



Cambourne Exiles Rugby Football Club

Agenda

11th November 2010

7:00pm, The Monkfield Arms, Cambourne.

Attending:

Alec Motts, Mark Lisher, Neil Ingham, Mark Griffiths, Peter Simpson, Steve Brudenell.

1. Apologies

Received in advance from Chris Wallis, Paul Greaves & Ben Yeats

2. To review the minutes from the meeting of 7th October 2010.

Subject to correction of 3 typo's the minutes were passed as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising / Update of Actions

Action #8. **Pending.** No detailed plans have been received from Paul Greaves on the suggested 2 fundraising events.

Action #10. **Pending. NI** has provided **BY** & **DM** with several copies of a poster. It is not known if these have been distributed & displayed.

Action #12. **Pending. NI** has been in touch with CPC to improve the container ramp, but there has been no improvements made to date.

Action #13. **Closed.** Subs payments are now improving.

Action #14. **Pending. BY** to gauge interest from players in replica shirts.

4. Officer Reports

- Chairman

ML reported a disappointing set of recent results following the good start to the season and the highs of beating Cantabs 2. Numbers are up & down at training and the injury count is increasing already. But, new players are still being recruited and match availability remains good.

- Secretary

NI reported that the Elms / SDC sponsored training tops will be delivered next week after problems with manufacturing (the fault of Samurai). Work will begin in the new year on the match shirts for 2011-13. **MG** suggested that the new shirts should contain more gold to help to avoid clashes with other clubs colours – particularly Ely. **NI** reported an interesting evening at Shelford RUFU to attend a Q&A session with the new RFU CEO, John Steele.

- Treasurer

MG reported that the sponsored tops have been paid for, although he continues to receive invoices from Samurai. Payment of subs is improving, although fees are still outstanding from a number of club regulars; the importance of members paying their dues was once again stressed. Match Fee collection will be taken over by the Captain. The club remains in a healthy financial position with a balance of £6868, with significant deposits in the Cambridge Building Society.

- Fixtures Secretary

PS reported that matches are being found for every weekend. The first league “catch-up” weekend was filled with a tough fixture against Shelford 3 (GK Super Premiere). Referee allocation from CUDRRS is working well so far this season. The GK Cup competition will be announced at the half way point of the season, when 2 draws will be made from 1) the combined clubs of the top-halves of Super-Deux Nord & Super-Deux Sud and 2) the combined clubs in the bottom-halves of Super-Deux Nord & Super-Deux Sud. It remains difficult to obtain information on the County Cup – the club is aware of no communication from county on the competition this season. It is only from attendance at the County AGM that we know that Cambourne are to play Newmarket 3 in the first round. This game has been arranged for the coming weekend.

5. Sponsorship Update

NI & others updated the committee on current and potential future sponsorship for the club. **[ACTION #15] AM** will make an approach to Cambridgeshire Building Society (with info supplied by **NI**)

6. Membership Update

NI again expressed concern at the lack of new player information being send in for the clubs records. **[ACTION #16] ML** will chase for information from new (and existing) players, using documents supplied by **NI**.

7. Training / Coaching Update

Some concerns seem to be arising with respect to training. **[ACTION #17] ML** will investigate further. All coaches will be asked to attend the December committee meeting.

8. Clubhouse news

The clubhouse has received planning approval and CPC are tendering for the build. Some minor changes to previously discussed plans were requested; the stairs will now be internal and the ground floor disabled facilities will be extended to include a “tea urn”. The clubroom will include a kitchen, bar (to be run under a community licence) and a committee room. **AM** suggested to look into options for solar energy to be used to reduce running costs. **[ACTION #18] NI** will invite CPC personnel to meet with Andrew Sarek during his March 2011 visit. **MG** also reported that there are promising rumours of a rugby-ready full-sized floodlit artificial pitch, funded by the development consortium.

9. Floodlighting

On the request of the coaches, the issue of additional floodlighting for training was discussed. The committee believe that current floodlight provision is sufficient for the needs of the club given the numbers attending training. Given the cost of further floodlighting (portable lights at £3-5K per set, and permanent lights in the region of £35K) it is not considered a feasible option for the club to pursue, especially with the potential of an artificial pitch in the not-too-distant future. Unless the situation changes radically, there is no need for further discussion on this.

10. End-of-Season Testimonial Game

David Warwick, Ben Yeats and others have suggested a “testimonial” match. A suggested format is “Cambourne Originals” vs “Cambourne Exiles”. The idea was unanimously

welcomed and the committee will look to make arrangements to hold the game towards the end of the current season.

11. Xmas Dinner Update

NI updated the committee on Chris Wallis' plans and progress with the forthcoming Xmas dinner. All agreed that Chris has done an excellent job in arranging what promises to be a good night.

12. A.O.B

BY (in absentia) raised the idea to plan for a 2nd / Development / Vets team, given that numbers available for matches are regularly exceeding the numbers than can be utilized in league matches. It's generally considered that 50-60 players are needed to regularly put out 2 teams and whilst the club is still a way from achieving this, there was unanimous support for the option of an occasional Vets / 2nd team to encourage those unable to commit to playing every week to stay involved in the game. **NI** noted that player recruitment and retention should remain a key focus for the club. **ML** noted that obtaining matches for a regular 2nd team might prove problematic given that most (all?) local sides now play in the GK league.

SB recommended inviting the new RDO, Sam Rouse, to attend a committee meeting in the near future to discuss club & player development and to invite to Gregg Underwood (ECRU VC) to meet Cambourne's volunteers. **[ACTION #19]** **NI** will extend the invitations and arrange suitable dates.

PS suggested that members might like to see "Maid of Ale", the club band, perform at the Monkfield Arms on Tuesday November 30th.

Mark Lisher invited club members to join him in The Monkfield Arms, from 7:30pm on November 27th (after the home match vs Renegades) to help him celebrate his 50th birthday!

Minutes for this meeting prepared by **NI** (12.11.10)

Next Meeting:-

Thursday 2nd December 2010, 7:00pm, The Monkfield Arms, Cambourne
All welcome to attend. **Coaches are request to attend.**