

# BEDFORD RUGBY FOLLOWERS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a Committee meeting held in the Lifesure Suite on 20 October 2011

**Present:** Peter Smith (Chairman) – from 2000 hrs (apologies had been sent for late arrival), Jackie Markham (President), Andy Cobley (Vice Chairman), Geoff Appleton (Treasurer), Margaret Appleton (Membership & Outings Secretary), Jane Roberts (Secretary), Lesley Cornish, Alan Harper Smith, Brian Langston, Phil Novis, Adrian Randall, Steve Wosley (Committee members).

**Apologies:** Martin Clark (Social Secretary), Hayley Clark, Peter Kimber, Barry Rylands, Baz Townsend,

**Minutes of the last meeting:** Agreed.

**Matters Arising:** None that wouldn't come up in the normal course of the meeting.

**Correspondence:** The letter from Keith Appleyard was discussed and responses to his various points agreed. JR to respond on behalf of Committee.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer updated the meeting on the financial situation.

There was discussion about making a donation to Breast Cancer Research (ref pink day last week) – agreed that if the 2 unclaimed prizes were not claimed by Moseley game, the money would be donated to Breast Cancer Research. If claimed, will discuss donation at next meeting. Agreed that something should go on web saying that prizes must be claimed within 28 days of draw. **AHS to action.**

**Membership & Outings:** Membership so far – 197 adults, 13 juniors, 5 life members, 1 paid for 5 yrs in advance.

London Scottish – taking 2 coaches – will break even. Agreed to leave LS at 1730 hrs prompt.

Plymouth – 23 booked so far inc 3 juniors.

Melrose – 17 booked plus 1 possible – confirmed leaving Bedford at 0500 hrs.

Bristol – Kick-off has been changed to 1800 hrs – will need to leave at 1300 hrs. Due to Xmas traffic etc, **MA will speak with Barfordian** re timing and alternative route.

## **Social Secretary's Report:**

JR read report as MC unable to attend.

Auction of Promises – JM will chase David Fletcher to ascertain his availability. Decision on date put on hold until we hear back from him.

Quiz – JM had spoken with BT who advised that if quiz is day before a home game, Nos unable to do food. Suggestion to move quiz to 27 Jan – agreed. **JM will check with BT if OK for Nos. JR to check Scrum Hall/Jack Pope Bar availability** and advise.

New Year's Eve - PN will arrange posters – JR will do tickets. Agreed to keep price same as previously - £10 for adults and juniors.

Xmas Draw - JM to speak with White Hart Press to arrange tickets – 5,000 required – 2 books for each member to be sent. Agreed to sell draw tickets at NYE event and use monies raised to go to our charities.

Go Karting – Based on experience round the table, agreed that the shortest event is the only viable one. Could MC check what facilities there are for spectators and how much this would cost. Does

MC have 10 people who are interested? View of Committee is that if enough people have expressed an interest, they should decide the date between them.

AR – asked if Cathy Leather had responded. MA had tried to make contact twice but no response yet – will try again.

Fireworks – PS - Duncan is still short of stewards – if we know of anyone who may be interested let Duncan know. Pete Beard in charge of clearing up on Sat – Club will pay people to help. PS asked if anyone could help sell tickets the week before. Posters in office – please try and give out.

Everything organised – last thing to do is deliver info to adjoining houses – PS will do on Friday 21<sup>st</sup>.

125<sup>th</sup> Dinner – All going well – still over 800 booked. Pre-ordering of drinks slow to be taken up so far. PS requires all outstanding monies (inc for drinks) by Leeds home game.

#### **From the Boardroom:**

No formal meeting since last report. PS in on a local committee – Sport Bedford – who are trying to be active in supporting sport in Bedford. They now know that rugby goes on in the town! PS feels it's worth going each month to raise awareness of rugby. JM asked if the Pakistan Olympic team will be coming to Bedford. PS advised not sure, but 5 para Olympic teams will be. The torch may well skirt Bedford – will know at next meeting of Sport Bedford.

The Council have approved that the mascot sponsorship be reinstated. PS meeting the Mayor at Goldington Rd soon with a view to the Council using club facilities for Council events.

Things going well with Club – Richard Manning progressing with business review and will report back to Board within two months.

Sports Awards came up at Sport Bedford meeting – have we ever thought of nominating anyone?

Chairman of Sport Bedford has asked us to nominate people in the various categories as they do not receive many nominations. PS will pass to Mike Rayer.

#### **AOB:**

**PN** – still working on scanning old Club memorabilia. Passed some old Sales/Marketing leaflets to PS for info. At Lutter he had been asked if we had any pennants – Club don't do anything like that – should we for other Clubs/hotels etc that we visit?

**AR** – asked about player sponsorship – PS had no further info – will check and revert.

**SW** – asked about memorabilia for 125<sup>th</sup> year.

**MA** – had spoken with Stephen Plummer – he sends us his best wishes – hoping to be at Moseley game.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 1 December at 1930 hrs.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2100 hrs.

#### **Agenda for next meeting:**

Apologies

Minutes of last meeting

Matters arising

Correspondence

Treasurer's Report

Membership & Outings Report

Social Secretary's Report

From the Boardroom

AoB