

CF10 ARMS PARK RUGBY TRUST

MINUTES OF THIRTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ON

WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST 2020 COMMENCING AT 6PM

PRESENT

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

ITEM		ACTION
1	Chair's introductory remarks and apologies for absence The date of the meeting had been changed in order that the Board could discuss the outcome of the zoom conference held with some of the Cardiff Blues Board Directors the previous day. This would be the primary issue for discussion. There were no apologies.	
2	Minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 23 July 2020 The notes of the previous Board meeting and the emergency board meeting were agreed.	
3	Matters Arising and Actions Item 11.1 Succession Planning – This would be deferred until the next meeting in order to have a more substantive discussion on the issue.	DA/HJ
4	Cardiff Blues 4.1 Meeting with Cardiff Blues Limited 25 August 2020 A note of the meeting will be circulated to the Board following comments from CBL. In summary: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CBL was unable to comment on the loan discussions which were taking place. It was put to them that the WRU was seeking to give priority to itself and to protect its staff, Principality Stadium, the Dragons and the community game at the expense of the three independent Regions. Alun Jones was asked if he agreed with that analysis. He said that he didn't disagree.2. RH categorically stated that there would be NO shared services with the WRU, with the exception of retail where they were looking to develop greater purchasing power.3. CBL felt that the Trust and others were in a better position to comment on the WRU abuse of dominant position. He assured CF10 that he was not acquiescing to the situation.4. In relation to the 'Supporter Director' proposal AJ said that they simply hadn't had time to pick this issue up again due to the financial	

	<p>challenges they had faced. However, it was not off the agenda and they would address it when the current crisis was over in a few months.</p> <p>5. There was a brief discussion about branding and how CBL was failing to capitalise on its heritage, unlike the Scarlets. RH felt that the situation was clear, as set out in the 'Cardiff Blues Way' and there were no plans to change the current position. RH nor the Board had seen the paper prepared for them at the request of CBL staff on this topic. DA agreed to circulate to all.</p> <p>Those present at the meeting said that it was particularly difficult. AJ was very polite and professional at all times but some of his other board members' behaviour showed a lack of respect for supporters as an important stakeholder. DA said that he was proud of the professional way CF10 members handled the meeting, not responding to any barbed comments thrown at us. It was agreed that the draft blog would not be published at this stage. A response would be sent to CBL informing them about the blog and expressing concern about their attitude towards supporters. The latter being of particular concern given that CBL was not mature enough culturally to welcome comments or criticism from a supporter representative. A similar note would be sent to all members of CF10 informing them of the outcome of the meeting. A draft of both notes would be circulated to Board members for comment. In light of the above, the Board would need to consider what strategy it should adopt. A discussion on this topic would take place at the next meeting.</p>	<p>DA</p> <p>HJ</p> <p>HJ</p>
5	<p>Cardiff RFC</p> <p>The uncertainty regarding the lease continued. DA was in regular contact with key members of CAC.</p>	
6	<p>Working Groups</p> <p>6.1 Heritage</p> <p>DA reported that the book on the history of CAP had been completed and would cost c. £6.5K to publish (hardback; full colour; limited edition). Funding from CAC might be a possibility but it was proposed that crowdfunding should be explored initially. DA agreed to draft a proposal for discussion</p> <p>6.2 Communications</p> <p>6.2.1 Social Media Policy</p> <p>This policy was agreed having been previously circulated for comment. It would now be added to the Directors' Handbook and circulated to the Comms Group.</p> <p>6.3 Welsh Language</p> <p>There were no specific issues identified.</p>	<p>DA</p> <p>HJ</p>
7	<p>Finance Report</p> <p>DR reported that available funds remained unchanged at £1477.93 (£1380.29 in the bank and £97.64 with Paypal).</p>	
8	<p>Governance Action Plan August 2020</p> <p>1.3 It was noted that Steve Coombs had joined the Comms Group and the Board, as a co-opted director, to strengthen its skills.</p> <p>The plan continued to note two areas of concern:</p>	

	<p>Point 2.2 COVID19 implications for Welsh rugby.</p> <p>Point 6.1 CBL governance reform not including Supporter Director. This risk had increased following the CBL meeting.</p>	
9	<p>Other Identified Business</p> <p>9.1 Observers</p> <p>The Board agreed that now was the right time to invite Observers back to virtual meetings.</p> <p>Also, Simon Jones had expressed a specific interest to return and contribute to strategy and policy issues.</p> <p>An invitation would be sent to all.</p>	HJ
10	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 24 September 2020 commencing at 7pm</p>	