

**BATH RUGBY SUPPORTERS' CLUB
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING HELD IN THE ILLUSTRIOUS
SUITE, THE RECREATION GROUND
ON 22 MAY 2014 AT 1930**



Present:

Committee:

Kevin Lawrence (Acting Chairman)
Erica Edwards (Treasurer)
Anne Kirkham (Membership Secretary)
Tom Sutton (Secretary)
Jen Wilcox (Committee Member)

Members:

Sue Andrew	Peter Dix	Susanne Laws	Teresa Powell
Kelvin Brunton	Wendy Dix	Peter Legge	Bill Shaw
D Bullock	Keith Hands	Sheila Legge	William Singer
Cath Burgess	Trudy Healey	Penny Lewis	Emma Sparks
Fred Clayton	Clive Hoskin	Betty Measday	Terry Wagstaff
Barry Cleeve	Honor King	Peter Measday	Dorothy Wallace
Jenny Cleeve	Pat Lawrence	Peter Phillips	Jan Warrington
David Da Costa	Adrian Laws	Phil Powell	Mike Warrington
			(32)

In attendance: Nick Blofeld (CEO, Bath Rugby)

Welcome

Kevin Lawrence (Acting Chairman) welcomed and introduced Nick Blofeld, who had agreed to deliver a review of the season and update briefing, looking ahead to the next season.

Speaker

Nick explained that he would concentrate on the following areas in his briefing

- the past Season and progress made;
- ERC / EPCL;
- the Bath Rugby Academy;
- the Rec;
- Farleigh House

The past Season and progress made

Nick reported there was great satisfaction with the playing progress made over the past season. There had been a conscious decision to shift philosophy to a more attacking, wider game, echoing the successful years of the Jack Rowell era. In recruiting a core of young English players the Club is creating a competitive environment, instilling a feeling of pride in the shirt and playing for the Club. There was particular satisfaction in the much improved away record.

Three players were joining the Club in season 2014/15 – Henry Thomas (from Sale – THP), Nick Auterac (from Saracens – LHP) and Sam Burgess (from Rugby League – a great athlete and leader.) There may also be additional recruitment to cover at full back.

ERC / EPCL

With Bruce Craig playing a significant, key role in the discussions, the Clubs had held their nerve over the new arrangements and had achieved what was felt to be right for the clubs. A range of financial partners was now being sought to assist with the funding of the new structure.

The Academy

Nick explained that the highly-regarded Dave Williams had returned to South Africa and would be replaced by two coaches. The region was to be split in half, with one coach responsible for each.

Player development is being very closely monitored from U15 onwards, the aim being to establish an appropriate, professional culture from a young age. To this end the Strength and Conditioning coaches have begun to work closely with the age groups.

The Rec

Nick stated that frustrations continue but that steady progress is being made.

Leave to appeal the most recent legal decision had been granted – the core issue being enveloped in points of law.

In his view the new Trustees were an outstanding group and certainly could not be accused of pandering to the Council. Nick encouraged those present to write to Liz Bloor, Chair of the Rec Trust, mentioning – “I am a beneficiary – please support the development”.

The Club had submitted a temporary planning application for two years to add extra seating in the East Stand, at the Clubhouse end of the ground and some additional boxes.

Season ticket prices would be raised by an average of 3.5% in the next season, the first increase since 2011/12.

Nick was pleased that the improvements to the Ladies Loos had generated such positive feedback.

At this point there was a (rhetorical) question from the floor about how much the Club had spent fighting the Rec development issue in the last ten years and whether there was any chance of redress from the objectors? This outcome was not felt likely!

There were additional questions from the floor about the possibility of fans being able to bid farewell to those players leaving the Club and about the current procedures for drug testing.

Nick was thanked for his interesting and informative briefing.

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks (Acting Chairman)

Kevin Lawrence welcomed everyone officially to the meeting and thanked them for coming. He then went on to introduce the members of the Committee who were present.

He also mentioned Peter Hayward, a BRSC member who had sadly passed away in January 2014, and Andy Moore, a BRSC stalwart, who had been very unwell recently. A Get Well Soon card for Andy was circulated for signature. (**After Minute:** Tom Sutton delivered the card by hand a few days after the AGM and was able to spend time talking with Andy.)

2. Notice Convening the Meeting (Secretary)

The notice convening the meeting was read. It was confirmed that in accordance with Paragraph 11 of the Constitution, the notice had been published on the Allez - Bath website and in the local Press not later than 21 days in advance of the meeting.

3. Apologies (Secretary)

Written (emails and letters) and telephone apologies had been received from 56 members. (A full list of their names is attached as an appendix to these Minutes.)

Tom Sutton mentioned that when offering their apologies many members had taken the trouble to thank the Committee members for their work and had offered their best wishes for the meeting.

4. Minutes of the last AGM (Secretary)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23 May 2013 had been published on the website and a limited number of copies were available at the meeting. There were no questions or matters arising which would not be covered during the business of the meeting and the minutes were approved for signature.

5. Membership Secretary's Report

Anne Kirkham reported as follows:

This season we have recruited 166 new members from as far afield as Norway and Sydney, Australia. Unfortunately a number of previous members have chosen not to renew their membership; of these 88 were members who had only joined last season. Therefore we closed our membership this season at 677; 11 members fewer than this time last year. Whilst once again the rate of fall off in numbers has reduced considerably it begs the question as to why we have a good recruitment record but a not so good retention record – something for the Committee to look at for next season.

- Membership applications / renewals were available at every home game. This season our new matchday location has increased our visibility and allowed us to interact with a greater number of supporters.
- Membership renewal forms were mailed out to all 2012-2013 members along with information regarding the Awards Supper and the end of season newsletter.
- Members were signed up on the Supporters' Coaches to the first few away games.
- Emails were sent to last season's members who had not renewed giving them a gentle reminder
- The Allez-Bath website has a clear membership section and we have a presence on Twitter & Facebook – thus a higher profile
- This season we had an on-line membership facility from the website which allowed members both old and new to pay directly into our account using PayPal. This has proved a popular payment method for new members, especially those from a distance away. It is also easier for administration purposes as I don't have to handle any cash or cheques
- BRSC continues to have a page in the matchday programme
- The Bath Chronicle has continued to feature photographs & articles about BRSC events and activities.
- The range of discounts available to members is constantly being reviewed and updated

- BRSC have organised a number of very successful events during the season for members and their guests
- We once again held a prize draw for all members signed up before Christmas. Two lucky members Frances Chandler (1495) and Kelly Parker (5379) each won a Premier Lounge Hospitality package for 2 people for the home game against Saracens in February. Thanks to Bath Rugby, especially Matt Powell for making this possible.

If any of you have any ideas as to how else we can promote BRSC membership in the coming season then please talk to one of the committee; ideas to remedy the retention problem would be particularly welcome.

One simple idea from me if every BRSC member persuaded one other person to join then we would have to order more cards & badges!!

I already have 6 new members waiting to join when the new membership year starts on 1st July so let's see if we can get our membership numbers over 700 next year.

It was suggested from the floor that, when emailing previous members who had not re-joined, they should be asked if they could explain their decision by giving specific reasons.

There was also a question about the impact of STH events on BRSC activities. Anne Kirkham agreed that some STH evenings organised by Bath Rugby had taken on the "traditional" subject matter of past BRSC events. BRSC was working hard (and largely successfully) with the Club to avoid clashes over social events, both in content and timing.

The Chairman thanked Anne Kirkham for her report.

6. Treasurer's Report

Erica Edwards reported as follows, with the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation:

Good Evening.

This year has been another year of financial stability. Most of our sponsors we found in the summer/autumn of 2011 have stayed with us for a third year.

Wadworth have once again agreed to sponsor the newsletter.

Silcox Son and Wicks' sponsorship has been key in providing a quality Awards Supper that BRSC can be proud of, for a ticket price that is still affordable and very good value for money. Mowbray Woodward continue to sponsor the 'MW Award for Services to Bath Rugby'. This season the recipient was Wendy Armitage.

Bath Rugby have been very supportive. This season we have enjoyed:

- The hire of the Clubhouse and Illustrious Suite at zero cost for all our events
- Free food for players and Bath Rugby staff at our Awards Supper
- Free posters advertising our events at The Rec

Without these sponsors and Bath Rugby's assistance, running BRSC would have been difficult.

And now the Accounts for the year ending 30 April 2014:

Income

- Membership subscriptions were level v last year
- Events: Event income
- Charity collections: This is money we collected for our charity, i.e. raffles, sale of 1998 Heineken Cup Final DVDs, sale of old badges, England and Heineken Cup Final Programmes.

They were up by £1,729 this year. The increase is mainly due to the Flats' Testimonial event, and Lions Tour raffles.

- Newsletter sponsorship of £1777 was for just 1 newsletter in June rather than the 3 in the previous year; March 2012, June 2012, and December 2012

Expenditure

- Membership: Costs are down by £431 because we have not been able to send out a Membership flyer due to Bath Rugby's different season ticket renewal/purchase process
- Events
- Printing, Postage & Stationery: Costs decreased by £1071 due to the reduced number of newsletters
- Equipment: To improve our presence on The Rec we purchased a gazebo and new tables and chairs. We also purchased a folding display board that was already put to good use at Bendy's Farewell.
- Presentations: Bath Aqua Glass mementos presented this year at the BRSC Player Awards (Bendy's falls in next year's accounts). Last year to Flatman, Barkley, Mears, Davis, Claassens and BRSC Player Awards.
- Web: Costs have increased because we now have a PayPal account
- Merchandise: We have purchased BRSC car stickers
- Charity Expenditure: Our costs incurred to produce the 1998 Heineken Cup Final DVDs and the food costs for Flats' Testimonial event.
- Charity Donations: level of donations up by £1088 due to Flats Testimonial (443), Lions Tour raffles (231), HC Final DVD sales (435)

Charitable Donations

This year we donated £2001 to charity. Except for a few small surpluses on some of our events, these donations came from our members and other rugby supporters.

Glyn and I held 2 raffles during the final 2 Lions Tests in the Clubhouse. To our amazement we collected £231.

The players sold raffle tickets at our Awards Supper to the amount of £572, an increase of £51.

We charged an entry fee as well as sold raffle tickets for our Charity Christmas Quiz. This increased our donation by £125 when compared to last year.

The net proceeds from the sale of 1998 Heineken Cup Final DVDs was £315 with 13 DVDs still to sell.

The net proceeds from 'The Dark Arts of the Front Row' (Flats' Testimonial) was £443

Web Presence

Last summer I added an online shop for membership applications and renewals, event bookings, and merchandise. I also set up a BRSC PayPal account. This has been a great success.

The online shop uses the shopping cart software from Ecwid - which is used by more than 450,000 sellers in 175 countries.

Payment is via PayPal - either using a buyer's PayPal account or via debit or credit card. We have decided not to charge extra for the use of our online shop vs the more traditional methods because the benefits of especially online membership applications far outweigh the small oncost.

Income v Expenditure

This year we have spent slightly more than we received as income. Our bank balance now stands at £4751 at the end of April.

Expenditure Level

I am of the opinion that we have achieved a reasonable balance between the level of costs we incur on one side and the level of professionalism we try to achieve on the other side.

Bank Balance

Our bank balance as at the end of April is £4,752.

The Committee is of the opinion that this amount is adequate for the correct functioning of the Club based on the following:

To function over the summer period when we incur substantial costs before the membership subscriptions start coming in, we believe we need a cushion of approx. £2,000. We need to pay upfront for membership cards, membership badges, and some costs associated with the Awards Supper.

We also need some money to protect us if we lose our sponsors (we lost Roman Candles as one of our Awards Supper sponsors). The net benefit to BRSC of sponsorship monies received was just over £1200.

As mentioned last year's Treasurer's Report we have improved our presence on The Rec with the purchase of a gazebo and new tables and chairs.

Assessment of Membership Subs Level

This topic was considered by the Committee at its last meeting.

Membership subscriptions levels currently are:

- Adult £7.50
- Junior £4.00
- Family £16.00 (up to 2 adults & unlimited children under 16 at same address)
- Overseas £10.00

Benefits:

- Membership Card
- Membership Badge
- Newsletter
- Free entry or reduced ticket prices to our events
- Local discounts
- Help in obtaining Amlin Final tickets !!

Membership can pay for itself:

- Attend 3 of our events
- Use your discounts:
 - o Match day examples: Mission Burrito BOGOF, Wetherspoons 20% off breakfast, Patisserie Valerie 10%, Las Iguanas 20%, Bath Aqua Glass 20% off non-sale items, PurePots 10%,

o Other examples: Bath club shop 5% off: £2.50 per shirt, John Titcombe Fine Jewellery 20% off, Silcox 10% (useful for that sofa!!)

We are only keeping the Membs Subs down because we have managed to obtain sponsorship for the newsletter from Wadworth and part sponsorship for the Awards Supper from Silcox, Son and Wicks.

Looking forward I do not expect any of our current costs to go down; stamps, print costs other than newsletters, membership badges and cards, website costs, etc. are more likely to go up.

The committee members are giving their time for free and the website is currently run by me (also for free) and in my opinion we have achieved a reasonable balance between the level of costs we incur on one side and the level of professionalism on the other side.

To help you use your discounts better we are exploring the possibility of providing the businesses with a sticker to advertise this fact.

The Membership Secretary has proposed a small change to the Family Membership structure so as not to disadvantage single parent families and also to cover the costs of membership badges given to children. My advice to the Committee has been that we should not fundamentally change the current membership subs in order to sustain the current level of BRSC activity and the Committee has agreed to alter the Family Membership and to leave the other subscription categories unchanged.

Finally

Committee Members are not reimbursed for travel costs. We always purchase our own tickets to BRSC events. Any costs are only reimbursed to Committee Members after being agreed in advance and claimed with a receipt.

My thanks to Clive Hoskins for his expertise and help in producing the audited accounts in time for this AGM.

Membership Subscription Charges

Anne Kirkham proposed (seconded by the Committee) a change to the rate for Family Membership.

When joining with an Adult family member (unchanged at £7.50), the subscription for Children U16 to be £1 per child. This motion was agreed.

Clive Hoskin was thanked again for his work in examining and auditing the BRSC Accounts.

The Chairman thanked Erica, on behalf of the membership, for all her hard work as Treasurer.

7. Acting Chairman's Report

Kevin Lawrence presented the following report.

Introduction

1. I would like to start by thanking Membership Secretary Anne Kirkham and our Treasurer, Erica Edwards for their very comprehensive reports to you this evening. They have already covered a lot of important issues and with that in mind my intention is to keep this report fairly brief. Thanks also to Tom Sutton for handling the administration and paperwork for this meeting.

2. I do not intend to conduct a detailed reflection on the performances that we have seen on the pitch this year, or indeed the frustrations from a Supporters' perspective of the further delays in providing the new, top class arena at the Rec which the team and the supporters deserve. We've already heard from Nick Blofeld on these issues and as always, we appreciate the update.
3. What I will say, however, is that now is a great time to be a Bath supporter and I would like to thank the players and coaching staff for a season in which we have seen some terrific, and very committed rugby.
4. Of course, given the importance of tomorrow evening in Cardiff [*Amlin Challenge Cup final 23 May 2014*] we wish the boys all the very best. They can rely on every Bath Supporter to be fully behind them, whether we're some of the lucky few who managed to get tickets or are watching it or listening to it elsewhere. Good luck – we are very proud of you.
5. So for this evening, I think that it is important that my primary focus should be on Club and Committee activities and performance over the last year. This has been a very busy and at times difficult year and I should say at the outset that every member of the committee has worked extremely hard to deliver the best services possible to BRSC members.
 - a) A lot of things have gone very well and we should recognise that.
 - b) In a few areas we haven't quite managed to deliver everything we'd hoped and it's fair that we should acknowledge that and explain how we plan to do better.
6. Firstly, I would like to thank everybody who has served on the Committee over the last year. As those of you who have done it will know, it is a serious commitment of time and expertise which goes far beyond the regular committee meetings and matchday presence. I would like particularly to thank Glyn Edwards who has led the Committee through the last two years and under whose Chairmanship we achieved a great deal.
7. I would also like to thank Bath Rugby for their continued support of the Committee. Nick has personally made it to as many meetings as possible and when he couldn't we've benefitted from positive input from David Flatman and other key members of the team. Dean Quintin has as always provided great support for our events and I should perhaps make special mention of Karen Gill and her team who have made huge efforts to help us on Matchdays – they have been a great help to us, not least when they retrieved the gazebo for us from a neighbour's garden during the Newcastle game!

And so to the main elements of my report.

Activities

8. **Non Social**. We have engaged in a number of issues through the year on our Members' behalf. Some of the most important are:
 - a. **Supporters' Charter** This is an initiative by Bath Rugby to engage all supporters in making the Rec a safe, welcoming environment for top class rugby and stems from some of the issues that we discussed at the AGM last year. Some further incidents at the Rec and elsewhere have underlined the need for this and we have provided detailed input to this work on behalf of BRSC. We hope to see a further draft very shortly. BRSC is grateful to have been engaged in the process by Nick and the Club.
 - b. **Amlin Final Ticketing** We felt that the way that this was handled by ERC was completely wrong and made our feelings known, both directly to ERC and also in

the press, on the radio and television. On a practical level we were offered and accepted a number of tickets mostly from French sports travel companies which we were able to offer to members at face value. Erica Edwards played the key role in making this happen, both in acquiring the tickets and handling the onward sale to members – mostly at a time when she was supposed to be on leave from her work! There are a lot of people who would not have tickets except for her initiative and tenacity and I am sure you would wish to join me in congratulating her for her work on this. **(Loud applause)**

c. I should add that this is not something which we undertook lightly because it involved some risk. However, we felt that it was in the best interest of our Members to take the opportunity and hope you agree. After all, we need as many people in BBW at Cardiff tomorrow as possible!

d. **Evening Games** We have engaged with Bath Rugby on your behalf about the number of games played on a Friday evening this season. A straw poll of members suggests that whilst accepting the need for the odd Friday game most prefer Saturday afternoons. We recognise that Bath Rugby often have little choice in the matter but have made the point consistently. Tom Sutton produced some revealing statistics to show that of all the Premiership Clubs, we have borne the brunt of imposed “non - Saturday” games this season, and we think that’s wrong. We passed this data to Bath Rugby to help with future deliberations about game schedules.

e. **Social** Once again this year we have held a large number of social events through the year – please see the photos at the back of the room. As well as some old favourites, we’ve tried to include some new events in different locations. There is a list on the display board, but to remind you we held the following:

- i. 20 Aug: Annual Awards Supper
- ii. 11 Sep: Opportunity to participate in Rugby Tonight
- iii. 26 Sep: Ask the Ref with Spreaders
- iv. 30 Oct: Dark Arts of the Front Row (in conjunction with David Flatman’s testimonial year)
- v. 26 Nov: Quiz Night
- vi. 20 Jan: 6 Nations Forum
- vii. 29 Jan: Evening with Gary Gold
- viii. 9 Apr: Bath Rugby special on Rugby Tonight
- ix. 6 Apr: Meet the Brive supporters
- x. 22 Apr: United vs Army: 2 Boxes for the game for BRSC members
- xi. 12 May: Nick Abendanon farewell

f. We have also cooperated with Bath Rugby in their programme of meet the coaches sessions jointly aimed at Season Ticket holders. We are developing a very good liaison and look forward to holding more joint events in the future.

g. All these events were well supported and received good feedback. However, we’re conscious that we need to continue to try to provide the events that most people want and I’m sure the new committee will welcome suggestions for next year’s social calendar – as well as volunteers to help the Committee run them!

Matchday Presence

9. In the past some people have felt that BRSC did not have a visible enough presence on match days. This year we’ve acquired the gazebo which is now recognised as an integral part of the Supporters’ village at every match day. More importantly, we’ve

been there at every game (stand fast evening games when we've manned a table in the bar).

10. As a result of this, we have managed to engage with more members and other supporters than ever before. This has been a real success and we'll build on that next year. Key to this, of course, is making sure that we have enough people to help and volunteers are always welcome. We would especially like to thank Pat Lawrence and Honor King for helping us so willingly and uncomplainingly. Uncertainty over the Rec development issues inhibits us from making long term plans at the moment, but we'll do the best with what we've got in the short term.

Communications Strategy

11. We have continued the development of the Allez - Bath website throughout the year. We have kept it current and have expanded the ability to purchase memberships, goods, tickets to events and travel through it. Erica has worked hard at this in addition to her role as Treasurer and taken together with the regular group E - Mails facility, she has developed a strong electronic communications capability, which is really helpful, She has been assisted by Jen Wilcox who is a regular contributor on behalf of BRSC on Twitter and Facebook. Jen's efforts have been well received and engendered a positive response and good number of "followers".
12. We have also been very visible in the media this year. In addition to articles in the local press, BRSC is now firmly on the call list for BBC radio in Bristol, Somerset and Wiltshire, the latter carrying a short interview with us before most games. We've also been on ITV and we mustn't forget BT Sport!
13. I said that we'd acknowledge where things haven't gone quite the way we would have wished and the Newsletter is probably the most important one. Let me preface my comments by saying that we do understand the importance that members place on the newsletter – indeed some members have written to tell us. That said, the fact remains that the last Newsletter that we were able to produce was in June 2013 and we acknowledge that this does not meet Members' expectations.
14. So what are we going to do about it? I still believe that there is a place for a well presented, professional quality newsletter that reflects the status of BRSC. I accept, however that the content needs to be current and we need to be able to deliver consistently and on time.
15. In the short term we need to produce a Newsletter pretty much immediately and there is already a meeting planned for 27 May to finalise the content of the next one and agree it for release to the printers.
16. The new committee will look at longer term options as a priority. One way may be to reduce the size of the newsletter and to supplement it between editions with a simplified, much less formal "bulletin" which could include some of the elements which members recall from earlier versions of the newsletter. To help make that manageable, we would aim to distribute this electronically but with a hard copy back up process as a safety net for those without internet access. In any event, we will need help to set it up and material to include.

Committee Matters

17. Tom and Erica are midway through their elected terms and both are content to continue in their present roles, which is very good news. Both have worked tirelessly on your behalf over the last year. BRSC administration and our financial management are in good shape and this is attributable in very large part to their hard work and professional approach to their roles.

18. Membership Secretary is a vital role for BRSC. Anne Kirkham has been an excellent Membership Secretary over the last two years and I'm pleased that she is standing again to fulfil that vital role
19. I am also pleased that Jen Wilcox, who joined us during the year on a co-opted basis, is standing as a full committee member this time. Her drive, enthusiasm and willingness to take on any task that we have asked of her have been a great help over the latter part of the year.
20. The Chair also comes up for election on this occasion. As many of you will know I have carried out this role in an acting capacity for the last few weeks and would like to offer myself as a candidate for election on this occasion.
21. I said earlier that we have achieved a lot during the year. I hold to that and I've already paid tribute to the Committee Officials and Members who have worked very hard on your behalf. We are all volunteers with a lot of competing pressures on our time, but there is no doubting everyone's commitment. The number of E Mails that get sent very late at night or incredibly early in the morning is testament to that!
22. That said, it has not been an easy year in some ways. For most of the period we have operated with a Committee of five and, put quite simply, although we have met all our targets for meetings and delivered an extensive social programme, we simply have not had enough willing hands to deliver consistently on all the things that we would like to have done.
23. Overall, however, I think we have done pretty well and I take a lot of pride in our achievements and in being part of such a dedicated team.

Future Plans

24. So where do we go from here? I'm very positive about the next year. We will continue to build on the successes of 2013/14 and use the opportunity of a full committee with a balance of old and new members to take a fresh look at the way that we do things and, where appropriate, change them.
 - a. The drive towards increasing membership numbers is as always high on the agenda. The Committee will continue to do its best to offer an attractive membership package and to market it as best we can, but as Anne said earlier, it really needs a concerted effort by all members if we are to drive the numbers up and sustain them.
 - b. We will quickly produce a newsletter and also carry out a complete review of the membership benefits list to make sure we are offering the best possible deal for members.
 - c. We will continue to build on a successful 2013 / 14 social programme, again listening to Members' views about what they would wish to see in it.
 - d. Importantly, we will continue to develop our very constructive relationship with Bath Rugby. We do hold them to account when we need to, but firmly believe the way forward is through collaboration.
 - e. I've just about finished, but before I close, I am sure you would like me to express thanks to Jan and Mike Warrington for delivering another year of coach and

travel services. This is a real asset to Bath Rugby supporters and the news that Mike and Jan are continuing for another year is very welcome.

At this point the Chairman asked if there were any questions and was greeted by spontaneous and prolonged applause.

Congratulations were extended to Kevin and Erica for the very positive, hands-on approach and support for BRSC members that had been adopted over the acquisition of Amlin Cup tickets.

8. Pre-notified matters for discussion

a) The Bath Rugby Heritage Project – a report from Anne Kirkham.

Anne Kirkham gave the following information to the meeting.

At present there are 4 members of the Past Players' Association (PPA) meeting once a week at Farleigh House. They have attempted to collect as much Bath Rugby memorabilia as possible from a wide range of sources within the city. Much of the older memorabilia was "lost" at the start of the professional era.

The main themes of the Heritage Project are:

- Memorabilia – cataloguing, storing and managing
- Developing a Heritage website which is unique and user-focused
- Managing static and electronic displays in the new Rec

The Project needs volunteers to:

1. scan photographs, programmes, articles etc. into the "Master Memory"
2. sort and catalogue all items of memorabilia
3. manage the storage of memorabilia
4. manage the use in displays of the memorabilia, especially at the new Rec
5. research specific topics

Items 1-3 above would necessitate working at Farleigh House. Item 4 is longer term. Item 5 can be done at home or other venue, after discussion with the Heritage group.

As well as submitting this report, Anne Kirkham also provided information leaflets/handouts for those present to take away with them.

Any member able to help with any of the above was asked to contact Geoff Pillinger for further details.

9. Nomination of Scrutineers

As the posts to be elected were not contested, there was no need for the nomination of Scrutineers.

10. Election of the Committee

a) Chairman

Kevin Lawrence was the only nomination received and he was duly elected.

b) Membership Secretary

Anne Kirkham was the only nomination received and she was duly re-elected

c) Committee members

Jen Wilcox, David Da Costa, Emma Sparks and Chris Wensley had all been appropriately proposed and seconded, and were elected to serve on the Committee.

11. BRSC Charity Fundraising 2014/15

- Kevin Lawrence explained that the Committee had been keen to involve the membership in selecting the next BRSC Charity recipients and he described the background to the process that had been undertaken so far.
- A shortlist of two possible charities was presented for a decision.
- A brief discussion ensued, in which a strong feeling was expressed that both were worthy causes and should be equally supported.
- It was therefore agreed that both Bath Cancer Unit Support Group (BCUSG) and Wiltshire Search and Rescue (WILSAR) would share charity monies raised by BRSC in 2014/15.

12. Closing Remarks

a).Tom Sutton reminded those present to sign the attendance sheets before departure.

b) Susanne Laws proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Committee for their hard work.

c) Kevin Lawrence requested that members should inform the Committee of what it is doing well, and what it is not doing well – above all to communicate with the Committee and not allow any concerns to fester.

TWS.

SIGNED: _____

Kevin Lawrence (Chairman)

4th June 2015

Appendix to AGM 2014 Minutes

APOLOGIES: AGM 2014

Bob Ascott	Caroline Mahoney
Lyn Ascott	Michael Mahoney
Derek Batchelor	Anita Murray
Jeremy Barber	David Murray
Noreila Barber	Eric Noble
Martin Beck	Jon O'Brien
Jane Buckley	Lisa O'Brien
John Buckley	Martin O'Kane
Ian Burnham	Chris Pritchard
June Burnham	Mrs Pritchard
David Byrne	Dave Pugh
Maureen Byrne	James Stott
Bob Chippendale	Jenni Titcombe
Mary Chippendale	John Titcombe
Brenda Collins	Andy Thatcher
Geoff Collins	Cathy Thatcher
Barry Compton	Karen Turner
Rosemary Cookson	Peter Turner
Amy Cross	Richard Turner
Gill Cross	John Voss
Keri Davis	Bill Walby
Paul Felski	Chris Wensley
Clive Firkins	A White
Jenny Firkins	David White
John Ford	Lesley Wilcox
Julia Ford	John Willcox
Peter Garner	Maureen Willcox
John Hamer	
Mike Harley	

From the Floor:

None