

CF10 ARMS PARK RUGBY TRUST

MINUTES OF FORTY FIFTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD

VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ON

THURSDAY 20 MAY 2021 COMMENCING AT 7PM

PRESENT

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

Observers: Andy Baker; David Francis; Martin Hughes; Viv Jones; Claire O'Shea;

Apologies: Sion Williams

ITEM		ACTION
1	<p>Chair's introductory remarks and apologies for absence</p> <p>The Chair said she would report back on recent meetings with CBL (which had been arranged to discuss supporter representation) and the WRU (as part of the Joint Supporters Group). She also wanted those leading the working groups to report back on their initial meetings.</p> <p>LG also informed the Board that she had invited Dan Taylor to join future meetings as an observer. He was very keen to contribute to CF10's work and as a young person, would bring a different perspective to the group.</p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 22 April 2021</p> <p>AGREED</p>	
3	<p>Matters Arising and Actions</p> <p>Item 12.2 - CF10 Logo</p> <p>With the official name change to 'CF10 rugby Trust' and the rebranding of CBL, AB agreed to come forward with some thought on potentially reviewing the CF10 logo.</p>	AB
4	<p>Cardiff Blues</p> <p>6.1 Meeting with Cardiff Blues 4 May 2021</p> <p>A note of the meeting with Alun Jones, Andrew Williams and Richard Holland to discuss supporter representation had been previously circulated.</p> <p>AJ had explained that the CBL board generally accepts that supporter representation is a good thing and consequently CF10 is pushing at an open door. He hoped that CBL will have a confirmed position in the next few months.</p> <p>At the meeting RH had agreed to plot a timeline for resolution of the issue and develop a specification. He had completed these actions and sent a paper to LG/HJ setting out the position but had asked for this not to be circulated.</p>	

	<p>LG felt that the paper was so important she had to share the broad thrust of the proposal with board members.</p> <p>Members were pleased to hear about Cardiff Rugby's commitment to have supporter representation on the board. They also noted that the actions RH had committed to undertake at that meeting had been discharged promptly.</p> <p>However, there was concern about both the proposed recruitment process and the role specification set out in their paper. These departed considerably from the proposal CF10 submitted to CBL 18 months earlier both in principle and in detail.</p> <p>The recruitment process was to be led by Cardiff Rugby board members rather than supporters. This was inconsistent with recommendations made by Supporters Direct (now the FSA) and virtually all sport clubs that have supporter representation on their boards. The process would lead more to the appointment of a Cardiff Rugby board representative to the supporters rather than a supporters' representative to the Cardiff Rugby board.</p> <p>Moreover, the person specification seemed more appropriate to the role of an NED than of a supporter advisor. For example, excluded from the role was the important phrase "ensure the views of supporter organisations at CAP and the wider fan base are fully taken into account in board decision making".</p> <p>Fundamentally, the person must be able to show commitment that they have been, and are, committed to engaging with supporters and representing their views to the Cardiff Rugby board. The person appointed must also have the trust of supporter organisations to have legitimacy.</p> <p>It was agreed that LG would write to RH setting out the Board's concerns.</p>	LG/HJ
5	<p>Cardiff RFC</p> <p>The CAP lease was still subject to ongoing discussion and disagreement. Under the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954, which provides protected business tenancy, CBL has issued a section 26 notice to have the lease extended by 15 years. CAC have responded and offered 3 years. They do not accept the grounds for seeking such an extension. At the meeting with CBL, CF10 agreed to make contact with the RFC Rugby Section and CAC Management Committee to seek to influence the current situation.</p>	LG
6	<p>Welsh Rugby Union – Joint Supporters Group Meeting 29 April</p> <p>LG and HJ had represented CF10 at the JSG meeting with the WRU. Steve Phillips and Mark Killingley had represented the later. Draft minutes have been prepared and at the time of writing these had recently been sent to the WRU for confirmation.</p> <p>The meeting had covered a wide range of issues including vision/strategy for the professional game; the CLBILS loan; CVC investment and payments to the pro clubs for services. SP's answers had been similar to the interview he had given recently to WalesOnline but he had been questioned for nearly 2 hours. The next meeting of JSG/WRU would be held on 28 July.</p>	
7	<p>Working Groups</p> <p>7.1 Members and Supporters Experience – DR</p> <p>DR reported that the group had met the previous Tuesday. They had identified around 20 headings looking at match-day experiences. Rather than undertake a survey they planned to drip-feed thoughts/issues via social media.</p> <p>The group felt that issues related to redevelopment should be pursued at a time</p>	

<p>when proposals were further progressed than at the present time.</p> <p>7.2 Ensuring Rebrand Used Effectively – StC</p> <p>StC said that the group had identified four key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of rebrand should not alienate anyone. Supporters from outside the city needed to feel included and feel part of an uninterrupted line stretching back to the 1870s. - The rebrand should be reflected within the stadium. Budget constraints are understood but the artwork recently used to advertise season tickets has been impressive. - Players thus far have continued to use “Blues” prominently. Continued use of “Blues” as shorthand for the club could undermine the rebrand. - A file listing useful Cardiff Rugby Museum items and images by topic and/or date should be created. This could be useful to individuals running the trust’s communications when looking for material. It could also be useful to the club when looking for heritage items to use in marketing. 	DR
<p>The group would now collaborate on developing a file/list of key Cardiff Rugby Museum items and restart recording player interviews.</p> <p>7.3 Influencing the Decision Makers – SJ</p> <p>The group had identified some general principles that would steer the approach to influencing decision makers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approach should be viewed as a medium or long term process rather than a series of one off events; - Building long term relationships in order to achieve a series of outcomes, based on respect, support and honesty; - Prioritising issues to avoid fighting on all fronts, recognising that some issues may be beyond the influence of the Trust and supporter base; - Recognising that the Trust can say things and challenge in a way that the leadership of Cardiff Rugby might feel unable to; - Supporting leadership of Cardiff Rugby to continue to be robust in media and approach to challenges the club faces; - Engaging the CF10 membership in campaigns and activity, our strength lies in the number of members we have. 	StC
<p>The overall aim should be to support and influence the conditions for professional rugby to thrive in Cardiff. The next step was to flesh out the above thoughts further.</p> <p>7.4 CRFC Heritage Committee – SaC</p> <p>SaC reported that there hadn’t been a meeting of the CRFC Heritage Committee since the last Board meeting.</p> <p>However, the ‘Architectural history’ book was ready for printing. The proposed run had been increased from 500 to 1000 along with 250 cloth versions.</p> <p>7.5 Communications</p> <p>7.5.1 Newsletter – CO’S</p> <p>Co’S reported that it was her intention to get the newsletter out by the end of the month. It would include contributions from Lynn, Derek, Huw, David, Mart plus a piece from Natasha Davies on a fan’s perspective on returning to watch live rugby.</p>	SJ

	<p>7.6 Welsh Language – SW SB agreed to send SW information for translation for inclusion in Welsh on the website.</p>	<p>Co'S</p> <p>SB</p>
8	<p>Finance Report DR reported that a donation of £25 had been received and the annual membership payment to Sporting Heritage had been made. Available funds stood at £1392.56. The FCA had acknowledged the company change of address but hadn't responded to the proposed name change yet.</p>	
9	<p>Governance Action Plan May 2021 The plan had been updated and the highest risk continued to be the ongoing matter of supporter representation on the CBL board discussed earlier.</p>	
10	<p>Other Identified Business 10.1 Zoom The Board considered whether a monthly Zoom contract should be taken out. Given the cost it was decided that this was not desirable.</p>	
11	<p>Date and time of next meeting Thursday 17 June 2021 commencing at 7pm</p>	