of the barriers in negotiations with CAC about the lease.</p>	
6	<p>Mission Statement (Revised)</p> <p>The revised Mission Statement was agreed. This would also include the previous pre-amble: 'CF10 Arms Park Rugby Trust is a democratic and representative forum open to all supporters of Cardiff rugby'. There may be a need to re-visit the Mission Statement and tweak it appropriately following the CBL re-branding. The Mission Statement would need to be signed off at the AGM in March.</p>	<p>HJ</p>
7	<p>Succession Planning</p>	

	<p>Following the Special Meeting held on 8 October, LG had decided that she would put her name forward to stand for the position of Chair.</p> <p>It was decided at that meeting that the Board needed to operate in a very different way in future with all board members stepping up and sharing the burden of work. A distributed leadership approach would be adopted.</p>	
8	<p><b>Working Groups</b></p> <p><b>8.1 Heritage</b></p> <p>8.1.1 Crowdfunding</p> <p>A pitch for funding to CAC had been prepared and this had also been shown to CBL NED Andrew Williams.</p> <p>If none of these options were to bear fruit then a Plan B was needed. In this regard, SCa presented a paper setting out two options for crowdfunding the book: crowdfunding.com and Unbound Publishing. The former was the preferred option.</p> <p>SB reported that the museum had received a donation of interesting photographs from the 1970s.</p> <p><b>8.2 Communications</b></p> <p>A newsletter to members was required by Christmas. CO'S agreed to pull this together and act as editor. DA agreed to provide advice off-line.</p> <p><b>8.3 Welsh Language</b></p> <p>CBL's commitment to the Welsh Language had increased significantly recently. It had been emphasised to them at recent meetings that the re-branding gave them a great opportunity to consolidate that through the use of the language in their branding.</p> <p>It was suggested that the European kit and away kit would be a great opportunity to use the Welsh logo.</p>	CO'S/DA
9	<p><b>Finance Report</b></p> <p>DR reported that available funds stood at £1492.56 (£1477.93 in the bank; £14.63 with Paypal).</p>	
10	<p><b>Governance Action Plan October 2020</b></p> <p>The risks in the above plan remained largely unchanged but work was required in preparation for the AGM in March. It was likely that this would be a virtual meeting so consideration was required both to the technical challenges this would bring as well as the format. Consideration also needed to be given to remote voting.</p> <p>AC and HJ were meeting to discuss the above challenges.</p>	AC/HJ
11	<p><b>Other Identified Business</b></p> <p><b>11.1 Cardiff Blues Brothers (CBB)</b></p> <p>AC reported that he'd met with Matthew Hughes from CBB following a request from the latter. They are in discussion with CBL about an event starting 4 June 2022 which is planned to be a 'Mission to Moldova', promoting Cardiff rugby and undertaking charitable activities. They are requesting advice on the history of Cardiff rugby. SC agreed to assist.</p> <p><b>11.2 Proxy Shares</b></p>	SCo

	<p>DA reported that another member that agreed to proxy shares to CF10. This meant that CF10 was now 8<sup>th</sup> on the list of largest shareholders having control of 41,250 shares.</p> <p>11.3 Codebreakers</p> <p>Following the re-screening of the 'Codebreakers' documentary there was a discussion about racism in rugby. It was agreed that CF10 could do very little about past racist events but it should seek to influence the present and future. The issue would be raised with RH at the next meeting to see what proactive events could be undertaken.</p>	HJ
12	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 26 November 2020 commencing at 7pm</p>	